

REDISCOVER A SPIRIT OF GRATITUDE AND GENEROSITY

In the first century, the apostle Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth about the people of Macedonia. He told of their gratitude, sacrifice, commitment, sharing, joy and generosity. Paul recognized these principles as traits of faithful stewards and signs of spiritual maturity.

Paul was impressed how the Macedonians gave as a community of faith beyond their capacity as an act of love. This calling led them to reach out to others beyond their community.

This spirit is in our heritage as Christians. It is this spirit and these principles that we seek to rediscover as we strive to be faithful stewards.



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

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INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This brochure along with other resources for growing faithful stewards is available free online at ELCA.org/macedonia.

For a low cost, you may also place an order for a CD with resources at ELCA.org/resources. Look under the Stewardship tab on the left.

If you have questions or need assistance concerning Rediscover Macedonia, call: 800-638-3522.

REDISCOVER MACEDONIA

A spirit of gratitude and generosity



RESOURCES FOR GROWING FAITHFUL STEWARDS

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

2 Corinthians 8:1-2



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GROWING WELL-FORMED STEWARDS

In our baptism we were made children of God and members of the body of Christ, the church. God's message of hope and reconciliation strengthens us in our faith walk and calls us to be servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.

As stewards we embrace perspectives, practices and skills that assist us in being faithful and trustworthy. These would include:

- Trust in God's abundance
- Ground oneself in biblical and theological principles
- Hold a holistic perspective
- Perceive connectedness
- Engage and critique culture
- Embrace financial health as an expression of faith

As we strive to grow faithful stewards in our family, congregation and community, these points guide us in developing a broader and deeper understanding of healthy stewardship.

RESOURCES TO RE-CONNECT MEMBERS

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. We don't have to do it alone, and we don't have to do everything.

To help re-connect members to their faith and joyful giving, we offer a variety of individual, small group and congregational resources. These include:

- One-to-one conversation guides
- Small group study guides
- Bible studies
- Learning events
- Pre-post surveys
- Building a case for ministry
- Financial planning tools
- Tools to teach tithing
- Artwork

Together, we achieve things on a scale and scope that we could never do otherwise.



FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT FOR YOUR CONGREGATION

In his second letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul praises the spirit of the Macedonians. He talks about them being enriched in every way for great generosity producing thanksgiving to God.

Rediscovering Macedonia will help:

- Embrace the spiritual principles of giving
- Connect faith with Christ's call for mission
- Build a case for ministry
- Invite people to grow toward a tithe
- Grow regular giving in congregations