



They're here to serve you!

The South Dakota Synod is proud to present to you the first group of trained steward leaders. 25 lay leaders and clergy have been trained to walk next to your congregation in your stewardship endeavors. They can provide you with the insight and resources you need to move forward in your congregation's stewardship ministry.

These eager leaders were trained as a part of a larger Synod Stewardship Pilot Project. The goal of "God's Gifts, Open Hands" is to empower others to tell "The Story, Our Story, My Story" and was made possible by a generous grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.



For more information

Visit the synod website:
www.sdsynod.org

or call Rev. Bill Tesch at 605-274-4026

SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD

STEWARDSHIP LEADERS



The Story. Our Story. My Story.



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



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SYNOD

In partnership with the Steward Leader, your congregation will:

- Deepen its understanding of how God calls us to use our possessions to help us grow in faith and to love and serve our neighbor.
- Grow in its ability to talk about money and possessions as a matter of faith.
- Learn to tell the inspiring stories that connect our giving with God's work through your congregation, synod and Churchwide organization.
- Develop and implement a plan to improve the congregation's stewardship ministry.

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STEWARD

A Steward Leader's Work in
Congregations

Beginning:

- Your congregation is surveyed and matched up with one of the Steward Leaders.
- The Steward leader reviews the survey and conducts an introductory session.

Middle:

- Steward leader conducts four planning sessions with a steward leadership team.
 - Session One: Discuss survey results, explore initial hunches about goals, learn "The Story, Our Story, My Story" concept
 - Session Two: Explore concepts of money and giving, begin work on a Stewardship Improvement Plan
 - Session Three: Continue work on and implement Improvement Plan, discuss and examine possible stewardship resources
 - Session Four: Conclude work on Stewardship Plan and schedule a follow-up date

And Continuing:

- Steward leader follows up with your team and responds to questions and concerns as needed.



LEADERS

"The Story, Our Story, My Story"

The Steward leader will empower you and members of your congregation to grow in telling "The Story. Our Story. My Story."

- **"The Story"** of how the Bible provides guidance on how we acquire, use, and share our money.
- **"Our Story"** of what God is doing in and through the ministries our congregations, synod and Churchwide organization.
- **"My Story"** of what God is doing in your life and how you are making a personal commitment to give.

