

Is Stewardship just about money?

Stewardship in the Bible refers to the careful and responsible management of something valuable that has been entrusted to us. Some define it as using the gifts that God gives us to do the work that God calls us to do. Christians believe that everything we have comes from God. We proclaim our role as stewards of God's goodness every week when we sing the Doxology: "Praise God, from whom all blessing flow..." Stewardship is the responsible management of our God-given resources of time, talent, and treasure. **Part of our Stewardship Campaign is identifying how you can best use your time and talents to support the church and its mission. Another part is related to financial giving in the form of a pledge.**

What is a pledge?

A pledge is promising to give a specific amount of your financial resources to Hillside Presbyterian Church over the course of the 2019 Calendar Year.

What are the pledges used for?

Pledge income is used to fund the operating budget that is presented by Session each year at our Annual Congregational Meeting. Hillside Food Pantry, Family Fun Day, Hagar's House, Prison Visitation, Refugee Resettlement, Jamaica Mission Trip, the occasional Health Fair are a sampling of activities in which Hillside is involved. Minister and staff compensation, office equipment & supplies, building & grounds maintenance for an aging facility, A/C and heat (more expensive, environmentally friendly Freon & ever-increasing gas prices), etc., etc. – along with some of the above-mentioned activities, much of this could not be funded without pledge dollars. Also, as a "connectional church", a small percentage of pledge income goes to support Presbytery of Greater Atlanta (Benevolence Fund, etc.), Synod of South Atlantic, and General Assembly.

Doesn't the denomination provide us money?

NO. Presbyterian Church (USA) does NOT provide money for operating budgets. However, there are opportunities to apply for grants to support some specific, special projects.

Can non-members pledge?

YES! Many of our non-members feel that Hillside is their church home, even though they are not official members. **Their pledges make a BIG difference.** We feel truly blessed to have each and every person who has chosen to be a part of our church community among us; whether member or non-member, we are always extremely grateful for EVERYONE'S financial support.

What happens if my financial circumstances change and I am unable to fulfill my pledge?

THIS IS OKAY! We only ask that you make your best good-faith estimate of your ability to contribute. If, at any time, your financial situation changes dramatically, you can notify the Treasurer and your pledge can be adjusted. **A pledge is not a bill that must be paid; it represents your faithful intention to support the church and its mission, to the best of your ability.**

What about tithing?

Jesus talked about money and possessions more than any other subject in the Bible. It was the expectation of faithful people to contribute a tithe, or ten percent of their income to the Temple.

*...Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's;
and unto God the things that are God's.*

(Matthew 22:21b)