

**Fifty Practical Questions About Stewardship
Test Your Knowledge About Stewardship In The
ELCA!**

T F A majority of ELCA members believe everything they have is a gift from God.

T F Faith is the starting point for talking about stewardship.

T F Average worship attendance on a weekly basis in the ELCA is less than 150.

T F Average worship attendance on Sunday morning is less than 33% of baptized members.

T F Stewardship is about money, but it is not only about money.

T F Stewardship can be taught and caught.

T F Most congregations are more concerned about finances than growing stewards.

T F Adults under the age of 40 usually have a different understanding of stewardship than those over 60.

T F The Senior Pastor has a major influence on stewardship activities, planning and teaching in the congregation.

T F The Average Household Income of an ELCA household is greater than \$55,000.

T F A majority of ELCA congregations ask their members to make a financial commitment.

T F Some congregations would rather close than talk about financial stewardship.

T F Congregations that ask members to make a financial contributions have 30% higher giving.

T F An increasing number of congregations are moving their annual response from the fall to the spring of the year.

T F A congregation that receives a financial commitment from 50% of their households is usually doing well.

T F The majority of ELCA congregations have used two or fewer financial response

methods in the past three years.

T F A major influence on the effectiveness of any response method is attention to detail and follow through.

T F The majority of ELCA congregations do not distinguish between financial stewardship and fundraising.

T F In most ELCA congregations, 25% of the households will give \$3 or less per week to their congregation.

T F New members usually do not contribute at the same level as existing members.

T F ELCA households give less than 1.5% of their household income to their congregation.

T F The majority of member time and energy for stewardship ministry is put into the annual invitation and response.

T F In ELCA congregations Designated Giving is a smaller percentage of Total Congregational Income than Undesignated Giving.

T F The majority of ELCA congregations talk very little about tithing.

T F Less than 10% of ELCA households tithe.

T F A congregation is more likely to obtain a financial commitment from a member than a Time & Talent Sheet.

T F Many congregations are moving beyond Time & Talent and Volunteer Ministry to Asset-based Planning and Gifts-based Ministry.

T F Less than 25% of ELCA congregations practice year around stewardship.

T F A minority of ELCA congregations connect stewardship and creation.

T F Most ELCA congregations do not connect stewardship with relationships.

T F Skills for stewardship ministry can be learned.

T F Members can learn about stewardship resources and tools on the Internet.

T F Mission support from ELCA congregations is less than 10% of Total Congregational Income and declining.

T F Mission Interpretation is a major role of congregational leaders.

T F Total Benevolence from ELCA congregations is less than 15% of Total Congregational Income and declining.

T F Mission support decisions are usually strongly influenced by the pastor(s).

T F Building funds and special appeals have an impact on General Fund contributions.

T F Most congregations use a Unified Budget.

T F Current dollar growth of congregational expenses is greater than the current Dollar growth of congregational income.

T F Stewardship is more about lifestyle than money.

T F The ELCA loans money to congregations for new buildings and additions.

T F The majority of ELCA congregations do not have any debt.

T F Some congregations meet their annual expenses by relying on bequests and special gifts.

T F More than 20% of ELCA congregations are at risk financially.

T F Fewer than 40 percent of ELCA households have a will.

T F The Average Household Wealth of an ELCA household is greater than \$150,000.

T F The majority of ELCA congregations do not have an Endowment Fund.

T F ELCA congregations on the average budget less than \$3,000 per year for stewardship ministry.

T F Stewardship ministry is most effective when functioning separate from the Finance Committee.

T F There is no certain formula for an effective stewardship ministry.

T F Stewardship ministry can be fun!

Answers on the next Page!