



FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY



Generosity in Uncertain Times:

What do you do when you can't pass the offering plate?

4/16/2020

Primary Presenters:

Olanda Carr	Senior Ministry Relations Officer Presbyterian Foundation
Paul Grier	Vice President (Project Regeneration) Presbyterian Foundation

Other Special Guests:

Debbie Foster	Presbytery Leader & Stated Clerk, Foothills Presbytery
Gordon Raynal	Associate Stated Clerk, Foothills Presbytery
Stan Reid	Treasurer, Foothills Presbytery
Dennis Lathum	Chair, Stewardship and Finance Foothills
Warren Templeton	Operations & Bookkeeping, Foothills Presbytery
Emily Marr	Business Administrator, First Presbyterian Anderson, SC

A background image of a hand holding several coins, rendered in a dark blue, semi-transparent style. The hand is cupped, and the coins are visible within the palm. The overall color scheme is a gradient of dark blues.

GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Stewardship in Crisis

AGENDA

Stewardship in Crisis

1

WHAT
has
happened

2

SUNDAY
for
stewardship

3

WEEKDAYS
to inspire
generosity

4

NEXT
Steps



1

WHAT
has
happened

Global Pandemic
Financial Market Crisis
Panic & Pause

A background image showing a pair of hands cupped together, holding a large number of small coins. The image is in a dark blue, monochromatic style, with the hands and coins appearing as lighter blue shapes against the darker background.

2

SUNDAYS

- Worship
- Offertory



FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY



SUNDAY FOR STEWARDSHIP

Turning a bricks and mortar church into a virtual church, we have these risks...

- 1) Members do **NOT** witness the great things happening
- 2) Members will **NOT** contribute through the offering plate
- 3) Members will feel financially uncertain

Ten Ways the Church Will be Changed By COVID-19

By Rev. Cameron Trimble, CEO of Convergence

<https://convergenceus.org/2020/04/02/ten-ways-the-church-will-be-changed-by-covid-19/>

Doing church online is here to stay.

LIVESTREAMING WORSHIP

- Invest in Livestreaming
- Several Foothills Presbytery Churches participating in virtual worship
- Consider collaborating with another church

Easter 2019



Easter 2020



A photograph of a silver laptop on a light-colored wooden desk. The laptop screen is black and displays the text "Sunday Worship Service" in white. To the left of the laptop, there is a modern, gold-colored paper sculpture consisting of several rectangular blocks of varying heights and angles, some of which are illuminated from within, creating a warm glow. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Sunday Worship Service

Today's
Offering
Plate





Talking Money During Worship

78% of gifts are given
during a worship service

Online Giving Through the Presbyterian Foundation

- Add a donation button to your website and include a link in your emails
- Donors can set up recurring donations
- Set up multiple funds or campaigns for easy management



3

WEEKDAYS

- Tools
- Messaging

A watercolor palette with various colors and several brushes are visible on the left side of the image, resting on a wooden surface. The palette includes shades of red, orange, yellow, pink, purple, and blue. The brushes have wooden handles and different sized bristles.

A Theme

Holding Faith, Together
(2nd Indianapolis)

A watercolor palette with various colors (red, orange, yellow, pink, purple, blue) and several brushes with wooden handles and different bristles are arranged on a rustic wooden surface. The palette is in the top left corner, and the brushes are fanned out below it.

Stewardship Letter

- *Acknowledge these are very difficult times;*
- *We are sailing in uncharted waters.*
- *To continue to serve God's people, we will need to do church differently*
- *People seeking hope more than in a long time*
- *Not on break; we are being called into action*
- *Adapting now as quickly as possible*
- *Our call is to serve God's people in crisis*
- *Invite to consider hold fast with their generosity - if they can - or increase if they are able.*

A watercolor palette with various colors and several brushes are scattered on a rustic wooden surface to the left of the notebook.

Stewardship Letter:

ADD COMPASSION

- *Personal situations are changing*
- *Invite those who can... to step forward*
- *Invite those who are suffering - to ask for help and to take time to heal*

A top-down view of a white ceramic coffee cup filled with a frothy beverage, topped with a dusting of brown powder. The cup sits on a dark brown, textured wooden surface. To the left of the cup is a black, rectangular card with the word 'Thanks!' written in a white, cursive script.

Thanks!

- General Thank you
- Handwritten note*
- E-mail
- Phone Call

*e-mail or call for

90 Second How-To Video

The screenshot shows a web browser on a laptop displaying a donation page for 'Sea Air Church'. The page has a light blue header with the church's logo and name. Below the header, a large light blue box contains the word 'Give' and the amount '\$25.00'. A white form is overlaid on the page, titled 'SELECT FREQUENCY' with a red arrow pointing to the 'Frequency' dropdown menu. The form includes fields for 'Gift type', 'Start date', 'Frequency' (with options: Every week, Every 2 weeks, Every month, Every 3 months), 'Starting date' (set to March 2025), 'Starting time' (set to 10:00 AM), 'Starting day' (set to Sunday), 'Starting address', and 'Zip code'. A 'Next' button is at the bottom of the form. At the very bottom of the page, there is a footer with links to 'Privacy Policy', 'Terms & Conditions', and 'Contact Us', and a copyright notice for 2025.

Sea Air Church

Give
\$25.00

Gift type

Start date

Start up recurring

SELECT FREQUENCY

Frequency

Every week Every 2 weeks Every month Every 3 months

Starting date

March 2025 (Today)

Starting time

10:00 AM

Starting day

Sunday

Starting address

Zip code

Next

Privacy Policy Terms & Conditions Contact Us

Organization Legal Name Sea Air Church Address 1234 Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90001

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90 Second Check-in Videos



Help Hub

Share With Us

I NEED PRAYER

It's important to walk with you through the ups and downs of life with others. Share your prayer requests with us, and let us walk with you.

[I NEED PRAYER](#)

I NEED HELP

This may look different for different people. You may want someone to pray with you over the phone and offer encouragement. You may need additional resources if quarantined. Whatever it is, please reach out. We want to support you.

[I NEED HELP](#)

I CAN HELP

We are prepared to meet the needs of our congregation and our community and will want your help to do that.

Let's go be the hands and feet of Jesus and bring his love and healing where we live, work, play and learn.

[I CAN HELP](#)

Grow Together

[HOW TO DO CHURCH AT HOME](#)

[KIDS & STUDENTS](#)

[ONLINE GROUPS AND CLASSES](#)

Consider a Survey

- Wider sense of congregation
- Ideas on where we can go
- Read-back on where we are stuck



Other Ideas & Resources

- Establish a Covid-19 Assistance Fund
 - Many in your church/community will be impacted
 - Authorize pastor or session to provide assistance
- Presbytery & Denominational Resources

<https://foothillspresbytery.org/>

<https://www.pcusa.org/covid19/>

<https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/information-and-resources-on-covid-19/>

AGENDA

Stewardship in Crisis

1. Make a (reasonable) plan
2. Review Operational Policies
3. Bring hope

4

NEXT

Steps

- Create new liturgies, prayers, and songs that will carry us forward.
- Church Financial Health Review – Paul Grier

GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES



Five subject areas:

- Metrics
- Cash Flow
- Ancillary Revenues
- Staffing Implications
- Campus Implications

GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Metrics/Key Result Areas

- Relevance
- Attendance / Participation
- Weekly giving
- Accelerate reporting
- Leadership Reporting Needs
- Consider developing a 75% budget for 2020
- **Key take-away: it's essential to be on a real-time basis**

GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Cash Flow

- Monitoring Systems
- Online and Electronic giving:
- Impacts of preschool tuition / preschool staffing
- Expenditures
- Talk to your mission partners: don't surprise them
- Review and discuss reserves and designated funds
- Review committee structure
- **Key take-away: information is critical, but is helpful only if used**

GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Monitor Ancillary Revenues

- Run a Q&D projection
- Protect space-sharing revenues from erosion
- **Key take-away: monitoring and communication are essential**

GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Staffing Implications

- Face it: it's a difficult topic
- Consult expert resources on potential government benefits available (FDN web site, BOP)
- Consider member perception vs. real-dollar savings of changes
- **Key take-away: think through member reaction to staffing changes**

GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Campus Implications

- Can some services be discontinued temporarily?
 - If your campus is closed, do you really need to heat / cool it?
 - Landscaping – garbage services – etc.
- Secure the campus appropriately
 - Spike in thefts of church vehicles' catalytic converters
- Do NOT compromise on safety and security
- **Key take-away: campus savings are possible if wisely implemented**



GENEROSITY IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Stewardship in Crisis

- Questions / Concerns
- Other Announcements

A top-down view of a white ceramic coffee cup filled with a frothy beverage, topped with a dusting of brown powder. The cup sits on a dark brown, textured wooden surface. To the left of the cup is a black rectangular card with the word 'Thanks!' written in a white, cursive script.

Thanks!

THANK YOU
for all
that you
are doing
for your
church!!!!!!