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Homesteader - July 29, 2014



Reflections by Doc

WE DON'T NEED A STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM!

Many churches have a stewardship program. The good aspects of such an effort is the emphasis on our theological foundation that everything we have is God's and we are simply 'stewards' of God's creation, managing those resources while here on earth - our wealth, possessions and physical bodies. In stewardship campaigns we stress the giving of our whole selves... time, talents and resources (money). But mostly money. We focus on tithing and pledging to the church's annual budget. Some churches react against this emphasis and don't have a pledge program. That can make planning a church year difficult. To have a successful church program, there has to be financial support.

I am one that supports a tithing program. I think it is a freeing discipline. I also think that a church should be a tither to our wider mission....but that is a different 'sermon'. Here I'm talking about a stewardship alternative. Think about a 'Generosity Campaign'. Tithing



Why attend the joint convention of the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministry Network (POAMN) and Association of Retire Ministers, Spouses and Survivors (ARMSS)? Two very simple reasons: 1. It is being held October 14-17 at The Elms Hotel and Spa in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, just a short drive from Homestead Presbytery and 2. It is one of the best kept secrets for continuing education in older adult ministry around.

POAMN is an organization of both ordained and non-ordained Presbyterians who share interest in or are employed in the area of older adult ministry. ARMSS is an organization of retired teaching elders, their spouses and survivors of teaching elders.



Ellen and I have attended the conventions of these groups for over 10 years and have found the event to be helpful in our own personal lives as older adults as well as in our ministry to and with others like us. If you are a volunteer in your church, a deacon, an elder, someone who cares about older adult ministry, or employed by a church or organization that ministers to older adults, this event is for you. We won't tell you about the wonderful friendships that have developed through our contacts with others from around the country. We won't mention the great time

is so legalistic, and carries a negative connotation. Generosity is something that is done out of abundance and freely. Generosity is a joyful act. Being considered generous is an honored compliment. And a generous gift is given without obligation...as God himself acts towards us. Giving should be both generous and joyful. It is a spiritual act.

As we are reminded by Paul, "The Lord loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7 So, when you are thinking about a gift to your church, be generous!

visiting with other retired ministers whom we have known through seminary or parish work. We won't remind you that it's a relatively inexpensive convention that will give you top notch speakers and workshop leaders in a variety of areas of older adult ministry. We'll simply direct you to the web sites for POAMN and ARMSS and urge you to 'check us out!' If you have questions, either of us would be happy to visit with you about attending. 402-261-4432. Scholarships are available.

Oh, yes, those web addresses: www.armss.org or www.poamn.org

Lynn Davis, ARMSS representative to Homestead Presbytery

Blessing Opportunity 2 Corinthians 9:7-8



New Church Development Fund for Homestead Presbytery - [GIVE](#)

Keep Thinking...

It doesn't do any good to sit up and take notice if you keep on sitting.

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