

Yeast, Salt, and Light: A Recipe for a Moving, Meaningful, and Mission-Focused Stewardship Ministry



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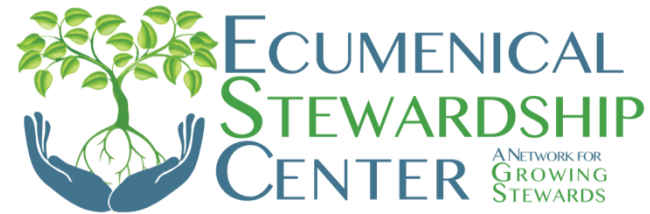


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Focus Scriptures

The kingdom of heaven is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.

Matthew 13:3, NRSV



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Focus Scriptures

You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men.

Matthew 5:13, NRSV



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Focus Scriptures

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16, NRSV



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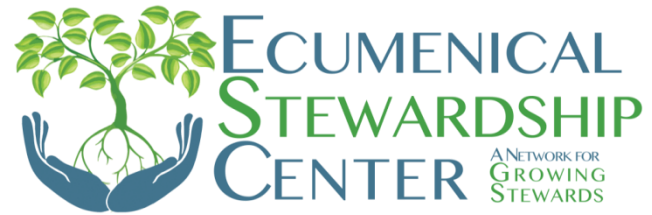
What might yeast, salt,
and light have to do with
stewardship ministry?



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Yeast: Start With Mission

Your church's mission is your grounding center. Create it by **exploring** what it does best.



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Yeast: Start With Mission

Infuse your mission and your stewardship ministry into all of your congregational life.

Are you doing “stewardship ministry” or are you nurturing generous stewards?



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Yeast: Start With Mission

Keep your mission simple and memorable.



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Yeast: Start With Mission

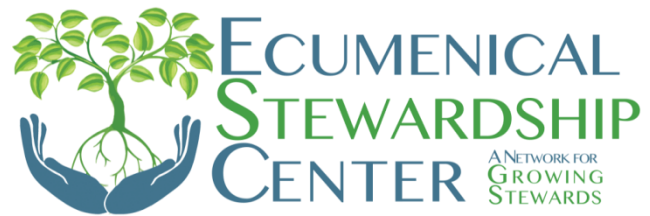
- What energizes us?
- What do we do better than anyone else?
- What resources do we need/have to do this?



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Salt: Add Meaning

Your church's unique calling is what gives your stewardship ministry its meaning. Create it by **experimenting** to find ways to make your stewardship ministry palatable, flavorful, and enjoyable.



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Salt: Add Meaning

Understand Your Culture & Context

- Denominational
- Demographic
- Congregational



Salt: Add Meaning

Mix Mission + Culture + Context to get meaningful best practices

- What is essential/must not change/is truly sacred?
- What is expendable/can be discarded?
- What is adaptable?



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Salt: Meaningful

Mix Mission + Culture + Context to get meaningful best practices

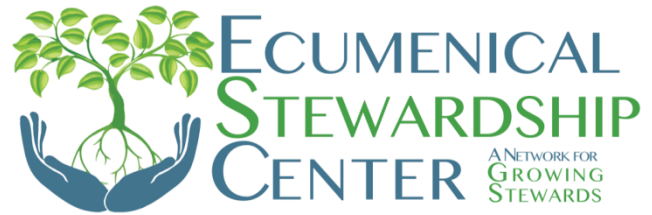
- Stay away from stale
- A starting place to apply adaptive challenge experiments to technical challenges
- A bridge to introduce the congregation and leadership to deeper issues



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Salt: Meaningful

Are our practices meaningful because they are comfortable or because they are making a difference?



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Light: Moving

Find your fulfillment by making sure your faithful, generous church is moving beyond the walls of its meeting place by **evaluating**.



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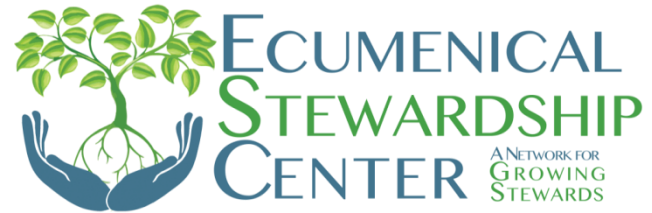
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA
Serving as the hands and feet of Christ

The Generosity Project

Light: Moving

Include a Plan of Evaluation

- Observe
- Interpret
- Implement/Intervene (with your mission in mind)



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Light: Moving

Keep your ministry relevant

- Your witness: how you get noticed
- Inside and outside the walls where your congregation meets
- Keep up with changes in culture and context



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Light: Moving

Are people involved in our evaluation from both inside and outside the congregation?



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Leadership Roles

A healthy exchange between clergy
& lay leadership



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Clergy

Stewardship as Discipleship

- Freedom to teach/preach
- Assurance that it's not just about clergy salaries
- Access to information that is a matter of pastoral care



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Lay Leadership

Stewardship Champions

- Tell stewardship stories
- Cultivate an attitude of gratitude
- People using appropriate gifts and skills
(those who manage and those who inspire)



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Review

Yeast

- Mission
- Infused
- Core Values
- Essentials



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Review

Salt

- Meaningful
- Flavorful
- Strategies/Practices
- Experimentation/Expendables



Review

Light

- Moving
- Noticeable
- Relevant
- Exchange of an internal & external learning community



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Finally

Timing is Everything



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