

Stewardship 2026

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To God Be the Glory is this year's stewardship theme. All that we do and all that we are should be for the glory of God. God is our protector, sustainer, creator, redeemer, and savior. God created all and is in all through Christ and the Holy Spirit moving and living in us and among us. God has given abundantly the gifts of grace and mercy, love and kindness, welcoming us all to a community of belonging and invitation. It is through our giving and offering ourselves to God's beloved community that we become church, the body of Christ, missionally serving one another and the world around us. It is a privilege and joy to give our financial gifts as well as gifts of ministry to honor and praise our amazing God.

Two things I hope you will prayerfully consider and discern as we move into stewardship season:

Am I giving from my first fruits, or from what is left over?

For me, I give from the first fruits. I don't share that to brag but to say that doing so is deeply spiritual and keeps me grounded financially and faithfully. I want to give God my very best and I want our church to flourish abundantly. I am committed to God's desires and what God is up to through the ministry and mission of Prairie Baptist Church. To accomplish all we hope to do and be, we need a healthy supporting budget. We need individuals and families to financially support the work of God's community building, in and out of our church doors. God wants us to bring our best fruits and let them multiply in life changing, meaningful ways working together.

Then, ask yourself, what is one thing I can contribute to support Prairie's organizational needs and ministries? Am I serving in the place I should be? Do I need to step up and take on a role, position, or offer myself to a particular need? Maybe there is a special project or presentation you could share. Perhaps you need to visit with me and discern where to best plug in. Spend time praying, discerning, and listening to where the Spirit leads. Prairie has opened itself up for creative, imaginative, brainstorming. Could you lead a special workshop? What about teaching? Maybe there is a special interest session you could lead.

All stewardship and acts of being good stewards of our money, time, and gifts of service, start with prayer and discernment, and end with making a commitment. May God lead you to new places of financial giving and a deeper spiritual act of faith. May God reveal how you are to serve and support the ministries and missions of Prairie Baptist Church. And in all that we do, "To God be the Glory," Amen.

Kathy