

(4th Quarter)

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE FOR YOUR CHURCH

7 Faces of Philanthropy
by Russ Prince & Karen File

In extensive interviews with wealthy donors, these authors tried to classify why people give. They categorized the reasons into seven "faces of philanthropy":

- **Communitarians** are the largest group and give because they like supporting their community and it makes business sense to do so.
- The **Devout** give because it is God's will for them to do help others.
- The **Investor** will give if it makes good tax sense and look at the business side of the organization.
- The **Socialite** likes the social functions or events related to giving.
- The **Repayer** gives because they have personally benefitted from this organization.
- The **Altruist** gives because it helps them grow spiritually.
- The **Dynast** gives because their family has given.

While there are some limitations to this study - different people support churches and charities for different reasons. Think about why you give and why the church is important to you! Think about the face you put forward when giving!

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HELPS FOR THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

*"Stewardship is how we manage everything in life
as a trust from God"*

Talk about the implications for your church, knowing that people give for different reasons:

- What would appeal to different givers in the church?
- Could we change the wording in our newsletter and/bulletin to appeal to different faces?
- How does this affect their desire to be involved in the church?
- Why is the **Devout** group on the decline? Isn't that the group we should appeal to the best in the church?

Preparing for a "Simpler" Christmas

The following list comes from "[Whose Birthday Is It, Anyway?](#)" an Advent/Christmas resource from *Alternatives for Simple Living*:

"Why a Simpler Christmas?"

- "A Simpler Christmas leads to FREEDOM. A consumer Christmas leads to stress and debt. Simplicity leads to gratitude and generosity.
- "It leaves room for more JOY. It is such a joy to get the burden of stuff off our shoulders.
- "It builds RELATIONSHIPS. We are told thousands of times every day by commercial advertising that we will find meaning and happiness in life through stuff. Voluntary Simplicity says we will find happiness and meaning in life through relationships - with ourselves, with others, with the Earth, and with God.
- "It leads to a whole life of simplicity...
- "It promotes JUSTICE. By using only our fair share of Earth resources, we leave them for others around the globe and to future generations. 'Live Simply that Other May Simply Live.'
- "It Cares for CREATION. A simple life is an Earth- friendly life."

