

Church Stewardship Academy

This four-part series is intended for church leaders involved in stewardship activities in the local church. Improve your understanding of stewardship basics and take your efforts to the next level with these engaging educational opportunities. Sessions will be held quarterly via Zoom at noon on January 14, April 8, July 8, and Oct. 14. Sessions will be recorded and registered participants will receive a link to the recordings.

What's Your Number? The UMFWO Stewardship Standards with Susan Black, CFRE, CAP® 1/14/26

Every church can improve its stewardship efforts! In this session we will review the UMFWO Stewardship Standards Assessment that covers the five key areas for stewardship success: leadership, education, mission giving, budgeting and accounting. Join UMFWO Executive Director Susan Black as she uncovers the numerous ways your church can incrementally improve its giving by implementing simple changes over time.

Sharing Your Impact: Telling the Story of Mission Giving, Connectional Giving and Apportionments with Susan Black and Rev. Karen Cook 4/8/26

What does it mean to be a Connectional church? Why should we pay apportionments? And where did we go so wrong? Join Susan Black and Rev. Karen Cook as they reveal the critical relationship between mission giving, connectional giving and apportionments and why it matters to every UM church today.

Pastoral Leadership in Generosity with Rev. Lynn Kilbourne 7/8/26

Talking to your congregation about giving can be one of the most intimidating responsibilities of a pastor. It's so intimidating, many of us only preach on it once a year – when we're putting together the church's annual budget! We don't like to talk about giving because we don't feel comfortable asking for money from people. This reflects that too often we think of generosity in terms of what God wants from us. But really, generosity is a gift God wants for us to receive and enjoy. Join Rev. Lynn Kilbourne of the Arkansas Methodist Foundation, as she shares how talking to your congregation about giving can feel more like an invitation into a deeper relationship with God, in short, more like pastoring.

Stewardship as a Spiritual Discipline with Rev. Dr. David Abbott 10/14/26

Join Rev. David Abbott of the UMF of New England for a workshop that explores how stewardship is a way to engage and experience one's relationship with Christ. Knowing one's "why" and building out from there not only works to create a passion and Spirit driven approach to stewardship, but also is a model used for successful church ministry.

Register for this academy [here](#). One registration provides a registrant with access to all four sessions. Registration opens December 1.