## **Sermon Series Scripture**

Time: Clocks, Calendars, and Cathedrals- Genesis 1-2 and Psalm 90

Life at Its End: Signs of the Cross and Body: On Flesh- Psalm 13, Luke 24: 13-25, Romans 14: 1-8 Psalm 139, Matt. 1:18-25, and John 9:1-12

Money and Finances: Practicing Generosity and Technology: Digital Gifts - Deut. 15:7-11, Matt. 19:16-30, and 1John 3:11-24, Psalm 24, John 13:31-35, and Romans 8:1-17

Privilege: Toward the Stewardship of Incarnation-Acts 2, Acts 6:1-7, 1Cor. 12, and Rev. 13

Spirit: Stewarding Spiritual Gifts- Isaiah 11:2-3, Mark 12:28-34, and Romans 5:1-15

Community: Investing Social Capital as an Act of Faith and Work: Called to Service-Matt 28:16-20 and Romans 12, Lev. 19:13, Proverbs 22:22, and 1Peter 4:1-11

Mind: The Ascension of our Life Together- Deut. 6:5, Mark 14:22-25, and Philippians 2:5-11



Adam J. Copeland, editor



# A 7-Week Sermon Series Journal

Name:

The First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls, NY 23 Cayuga Street

A member of the A Matthew 25 Church





Toward a church as generous and just as God's Grace www.fpressf.com





Time: Clocks, Calendars, and Cathedrals MaryAnn McKibben Dana

"The tricky aspect of stewardship of time, as opposed to other aspects of our lives, is this: we never really know how much time we have period."

Question: Examine your personal calendar as if it were a theological document. Where do you spend most of your time? What do you prioritize? Does your calendar align with your faith and values?

Action: Create a chronological timeline of your life. Create a second timeline that depicts kairos time, of life events. Consider the places of overlap and lack thereof. What do you make of the differences and similarities?

Mind: The Ascension of our Life Together Neal D. Presa

"To exercise stewardship of mind, then, is to be a faithful, trusted, and trustworthy custodian of your whole self."



Question: in what ways might you explore opportunities to stewardship your mind in ways that might reconnect, or realign mind with heart, soul, and strength?

#### Life at Its End: Signs of the Cross Mary Hinkle Shore

"So then, since we are all terminal, what does it mean to be stewards of our own lives or another's as it nears its end?"



Question: In what ways do you explore themes of lament as a community?

Action: Write a letter to or have a conversation with a loved one about death and dying.



Body: On Flesh Ellie Roscher

"Bodies are the gifts from God. How we talk about our bodies, treat them, and care for them is how we respond to that gift. It's a form of prayer. Our bodies are powerful if we pay attention to them."

Question: In what ways are human bodies engaged in the life of the community of your congregation?

Action: Embrace the Lord's supper as a time of being united being united with Christ body as well as one another period find a way this week to break bread and drink from a cup with others in the body of Christ.



## Money and Finances: Practicing Generosity David P. King

Reframing stewardship holistically moves us beyond the maintenance of the church building we're balancing individual budgets. It leads us to consider reimagining our relationship with money as a central aspect of

discipleship."

Question: To what people and places do you feel a sense of aratitude?

### Community: Investing Social Capital as an Act of Faith John W. Vest



"Relationships, it seems, our foundational for all creation. We are relational beings living in a relational world"

Question: In what ways do you see people less inclined to come to church or see church as an attractional community? Given these emerging realities, how can you follow Jesus outside the walls, and be church elsewhere?

Action: Consider stewarding existing small group relationships or finding common interests and gathering around shared passions. How might our congregation embrace small group ministry and strengthen network ties?



Work: Called to Service Kathleen A. Cahalan

"God creates us with a capacity for vocation, and we are called to be good steward of this crucial gift- our ability to respond."

Question: In what ways are different vocations and gifts celebrated and shared in our faith community?

Action: Embark on a technology fast or Sabbath. What did you notice? In what ways do you feel refresh and or disconnected?

Action: Make a list of your gifts and how these gifts may be used to serve others

Action: Embrace more opportunities for telling the story of God's work in you. Write a thank you to someone for their generosity.



Technology: Digital Gifts Adam J. Copeland

"Like all in God's world, we can use the gift of technology for God's glory, for justice, for the care of one another, and for the nourishing of all creation."

Question: Are your daily practices with digital tools supporting your relationships with others and building up God's beloved community?



Privilege: Toward the Stewardship of Incarnation Margaret P. Aymer

"I believe that Christian faith calls us to the stewardship of incarnation. Such stewardship serves as an ethical critique of (un)earned societal privilege."

Question: How does our congregation understand its relationship to the broader community in terms of systems of privilege and oppression? Spirit: Stewarding Spiritual Gifts David Gambrell

"We are called to make good use of the gifts God has given us in baptism in other words, to be good stewards of these spiritual gifts."



Question: Where is the Spirit already at work in your congregation? What gifts have been poured out among the entire community?

Action: Listen to the story of someone who has experienced hunger, homelessness, poverty, or racism.

Action: Practice affirming the gifts you see in others.