



Pastor's Stewardship Newsletter

November 2007, Issue #56



Produced by the North American Division Stewardship Department

G. Edward Reid, Stewardship Director

Lori Bryan, Editor

Ed.Reid@nad.adventist.org

Lori.Bryan@nad.adventist.org

12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 • 301-680-6433 Ph. • 301-680-8953 Fax • www.adventiststewardship.org

STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

December 2-4, 2007
Andrews University

In a brief departure from my usual stewardship article in this newsletter, I want to highlight an upcoming stewardship training conference in the Lake Union. I hope that many of you will make plans to attend.

Richard Terrell, Stewardship Director of the Lake Union, has spearheaded a topnotch training program for Stewardship Directors, Pastors, and others interested in learning more about stewardship's significance and how to teach it to others.

The Conference will take place at Andrews University in the Youth Chapel of the Pioneer Memorial Church on December 2 (Sunday evening) until noon on Tuesday, December 4.

Doctors Erika Puni, General Conference Stewardship Director, and Maria Ovando-Gibson, Associate GC Stewardship Director, will join me in presenting eight full seminar sessions at the Conference. In addition, we will have a keynote presentation and two morning devotionals.

The registration fee is only \$50 and includes the opening night reception, all handout materials, and over \$60 worth of stewardship books and materials. You can register online at www.PlusLine.org/events.php listed as "Lake Union Biblical Stewardship Conference" or by phone at 800-732-7587.

The seminar titles are:

"Teaching Stewardship in the Local Church" (This will be of great benefit to pastors and local stewardship leaders.)

"The Theology of Tithe" (This is the real foundation for all Biblical studies on money management.)

"Teaching Stewardship to New Members" (Each person who joins the church will either help to lift the financial load or will become part of the burden.)

"The Theology of Offerings" (What is the reasoning for giving offerings to the One who owns everything?)

"Teaching Stewardship to Children" (Each generation must learn the principles of stewardship and money management in order to perpetuate the message.)

"Biblical Principles of Personal Money Management" (This topic will bring many people to your seminars and will benefit you as well.)

"Answers to Common Questions about Stewardship" (You will also get copies of the questions and answers in handout form.)

"Planning Your Life for Success" (Establish your life's financial plan and enjoy more stress-free years.)

This is life-changing information that you do not learn at the seminary and will be a continuing blessing to you and your service for God. This material will equip you to serve your church and the work of God in a more efficient manner and enable you to accomplish more of your goals.

Even if you live and work outside the Lake Union you are welcome to participate. You will come away with a large cache of useable material and have the opportunity to have your questions answered and good networking with those who have had experience in this area of study.

If you have further questions after checking out the Plusline web site you can call me at the NAD office or Richard Terrell at the Lake Union office.

G. Edward Reid, Stewardship Director
North American Division

Quote for the Church Bulletin

"Pride slays thanksgiving, but an humble mind is the soil out of which thanks naturally grows. A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves."
Henry Ward Beecher

Thought from the Spirit of Prophecy

Not until God ceases to bless His children will they cease to be under bonds to return to Him the portion that He claims. Not only should they render the Lord the portion that belongs to Him, but they should bring also to His treasury, as a gratitude offering, a liberal tribute. With joyful hearts they should dedicate to the Creator the first fruits of their bounties-- their choicest possessions, their best and holiest service. Thus they will gain rich blessings. God Himself will make their souls like a watered garden whose waters fail not. And when the last great harvest is gathered in, the sheaves that they are enabled to bring to the Master will be the recompense of their unselfish use of the talents lent them.

AA 339.4

Month At-A-Glance Offering Schedule

November 03 Local Church Budget
November 10 Annual Sacrifice / World Budget
November 17 Local Church Budget
November 24 Local Conference Advance

Helpful Tip

Before you buy something, ask yourself if you can accomplish the same task with things that you already own. Is the product you're eyeing something you only need occasionally? In that case, maybe you can borrow or rent it.

If you do buy a big-ticket item, such as a major appliance, a power tool or a car, do plenty of research to make sure you are getting the best value. If possible, wait – you may find the item on sale or find a used one.

Recommended Reading

Giving: How Each of Us Can Change the World
Bill Clinton

Testimony Time

All of Me

By Norman Versteeg

It sounded like a way for me to get some of God's money. He obviously had plenty. Financial gain was a powerful motivation for returning tithe. I was 17.

The corn crop was to help finance my college education. I plowed the ground at the proper time. I cultivated and fertilized religiously. The irrigation water kept the corn growing during dry times. I expected God to bless me with a bumper crop, because I was planning to return a faithful tithe. God had other plans.

Fall came early that year in western Oregon. Cool, wet days followed each other endlessly. The crop and my investment were lost. But I wasn't! I'm not in heaven yet. God can still see me through tough times. God is still God.

Tithing isn't a way for me to get some of God's money. It's a way for God to get all of me. He owns me and what I sometimes think of as mine. Tithing is a way to express my love and loyalty to God no matter what happens. God knows how to starve selfishness and nourish assistance.

I am rich.