

Going Where Jesus Leads Sunday is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their congregation as merely a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their congregation's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Zion's Stewardship Committee has selected Zion's Mission statement as the theme of our Stewardship Drive this fall. We hope to use it as a way of teaching biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving.

This year's drive is based on the biblical philosophy of **the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development**, rather than on the need of our congregation to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. We will be encouraging people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" During morning worship on Going Where Jesus Leads Sunday, we will be asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to Zion's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world. Ministries that include: Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, Northland Lutheran Retirement Community, DAR Boys and Girls Club, Community Scholarships to Fortune Lake, Vacation Bible School, and Cub Scouts.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Going Where Jesus Leads Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader, Pastor Doug Schoen, will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Going Where Jesus Leads Sunday events through the leadership team and Congregation Council members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Going Where Jesus Leads Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Going Where Jesus Leads Sunday events.

Roxy Bowdin,
President of Zion Lutheran Church