

Seeing Stewardship Clearly in 2020

Please join us for 3 evenings with the Rev. Rob Blezard, “The Stewardship Guy,” to help us all see stewardship more clearly in 2020. These three FREE evening workshops will be especially helpful to pastors and stewardship committees in search of inspiration and ideas.

APRIL 20, 2020 | 6:30 – 9:00 PM

Session 1: A FAITHFUL VIEW OF MONEY

Session 2: FROM GLOOMY GIVERS TO CHEERFUL GIVERS

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APRIL 27, 2020 | 6:30 – 9:00 PM

Session 1: DE-STIGMATIZING STEWARDSHIP

Session 2: MAKING THE ASK COMPREHENSIVELY AND INTELLIGENTLY

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MAY 4, 2020 | 6:30 – 9:00 PM

Session 1: ANNUAL CAMPAIGNS AND OTHER STRATEGIES

Session 2: WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE?

Come to one, two or all three FREE workshops. Please let us know you are coming by calling **717-393-3958** or by going to **eventbrite.com**. They will be held at the **Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 750 Greenfield Road, Lancaster, PA 17601**. There is plenty of parking and an abundance of warm hospitality. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

CALL ME AN ODDBALL, BUT I AM *PASSIONATE* ABOUT STEWARDSHIP.

How we appreciate and use ALL the gifts that God has provided us will determine our happiness, our fulfillment and our ability to follow Jesus. And of all our gifts, it's our money that most gets in the way of loving God with all we've got, and our neighbor as ourselves.



THE REV. ROBERT BLEZARD,
ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP

There can be no deep discipleship without stewardship that changes our relationship to wealth and possessions. Our culture teaches us to love wealth above all else — to cling to it, to see it as a source of power and security, and to hoard it. This is in direct opposition to our faith, which tells us to love God above all else, trusting in God's power and security. This is why stewardship is such a hard topic in North American churches.

I work with churches to understand and change their money culture — the unspoken yet generally accepted principles that stifle the conversation about money. I teach strategies to break down the “wall of silence” about money, to help God's people see their lives in terms of abundance rather than scarcity.

The goal is not merely to provide more money for God's ministry, but also to free God's people from harmful attitudes and habits that keep them from loving God fully, and their neighbor as themselves.

Since 2006 I have served as an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and since 2013 as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod (in central Pennsylvania) who specializes in congregational stewardship. From 2006 to 2013 I served as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Arendtsville, Pa.

Since 2003 I have worked as a writer and web content editor for the Stewardship of Life Institute, an ELCA-affiliated nonprofit corporation headquartered at United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg, Pa.

Since 2000 I have been a regular contributor and study guide editor for *Living Lutheran* magazine. From 1998-2000 I was a staff editor for *The Lutheran's* predecessor publication, *The Lutheran*. And from 1981 to 1998 I worked as a reporter and editor at daily and weekly newspapers including *The Cape Cod Times*, *The Boston Phoenix*, *The Worcester Telegram & Gazette* and the *Connecticut Post*. My writing has appeared in the *Ford Foundation Report* and *Teaching Tolerance*.

I hold a 1993 Master of Divinity degree from Boston University School of Theology, affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

