

# Church Generosity Best Practices Worksheet

## How to Use This Worksheet

1. Take the [Church Generosity assessment survey](#) and get your church's Financial Health score. Ask some other members of your pastoral or leadership team to take the survey as well. Share your PDF survey results with each other and discuss areas where you want to improve your church's financial health.
2. Download and print the [Church Generosity online 6-month training](#) course and [planning calendar](#). The online training course includes six sessions, which can be done once a month. The planning calendar will help your team identify and assign Best Practices to research and implement in the coming year; and identify the areas where you want to improve your church's financial health over the coming year. Put these documents together in a folder or 3-ring binder.
3. Invite your leadership team to download the Free Methodist-approved [40 Day Generous Life devotional](#). They can get a free app of this devotional for their phone or tablet, by going to their app store and searching for "givewithjoy" (one word, no spaces). Or, they can get a free PDF, online version or daily email at [GiveWithJoy.org](http://GiveWithJoy.org). If needed, a limited number of printed copies can be requested from the Free Methodist Foundation. Encourage your leaders to begin going through this devotional each day with their spouse or family.
4. Schedule a 45-minute block of time during regularly scheduled monthly meetings to go through the Church Generosity online training and work on your planning calendar.
5. Review and discuss the Best Practices resources below and determine which practices you want to add to your church life in the coming year. Provide copies of this document to your leadership group. Assign key people on your team to do further research on the different practices
6. Invite interested leaders to sign up for the **private** [Free Methodist Financial Health Facebook Group](#) to see what others are experiencing and to post an encouraging comment, idea, victory or question each month.

Many churches that have used these Best Practices have experienced significant giving increases.

WORSHIP SERVICES		
#	BEST PRACTICES	SUGGESTED RESOURCES (\$ = Cost involved.)
1	Biblical financial/generosity truths for sermons	<a href="#">List: Bible Verses on 27 Financial Topics</a> <a href="#">eBook: Finances Preaching &amp; Writing Guide</a> <a href="#">List: 30 Biblical Financial Principles</a> <a href="#">Audio &amp; List: 40 Biblical Generosity Principles</a> <a href="#">Website: Sermon Outlines on Finances/Generosity</a> <a href="#">Website: Sermons on Finances/Generosity</a> <a href="#">Bookmark: 12 Biblical Financial Principles</a> <a href="#">27 Videos: Answers to Questions on Giving</a> <a href="#">Article: How to Preach on Money</a> <a href="#">Chart: Giving Sermon on the aMount</a>
2	Weekly generosity Scripture verse on screen or in bulletin	<a href="#">52 Offertory Slides</a> <a href="#">12 Offertory Slides</a> <a href="#">100 Generosity Verses</a> <a href="#">40 Stewardship Bulletin Inserts</a> <a href="#">40 Generosity Bulletin Inserts</a>
3	Leader reads weekly generosity Scripture verse/story/prays	See Best Practice #2 <a href="#">30 Offertory Prayers</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
4	Songs on giving, generosity and serving	<a href="#">Website (\$): Searchable Song Database/Resources by Topics</a> <a href="#">Website: Searchable Song Database on Giving/Generosity</a>

5	Videos for offertory	<a href="#">27 Videos: Wise Giving Q&amp;A Videos</a> <a href="#">Vendor (\$): Sermonspice Videos on Generosity</a> <a href="#">Videos: Stewardship Minutes for Church Offerings</a>	<a href="#">Vendor (\$): Worship House Videos on Generosity</a> <a href="#">Vendor (\$): Bluefish Videos on Generosity</a>
6	Digital giving: text, phone app, lobby iPad or kiosk	<a href="#">Article: 7 Apps for Mobile Giving</a> <a href="#">Article: Importance of Electronic Giving for Churches</a>	<a href="#">Google Search</a> <a href="#">Vendor List: Tithe.ly PushPay MoGiv</a>
7	Giving envelopes in pews/rows and/or mail-in envelopes	<a href="#">Google Search: Offering Envelopes Vendor List</a>	<a href="#">Google Images of Offering Envelopes</a>
8	Guest speaker on finances or generosity	<a href="#">Article: How to Effectively Use a Guest Speaker</a>	Check With Your Denomination for Referrals
<b>FINANCIAL/GENEROSITY TEACHING MATERIALS</b>			
9	Financial class, course, seminar or small group	<a href="#">FMF Financial Services for Customized Presentations</a> <a href="#">Book (\$): Experience God as Your Provider</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Dave Ramsey</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Compass</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Crown</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Ron Blue</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Steward's Way</a>	<a href="#">Devotionals (\$): Generosity Devotionals</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Rick Warren</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$) GoodSense</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): No Strings</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Children</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): High School</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): College/University</a>
10	30 or 40 Day Generosity devotionals for church-wide use	<a href="#">Devotionals (\$): Generosity Devotionals</a> <a href="#">Curriculum (\$): Reimagine</a>	<a href="#">Devotionals (\$): GenerousChurch</a>
11	Videos on giving section of website and eNewsletters	<a href="#">Videos: Q&amp;A on Finances</a> <a href="#">Videos: Stewardship Minutes for Church Offerings</a>	<a href="#">Videos: Q&amp;A on Giving</a>
12	Financial/Generosity flyers, cartoons or bulletin inserts	<a href="#">Cartoons: Church Finances &amp; Giving</a> <a href="#">40 Generosity Bulletin Inserts</a> <a href="#">40 Stewardship Timeless Truths Bulletin Inserts</a>	<a href="#">Flyers on Generosity</a> <a href="#">Bookmarks (\$)</a>
13	Legacy/wills/trust materials, seminars or advisers	<a href="#">See FMF Gift Plan for Help and Resources</a> <a href="#">FMF Financial Services for Customized Presentations</a>	<a href="#">Vendor (\$): Legacy Organizer Manual</a>
<b>DONATION COLLECTIONS/ADMINISTRATION</b>			
14	Online website giving and/or EFT banking	<a href="#">Article: Importance of Electronic Giving for Churches</a>	<a href="#">Vendor (\$): Secure Give</a>
15	Digital giving (by text, cell phone app, and/or iPad/kiosk)	<a href="#">Vendor (\$): Easy Tithe</a> <a href="#">Vendor (\$): Push Pay</a> <a href="#">Vendor (\$): iDonate</a>	<a href="#">Vendor (\$): Tithe.ly</a> <a href="#">Vendor (\$): Vanco Services</a> <a href="#">Google Search</a>
16	Donated assets, property, stocks and gifts-in-kind	<a href="#">See FMF Gift Plan for Help and Resources</a>	<a href="#">Donor Advised Fund- Assistance with Asset Donations</a>
17	Giving statements sent multiple times per year	See Best Practice #18 <a href="#">eBook: Giving Statement Guide</a>	<a href="#">Blog: Quarterly Fund Drive Pledge Reminders that Don't Suck</a>
18	Companion materials sent with giving statements	Samples: <a href="#">Newsletter 1</a> <a href="#">Newsletter 2</a> <a href="#">Newsletter 3</a> <a href="#">Chart: Christian giving based on income</a> <a href="#">Chart: May 31 Giving</a> <a href="#">Chart: July 31 Giving Chart</a>	<a href="#">Generosity Flyers</a> <a href="#">Cartoons: Church Giving &amp; Finances</a> <a href="#">Return Mail-in Envelope</a> <a href="#">Sample: Megachurch Church Annual Report Sample</a>
19	Contact with new givers and unexpected larger gifts	<a href="#">Article: What Should Pastors Know About Church Giving</a>	
20	Approved list of "As God Provides" projects	<a href="#">Video</a>	<a href="#">Article</a>
21	Treasurer's annual report to leaders on giving numbers	<a href="#">Worksheet: Treasurer's Report on Giving Demographics</a>	

22	Policies on fundraising, borrowing, giving records, etc.	<a href="#">Sample: 10 Guiding Financial Principles for a Church</a> <a href="#">Article: Pastors &amp; Giving Records</a>	<a href="#">Megachurch Sample: Stewardship Policies/Procedures/Practices</a>
23	Financial/generosity training for pastor, staff and leaders	<a href="#">Generosity PowerPoint</a> <a href="#">Article: Biblical Stewardship – Breaking the Silence</a> <a href="#">Video: 10 Things Pastors Must Know to Grow Giving (55m)</a> <a href="#">eBook: National Research - 20 Truths About Tithers</a> <a href="#">eBook: How to Increase Church Giving</a>	<a href="#">Video: 10 Ways God Provides for Churches (60m)</a> <a href="#">Handout</a> <a href="#">NAE Financial Health</a> <a href="#">eBook: Guide to a Successful Building Campaign</a> <a href="#">Seminar: This Isn't Your Grandparents Offering Plate (63m)</a> <a href="#">Audio: Leadership Network Podcasts on Church Generosity</a>
<b>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/GUIDANCE</b>			
24	Benevolence assistance for needy church families	<a href="#">Google Articles</a>	<a href="#">Website: Resources for Benevolence Ministry</a>
25	Benevolence assistance for needy in our community	<a href="#">Website: Resources for Benevolence Ministry</a>	<a href="#">Christian Community Development Association</a>
26	Christian budget or debt coaches/counselors	<a href="#">Ministry (\$): Christian Credit Counselors (credit card debt)</a> <a href="#">Association: National Budget Coach Network</a> <a href="#">Ministry (\$): Financial – Debt – Budget Coach</a>	<a href="#">Training (\$): Church-based Budget Coaches</a> <a href="#">Training (\$): Church-based Budget Coaches</a> <a href="#">Ministry (\$): Crown Financial Mentor/Coaching</a>
27	Career guidance help for unemployed/underemployed	<a href="#">Surveys and Materials (\$): Career Direct Online</a>	<a href="#">Google Search</a>
28	Christian Certified Financial Professionals	<a href="#">See FMF Financial Services for Free Planning and Assistance</a>	
29	Ways to identify, connect, communicate and minister to lead givers and people of wealth in our church	<a href="#">See FMF Financial Services for Help and Resources</a> <a href="#">Webinar: Ministering to Financial Leaders/Givers</a>	<a href="#">Book/eBook: Developing Financial Leaders/Givers</a> <a href="#">Ministry: GenerousGiving</a>
<b>FUNDING PROJECTS/CAMPAIGNS</b>			
30	Annual stewardship/generosity emphasis	<a href="#">Contact FMF for a Free Church Visit/ Presentation</a> <a href="#">eBook – Guide to Increase Giving</a>	<a href="#">30 or 40 Day Devotionals</a> <a href="#">GenerousChurch</a> <a href="#">Google</a>
31	Special offering annually for the pastor/s (Pastor Appreciation Month, Christmas, birthday or anniversary)	<a href="#">Planning Guide: Pastor Appreciation Month</a> <a href="#">Article: Are Pastor Love Offerings Taxable Income?</a> <a href="#">Article: Are Pastor Love Offerings Deductible to the Donor?</a> <a href="#">Pinterest: Pastor Appreciation Ideas</a>	<a href="#">Worksheet: Pastor Appreciation Questionnaire</a> <a href="#">Article: Pastor Appreciation Articles for Every Age Group</a> <a href="#">Manual: Planning a Pastor Appreciation Month</a> <a href="#">Gifts (\$): Pastor Appreciation Resources</a>
32	Benevolence to help people at church and/or community	<a href="#">Google Articles</a>	<a href="#">Article</a>
33	Special donations for missions, missionaries, mission trips	<a href="#">Sample: Faith Promise for Missions brochure</a> <a href="#">Article: Q&amp;A on Collecting Faith Promises for Missions</a>	<a href="#">Manual: 101+ Church Fundraising Ideas</a> <a href="#">Google: Best Crowdfunding for Church Missions Trips</a>
34	Donations or pledges for building or renovation projects	<a href="#">Chart: Leaders in the Bible Who Raised Resources/Money</a> <a href="#">eBook: Guide to a Successful Building Fund Drive</a> <a href="#">Brochure: Building Fund Giving Ideas from A to Z</a> <a href="#">Article: 7 Lessons for Successful Building Fund Drives</a> <a href="#">Webinar: Avoid Fatal Capital Campaign Mistakes (48m)</a>	<a href="#">Article: How to Determine When Not to Build</a> <a href="#">Article: 10 Reasons to Buy a Big Box Building for a Church</a> <a href="#">Blog: Quarterly Fund Drive Pledge Reminders that Don't Suck</a> <a href="#">Audio: How to Keep Your Campaign Alive for 3 Years (25m)</a>
35	Year-end giving emphasis or campaign	<a href="#">eBook: Year-End Giving Guide</a> <a href="#">Webinar: Pastor &amp; Leaders Guide to Year-End Giving (55m)</a>	<a href="#">Infographic: 3 Steps to a Successful Year-End Giving Drive</a> <a href="#">Article: Year-End &amp; New Year Ideas to Grow Giving 10-25%</a>
36	Donations for special “As God Provides” projects	<a href="#">See best practices #20</a>	
37	Community outreach with acts of kindness/service	<a href="#">Outreach: #40DaysofGenerosity &amp; #PayItForward Campaign</a> <a href="#">Campaign: LovingOurCommunity</a>	<a href="#">Google: Community Outreach Ideas for Churches</a>