

Synod Stewardship and Mission Support Table - Synod Assembly 2021

The overarching goal for the Synod Stewardship and Mission Support Table is:

**To invite people into relationship with God and our neighbors
through the gift of generosity and storytelling.**

To support this goal, the Table's focus is on *sharing...equipping...inviting and thanking!*

SHARING to foster an environment of storytelling, listening, and connections.

EQUIPPING to provide tools for congregations and leaders.

INVITING to train and implement the gift of Intentional invitations.

THANKING to equip people in the art of thanking.

The Holy Spirit is a-movin' in, through, and among this Table as:

- We gather, learn, and pray together! The Table is currently studying the book Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity by Mike Ward.
- In the Fall of 2020, the Table offered a six session, Building A Culture of Generosity: Guiding you through your fall stewardship Appeal with Mike Ward.
- The Table is in the process of contacting EACH congregation. This is such a joy to connect, to listen to the stories of God's generosity through EACH congregation, and to learn how the Table can support the congregation in building a culture of generosity.
- On April 22, the Table hosted the *Leadership Academy: Transforming Generosity Through Your Storytelling!* The keynote speakers for this event were: Andrew Steele, Vice President for Development and Outreach at LIRS and Pastor Lucille "CeCee" Mills, Associate Director of Evangelical Mission in North Carolina Synod. Through their presentations, they illustrated the gift and impact of storytelling and modeled how to tell stories. Then the attendees were divided into breakout rooms to practice telling stories.
 - Remember, EACH person and EACH congregation have a story to tell.
 - Email your stories of generosity to stewardship@metrodcelca.org
- Fall 2021 - Looking ahead: The Table is planning a Leadership Academy on Endowment Creation and Legacy Giving. Stay tuned for more information...

Thank YOU for your generosity and for sharing the story of God's love in your congregation and community!

Thank you to the members of the Table: Yvonne Lembo (ELCA Regional Gift Planner) Bob Sargent, Pastor Jeff Wilson, Katharyn Wheeler, Natalie Cain (Gifts of Hope), Pastor Lamar Bailey and Pastor Darcy Tillman. We also give thanks for Pastor Scott Zimmerer and Carolyn Sowinski as they have been a part of this Table and wish them well as Pastor Scott retires and as Carolyn has retired from Gifts of Hope.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Darcy A. Tillman, Chair