

Friends,

Hopefully you have read about our Ten Talents Team. The team was formed to help all of us understand more fully how stewardship draws us closer to God and helps us “*become more like Jesus.*” Stewardship is not about money! Stewardship is a broader concept that deals with the gifts of time, talent and financial resources.

Understanding God’s expectations for stewardship is a deeply spiritual issue. The goal of the Ten Talent Team is to encourage the members of our church to make life-changing spiritual adjustments in their lifestyle.

To achieve this goal, it is important to establish a base line. What do we know and understand about how God expects us to utilize the gifts of time, talent and financial resources? To establish that baseline the Ten Talent Team is conducting a congregational survey. We have partnered with Barnabas Foundation to assist us with this stewardship journey. They have utilized this survey in many other churches. In those churches, the survey results led to greater spiritual maturity and helpful discipleship programs.

The **confidential** survey will be conducted online, **accessible March 12-26**. No one from the church sees your survey responses. All information is confidential and will be released to our church from the professional data processing center in aggregated form only. We have arranged to have computers available on campus on designated Sundays so you can take the survey if you do not have computer access at home. (The particular Sundays will be announced in the future.)

The survey results will help our church begin development of a custom plan for Elmhurst CRC. The plan will use our strengths and challenges and the attitudes of our congregation, to help us gain an understanding of God’s stewardship vision for our lives and that of our church.

We would encourage everyone who is a professing member 18 years of age or older to participate. **Your input is extremely valuable.**

God Bless,

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