Stewardship FAQs

Why is pledging important? In the simplest terms, our combined pledges help us to create a responsible budget for the new year. Pledging is a tool that enables us to quantify our expected financial resources so that they can be used to support the ministries that have come to make St. Mark a truly unique and wonderful place to worship, experience God's love, and demonstrate that love to others. We know that you share our appreciation for ministries carried out by our commissions, as well as the need to properly budget for the on-going operating needs of St. Mark, ensuring that we have adequate resources devoted to our hard-working staff and maintaining our beautiful campus.

How does pledging work? You can make your pledge via the enclosed pledge card. You can mail it to the church using the enclosed envelope, bring it on the weekend of October 26-27, or turn it in as soon as possible thereafter. Your specific pledge will only be seen by our Business Manager and two persons who help with weekly deposits. We value confidentiality and do our best to keep trust. Our pastors have specifically requested not to know who gives or how much different members give.

How can I meet my pledge? Pledges may be paid by cash, check, credit card, or on-line bill pay set up through your bank. Statements of giving are mailed semi-annually so that you can track your giving. While it is our hope that everyone who pledges will make every effort to fulfill their pledge, we realize that unforeseen financial circumstances may prevent this from happening. Your pledge commitment may be revised at any time.

How are the pledges spent? Each year, we invite all of our commissions to submit budget request for the next year, then we invite all of our members to make a pledge. Then we reconcile our anticipated income with our requested outflow and present those numbers to the Session. In a Presbyterian Church, the final budget is approved by the Session, but we try to present a budget to the congregation once we feel that the pledges have all come in and our spending decisions have been reconciled to them.

To whom should I direct further questions? Our Business Manager, Judith Hug, is in the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. You can direct your questions to her and she will ensure that they end up in the appropriate place for you to receive a response.