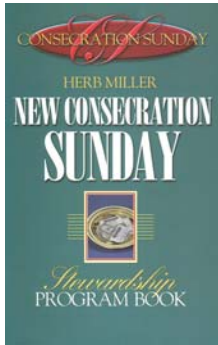


Commitment Sunday Programs



THE NEW CONSECRATION SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

By Herb Miller

(Emphasizes growing in faith through our giving by growing one step closer to tithing or beyond.)

This annual campaign takes place over a period of at least six weeks from initial steering committee planning to the final

Consecration Sunday. The program kit includes an introductory audio cassette tape which can be played for the Finance Committee, Stewardship Committee, or Church Council; a Stewardship Program book for use by the members of the Steering Committee, and an outside leader's guide.

The campaign involves leadership from an outside leader/preacher at a special Leadership Event for church council members and other church leaders, the Consecration Sunday worship services, and the Celebration Meal. Members of the congregation are recruited to share their testimonies on why it's important to them to give to Christ through the Church and how it impacts their life of faith.

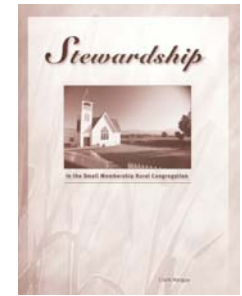
The guidebook includes sample letters to be used in the program, a calendar of events and mailings, instructions for each sub-committee or work area, a step-chart and a sample Estimate of Giving card. This program focuses on the need of the giver to give and invites everyone to consider taking one step-up in their personal stewardship as a disciple of Christ. The emphasis is not on paying the bills of the church.

Cost: \$26.50 for the Program Kit from www.cokesbury.com
\$250-\$300 Honorarium for Guest Leader plus travel
Mailing costs and Catered Celebration Meal

STEWARDSHIP IN THE SMALL MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATION

by Clark Hargus

(Emphasizes small group Bible Study for all members and provides a series of questions to be asked in worship that might be used for long-range planning)



Following a period of time for Bible Studies, three Sundays are used for encouraging members to be **Faithful, Hopeful, and Loving**. Every member is involved at some level in Bible Study or in Worship Response questions. The celebration at the end includes a compilation of all the worship responses gathered during the three weeks prior to the Fellowship Dinner.

There are clear, step-by-step guidelines for the Fellowship Dinner. A holistic commitment card outline is inviting persons to commit their prayers, presence, gifts, and service. This booklet is available through the Wisconsin UM Foundation. We suggest that churches include a step chart, such as the one found in the *New Consecration Sunday* materials and a chart on percentage giving as they invite members to grow in their commitment and stewardship.

While this program is designed specifically for small membership congregations, it can be easily adapted and used in churches of every size.

Cost: \$6.00/book if ordered through the Ecumenical Stewardship Center, Indianapolis, IN 317-926-3525
Plus mailings and any costs involved in the Commitment Dinner



CELEBRATE THE GIFT

by Leo B. Waynick, Jr.

(Emphasizes developing a joyous spirit)

This 10 week study is designed to unite your congregation through a ***Prayer Connection*** in which households pray for five other households at least once a week, for four weeks. These members covenant to pray for the concerns and spiritual growth of themselves, the rest of the congregation and the success of the program. On the five Sundays prior to “Celebrate the Gift” Sunday, special cards are used in the worship service to help members celebrate what they enjoy and appreciate about the Church and their congregation.

Cost: \$30/kit plus \$50/kit for reproduction rights and \$15/disc for computer-ready letters and graphics. Paper and mailings extra.

Available from LeWay Resources, Inc., Plainfield, Illinois
815-436-1197 or www.leway.net

CELEBRATE THE FAITH

by Leo B. Waynick, Jr.
(emphasizes faith formation)



This 10-week program uses ***Celebration Cards*** to celebrate the positive aspects of your church’s ministry. These are displayed for the congregation. Emphasis is on faith formation, challenging members to practice at least one of the suggested faith disciplines for a five week period.

Faith disciplines are... Worship in church regularly, Meditate (creative silence) regularly, Pray daily, Fast (not for everyone), Practice acts of hospitality, Simplify ones lifestyle, Read the Bible daily, Practice Generous living (List acts of generosity you’ve seen).

Financial commitments are received on “Celebrate the Faith” Sunday.

Cost: \$30/kit plus \$50/kit for reproduction rights and \$15/disc for computer-ready letters and graphics. Paper and mailings extra.

Available from LeWay Resources, Inc., Plainfield, Illinois
815-436-1197 or www.leway.net

THE GROW ONE SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM ONLINE

By Herb Miller

(Based on the need of the giver to give)

This is a new approach to Consecration Sunday that does not require an outside leader or a “celebration luncheon.” It can be a good follow-up to the *New Consecration Sunday* program. It is also especially valuable in churches that have never conducted an annual stewardship program or churches whose unpleasant experience with an ineffective stewardship model in past years prejudiced them against conducting any kind of financial stewardship program.

Cost -- \$10.00/download
from www.cokesbury.com
Plus \$9.75 for 100
Consecration Sunday
Estimate of Giving Cards.

