# Called to Be the Church: The Journey logo

# Stewardship Seconds: July‒December 2023

*Places to use these: in your worship bulletin, in your PowerPoint for worship, in your newsletter, on your website, on your Facebook page, to open a board/council meeting, and as many other places as you can think of to help nurture generous disciples of Jesus. If you have feedback or wish to share how you used this resource, please contact us at* *stewardship@united-church.ca**.*

## July 2, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

“Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me.” How will you show hospitality and welcome today?

## July 9, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Good stewardship is about caring for and sharing the resources God has provided. Good stewardship nourishes communities and in turn nourishes our spiritual health.

## July 16, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

What has your generosity yielded?

## July 23, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

As children of God, we are reminded of kindergarten teachings—share everything, play fair, clean up your own mess, hold hands, and stick together.

## July 30, Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

How we spend our money reflects our spiritual priorities.

## August 6, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Generosity is what transforms five loaves and two fish into a feast for five thousand.

## August 13, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Caring for the financial health of your community of faith is not a sprint to be accomplished with one time of worship or one campaign. It is a marathon that is accomplished by developing relationships, expressing gratitude, and teaching generosity as a spiritual practice.

## August 20, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Feeling anxious, worried or fearful? Giving and gratitude are antidotes for an anxious brain and a news cycle that tells us there is never enough.

## August 27, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sharing ourselves, as members of the Body of Christ, is an act of generosity.

## September 3, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Let love be genuine! Show hospitality, rejoice and grieve with others, and share generously as part of your call to live in Christian community.

## September 10, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

When you listen to God with your heart—prayerfully considering the abundance in your life—what are you called to give?

## September 17, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Faithful in small things, faithful in all things.

## September 24, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Those who have been blessed with riches have many opportunities to bless others through generosity. From each according to their ability, to each according to their need.

## October 1, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (World Communion Sunday)

The power of God’s generosity is stronger than you know. You have the opportunity to wield this power when you give to help others.

## October 8, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Thanksgiving Sunday)

Sometimes the greatest generosity comes from the people you would least expect—like you.

## October 15, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

God has invited everyone to the great feast of life. Accept the invitation and bring something to share!

## October 22, Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Remember that people of faith have been the key to some of the most incredible changes in our society. How does your faith call you to be a changemaker?

## October 29, Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship is a lifelong process. In fact, stewardship extends beyond our lifetime. Please consider making a gift in your will to support the ministry of your community of faith and through Mission and Service, the ministry of The United Church of Canada.

## November 1, All Saints Day

How did you learn to be generous? Who modelled generosity for you? How are you teaching the next generations to be generous?

## November 5, Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost (Remembrance Sunday)

Words matter. As do actions. We are challenged to match our actions and our words. If we speak out against injustice, then we act to bring justice to pass. If we call out for peace, then we work for peace for all people. If we recognize the needs around us, then we generously share.

## November 12, Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

How can I make a difference? How can I change the world? How can I fulfill God’s vision? I can give: time, resources, money, ability.

## November 19, Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

“Good stewardship is not conserving and holding, protecting and preserving. Good stewardship is growing, developing, advancing, and building the gifts with which God has blessed us.”

—Kennon L. Callahan, *Giving and Stewardship in an Effective Church: A Guide for Every Member* (San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1992), 115.

## November 26, Reign of Christ Sunday

When your generous giving and actions care for the hungry, give clean water to the thirsty, welcome the lonely and the different, provide for the poor, and visit the prisoner, you are actually giving generously to Jesus.

## December 3, First Sunday of Advent (Year B starts)

Be aware! Keep alert! For you do not know when an opportunity will come to be generous, and you must be ready to respond.

## December 10, Second Sunday of Advent

There cannot be justice without generosity.

## December 17, Third Sunday of Advent

“Give thanks in all circumstances” because giving thanks is the first step to being generous, and generosity is a mark of following Jesus.

## December 24, Fourth Sunday of Advent

God’s love surprises. God’s gifts can startle. Above all, God is generous. How will you share?

## December 24, Christmas Eve

Thank you for all the ways you are generous. Your gifts to this congregation and to Mission and Service really do help to change the world God loves.

## December 25, Christmas Day

From the very day of Jesus’ birth, those who meet him share gratitude, give glory and praise, and tell others all about him. How do you respond to Jesus?

## December 31, First Sunday after Christmas

Happy New Year! Praise God! Give thanks! Give praise! Give generously!

Please watch for special worship resources for this Sunday to highlight your community of faith and Mission and Service.