



# What is Stewardship?

*and other frequently asked questions*

## What is Stewardship?

Stewardship means taking care of something that belongs to someone else. Everything we have and are is a gift from God; as Christians, we are tasked to be good stewards of the life we have been given. One practical way we live into this calling is by supporting our church with our time and money.

## What is a pledge?

A pledge is a commitment to support the mission and ministry of Saint Paul's during the upcoming calendar year. These pledges are used to help plan our budget for next year so we can be better stewards of the resources members have gifted us.

## Why is there an annual Stewardship Campaign?

The annual Stewardship Campaign is an opportunity for the church to invite members to make a pledge and to talk openly about budgeting and planning. We want to take this opportunity to celebrate the successes of the past year and discuss some of our exciting plans for the future.

## How do I pledge?

We have pledge cards available in your Stewardship packets, in the church welcome area, at the church office, or online at [saintpaulswaco.org/stewardship2025](https://saintpaulswaco.org/stewardship2025). Simply fill out the amount you would like to pledge for 2025 and return it by dropping it in the offering plate, mailing it to us, bringing it by the office, or clicking submit on the online form!

## How much should I pledge?

The amount of your pledge is a prayerful decision between you, your household, and God. Whether you pledge one dollar, ten percent of your income, or any other amount, the important thing is that you find a way to practice stewardship that feels faithful to you.

## How do I fulfill my pledge?

There are several ways to make payments toward your pledge.

1. You can set up automatic giving through Realm, our online giving portal.
2. You may also set up automatic bank drafts with our Accountant, Iona Easterwood, to avoid transaction fees. To set up auto drafts you can fill out that portion of your pledge card or contact the office directly. Auto drafts are taken on the fifteenth of every month.
3. You are also welcome to mail checks to the office or drop your pledge in the offering plate each week.

Many families choose to make payments toward their pledge each week, month, or quarter. However, you are also welcome to make a single payment at the beginning or end of the year.

## How can I keep track of my pledge?

We will send you quarterly updates on your pledge through email or mail if you prefer. You can also check on the status of your giving at any time by logging into your Realm account. If you need help setting up a Realm account, please contact the church office. We will also send you a year-end receipt with your tax-deductible contributions for the year, which will list your pledge payments.

## Is my pledge confidential?

Yes! For purposes of record keeping and accounting, only the Rector, Accountant, and Parish Administrator can see your gift amount. For the purposes of thank you notes or follow-up calls, the vestry and stewardship committee may see the list of names of pledging families, but never the amount.

