



STEWARDSHIP 2019

Why give? Why give thanks? Seems pretty straight forward as a key way we honor God and participate in God's Kingdom work. After all, giving is central to God's character: God gives life, sustains creation, God gave his Son, God gives us grace, well-being, and opportunity in our lives.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* Our stewardship theme is "Giving Thanks." Together, as a community of faith with all ages, we will all have opportunity to "voice" our thanksgiving by writing out – completing – the statement "I am thankful for . . ." We plan to post these statements on a few walls around the church, have some fun with it, and celebrate what God is doing in our lives and in our church. We are also asking families and individuals to consider what your stewardship (giving thanks) will look like in the coming year. Part of this is financial. Please take time as a family to pray and talk about this. The individual pledges remain confidential. As a community we plan and budget by faith.

Part of giving thanks involves our time and our talents. We want everyone to fill out the Time and Talent form as a way to consider your obedience and participation. Please talk and pray about this as a family also.

Certainly, there is much for which to be thankful. John Calvin once wrote, "Thanksgiving is the chief exercise of godliness in which we ought to engage during the whole of our life. . . Without thanksgiving, nothing can please God."

In Christ's Service,

Steve