

DAYSRING DAYBOOK

Monthly Newsletter of Dayspring Presbyterian Church, 11445-40 Ave, Edmonton, AB, CAN, T6J 0R4

October 2019

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Each autumn, Board and Session begin the process of crafting a budget which, in its final form, is presented to the Annual Meeting early in the New Year. It's a difficult task because there is no certainty about how much money will be available. However, our leaders make their best "guess" about that and challenge us to rise to the occasion.

Stewardship is NOT just about money. But it IS about money — or at least about the implications of our faith for our use of the financial resources that we have available to us and for our givings from those resources to the church and to other charitable organizations.

Tithing is mentioned in the bible more than 100 times as a basis for the stewardship of our financial resources. People were expected to give at least 1/10th of the value of the work of their hands to God. That's what "tithing" meant. Anything more than 1/10th was an "offering."

Does God expect us to give at least 1/10th of our earnings to the church and even more as offerings if we are able? That is between us and God. However, God does expect us to be disciplined in our planning for the use of our financial resources — to be thoughtful about what we use our money for — and (a) to commit to a regular amount to be given to the church each month (our "tithe") and (b) to be thoughtful about what we can give over and above the basic regular amount (our "offerings") from time to time.

Some members of our congregation pay their "tithe" using the method of Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). That involves authorizing our bank to transfer a set amount on the 20th of the month to Dayspring's bank account. PAR givers then use the yellow envelopes in the pews to give offerings — designating what those offerings are for on the cover of the envelope. Others have a set of offering envelopes in which they place their weekly or monthly offering envelopes — also designating what those offerings are for on the cover of the envelope.

On September 28, Jim Jeatt led nearly 30 of us through a workshop in which we discussed our financial responsibilities as members and adherents of Dayspring Church.

On page 2 of this issue, we present a modified version of the "think-pieces" Jim shared with us. On page 3, there is an article about teaching our children about money.



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*No one has ever become
poor by giving.
Source unknown*

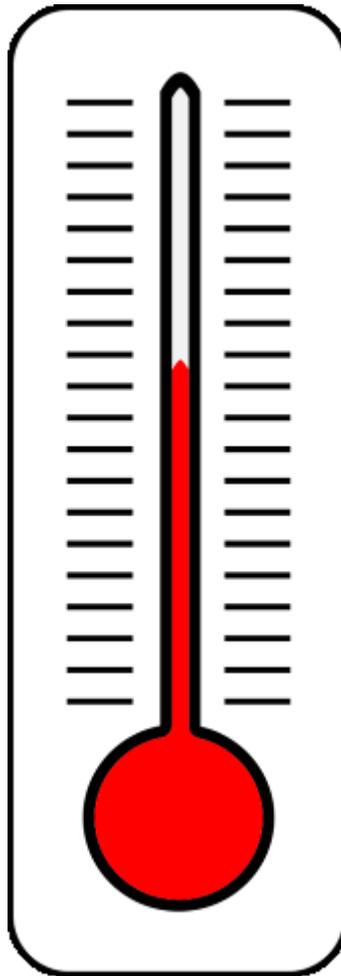
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8 DEGREES OF CHARITY

The following list was adapted (making the language more inclusive and “modernizing” it) from the writings of the mediaeval philosopher and physician, Rabbi Moses Maimonides [My — mawn — ih — dees]

1. *The highest degree is that of a person who assists another person by providing them with a gift or a loan or by accepting them into a business partnership or by helping them find employment — in a word by putting the person where they can do without other people’s aid.*
2. *A degree below this stance is the person who gives to the needy in such a manner that the giver does not know the person to whom they give and the recipient does not know the person from whom they are receiving.*
3. *One degree lower is that in which the giver knows the person to whom they give but the poor person does not know the person from whom they receive.*
4. *A degree lower is that in which the poor person knows the person from whom they are taking but the giver does not know the person to whom they are giving.*
5. *The next degree lower is that of a person who, with their own hand, bestows a gift before the poor person asks.*
6. *The next degree lower is that of the person who gives only after the poor person asks.*
7. *The next degree lower is that of the person who gives less than is fitting but gives with a gracious heart.*
8. *The lowest degree is that of the person who gives reluctantly.*



SOME MODERN THOUGHTS ABOUT CHARITY & STEWARDSHIP

1. What are your thoughts about money? Is it good or bad?
2. What life experiences have shaped your attitudes about money in general and charitable donations in particular? What were you taught as a child? Who taught you?
3. Do you like to share what you have? How does it feel to give?
4. Think about when it has been easy to give — and when it has been hard to give.
5. What are your giving patterns and why you have adopted those particular giving patterns? Do you need to change the patterns? Why?
6. Are you satisfied with your current pattern of stewardship? Is anything stopping you from growing in this area of your spiritual development?
7. Do you have a theology of money? Do you live according to that theology?
8. Are you comfortable talking about money in church? Why? If you are uncomfortable, what do you need to do to become comfortable?
9. Which of the following do you believe?
 - (a) The church, in its budget planning, should only plan to spend what it can “afford.”
 - (b) The church, in its budget planning, should “step out in faith.”

Now that you have thought about the things in the above list and in Rabbi Maimonides’ list, is there any action that you need to take?



FROM OUR MINISTER: Thanksgiving can be a daily way of life

There is a tale that does the rounds in South Africa, that an atheist hiker encountered a hungry lion ready to pounce on him. Terrified, the hiker broke into a run and tripped. As the lion caught up with him, the hiker cried, "Dear Lord!" Instantly a voice spoke: "You deny my existence and credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect Me to help you now?" The atheist responded, "I'd be hypocritical to ask for your help, so make the lion a Christian." Just then, the lion closing in on him bowed its head and said, "Lord, for this food which I am about to receive, I am truly thankful."

There you have it! Indeed, thankfulness is the distinguishing mark of the Christian. Giving thanks is instinctive for those who trust in God and know God's saving presence in their lives. Thankfulness reflects one's high regard and respect for God.

It is not happiness that relies on things to be thankful for but just the other way around. When I harbour a grateful spirit within me, I am happy and joyful.

Thankfulness becomes the motivating force in the believer's heart. It permeates from within.

When we give, we can only give so much. However, when we want to imagine how God looks at us, Paul wrote well when he was sharing some thoughts with the congregation at Corinth "the gift is acceptable according to what one has — not according to what one does not have" (2 Corinthians 8:12) and also, "the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you

must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)



Heinrich

CHILDREN AND MONEY



What are we teaching our children and grandchildren about money?

Do we dole money out as they make demands or requests?

Or do we, as they reach the pre-teen years help them to understand the value of money and to understand that money is to be managed responsibly.

Here are several ways that we can teach children about money.

1. We can **model** good spending habits by having a budget plan and letting them know that there is a plan.
2. We can **involve** them in decision-making about some of the things that they need—for which we have budgeted (for example, their clothes and their school supplies).
3. We can give them an **allowance** and teach them how to plan their spending of that allowance.
4. We can designate certain household **jobs** as a way for them to earn money to put aside for special things that they want.
5. And we can encourage them to **set aside** a portion of their money for works of charity, church offering, etc.

Our children will not learn how to be good stewards of their financial resources unless we show and teach them how to be good stewards.



**Introducing Saúl Carvajal
Dayspring's New
Youth Coordinator**

I was born in Colombia, but moved to Canada when I was 9 years old. I graduated from High school at Abbotsford Christian School in 2011 and then moved to Edmonton to attend The King's University. I began my post secondary studies with the hope of entering the medical field, but after three semesters in the science program I realized it

wasn't what I wanted to do. I took three years off from school and spent a year living in Nicaragua and the rest working and traveling. While I was in Nicaragua, I attended a discipleship program, taught English to my classmates and community members in the evenings, and also taught Bible school on the weekends. After lots of prayer and asking God for guidance, I realized that I was doing exactly what I wanted to be doing - teaching and growing in my walk of faith. I decided to come back to Canada, change my Biology major to a Theology major, and pursue education as a career. I am currently in my second year of the Secondary Education after-degree program at The King's University. I will be graduating in the spring and hope to teach social studies, Bible, or Spanish in a Jr. or Sr. high. Other than my passion for Jesus and learning, I enjoy to travel, take pictures, try new foods and also cook new foods. I am very excited to take on this role at Dayspring, and look forward to the many learning opportunities, activities, and memories that we will build together as we try to discover our role within God's story.



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DayBook Deadlines
3rd Sunday of September, October
and June
2nd Sunday of November, December,
January, February, March, April,
and May

SESSION

Moderator: Heinrich Grosskopf

Session Clerk: Gina Kottke

Deputy Clerk: Iris Routledge

Roll Clerk: Jim Jeatt

Other Elders

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Hostensia Bineba | Samuel Mforteh |
| Bill Davis | Jan Ray Moncada |
| Jane de Caen | Nick Nation |
| Darlene Eerkes | Laura Patterson- |
| Peter Eerkes | Fortin |
| Carina Grosskopf | Todd Shipman |
| Ransford Kusi- | Darleen Springstein |
| Menkah | Heather Tansem |
| Sam Malayang | Mary Waugh |

MINISTER

The Rev. Dr. Heinrich Grosskopf

CHURCH STAFF

Church School Coordinator: Lynn
Vaughan

Youth Coordinator: Saúl Carvajal

Worship Arts Coordinator

Gordon McCrostie, B.Mus., M.T.S.

Pianist: Binaifer (Binu) Kapadia, B.Mus.

Alternate Pianist

Darolyn McCrostie, B.Mus., P.D.A.D.
(Education)

Administrative Assistant: Linda

Custodian: Jim