

2g. Stewardship

At one time part of the Mission and Stewardship Committee, the Stewardship Committee became a separate committee in January 2001.

As defined in the Constitution, the committee consists of 6 members serving 2 year terms with 3 members elected each year. The chair is chosen by the committee and is the preferred representative to Council and the Budget Committee.

Our mission is to create a meaningful year-long program that inspires generosity and affirms active stewardship of time, talent, and treasures of all members and friends to that Plymouth is a vibrant and growing community of faith and giving.

Duties of the committee include:

- Securing pledges for the coming year by mid-November for timely input to the Budget Committee,
- Soliciting volunteer interest of the members, coordinating this with Nominating Committee timetables, and providing a means for distributing the information,
- Submitting brief summary reports of church income and expenses at the end of each fiscal quarter to the May, August, and November issues of the church newsletter,
- Sending individual pledge account statements to members quarterly using the space on the statements for a short message to highlight news and results pertaining to stewardship,
- Maintenance of the kiosk display.

Stewardship Committee operating procedure for pledge confidentiality:

The stewardship committee desires to keep pledge information confidential, yet has a need to understand results, trends, and changes in our giving. The committee must follow up during the stewardship campaign when we are slow to return pledge cards, garner new members' pledges, and ensure appropriate "thank you's" are said.

In the past the only people in the church that have known individual pledge amounts of our members have been the church secretary and the minister.

The Stewardship Committee has decided the following new policy to best handle confidential information regarding individuals and their pledge amounts. The Stewardship Committee will have one member annually that will serve as a "Financial Secretary" for the stewardship committee. The person will keep a spreadsheet of pledges updating it on a quarterly basis to add new members and /or make any changes necessary. This person can provide the analysis required to manage a good stewardship program. Other members of the committee will know some of the pledge amounts only as needed for follow-up calls to the members who do not return their pledge cards and for thank you notes. The church secretary and minister will continue to have a record of the pledges.