

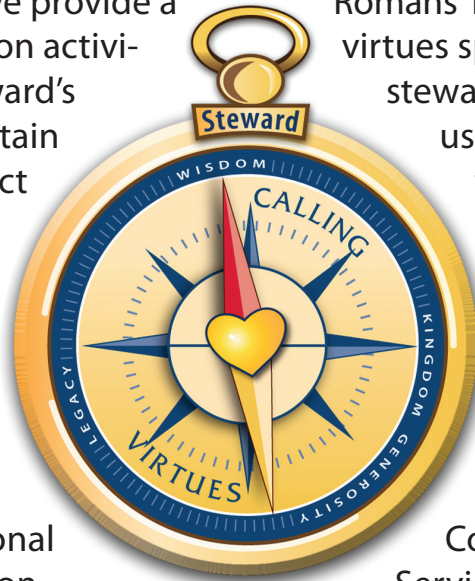
THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR STEWARDSHIP & GENEROSITY



The National Center for Stewardship and Generosity seeks to equip Christians to better live the life-changing stewardship practices of our faith.

An eternity of difference can result when there is just a 1° change in the course of a life.

The Steward's Compass is at the core of our equipping ministry. In the field of whole life stewardship and generosity, we provide a variety of experiential education activities, focused through the Steward's Compass to help set and maintain that new life course. We connect advanced leaders with emerging leaders to challenge and support learning situations. The Kingdom Generosity™ Collection, on loan to The National Center, provides historical context, giving each participant a strong and personal connection to the call of God on their heart.



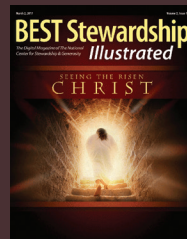
That's the heart work of stewardship that we seek to inspire. Always animated by the Romans 11:29 calling and Galatians 5:22 virtues sparked within the individual steward. The Steward's Compass calls us to consider the stewardship of the gifts given to us by our God, the whole of all that He's placed in our hands: Life itself, The Great Commission, Family, Church Work, Life's Time, Spiritual Gifts, Citizenship, Tithing and Giving, Relationships and Advocacy, Godly Counsel, Finances, Influence, Service, and Opportunities...

Kingdom Generosity™ COLLECTION

The Kingdom Generosity™ Collection provides extensive support for the quarterly E-zine published by The National Center. Rich with stories of people who have come alive to the stewardship journey, stewardship factoids, art traditions, even a "Believe it or Not" column. The E-zine also contains scholarly articles based on the writings of our ancestors, and reprints of many stewardship-related articles that have largely been lost to us. Enjoy the few examples appearing on the following page.

BEST Stewardship Illustrated

The Digital Magazine of The National Center for Stewardship & Generosity



TRAditions

Back in 1907, *Puck*, the national political humor magazine in England, put the artwork, entitled "The Almighty", on its cover. We have used that artwork on this issue's cover to remind us of its message.



This was a time in the world when the agriculturally based national economy was quickly moving to a mechanized economy. Items previously consid-

ered "luxuries" were increasingly considered to be "necessities" in both urban and rural areas. As "wants" became "needs", personal credit was invented to "help" individuals and families "try to afford" the items they wanted. This materialism did not go unnoticed by *Puck* magazine, as this international trend expanded in first world countries like Great Britain and the United States. For many, the materialism that developed in this period produced their first "consumer debt".

Generosity
Believe It or Not!

In the mid-1800s, a pew badge would have been affixed to the side of each pew, on the center aisle. The pew badge would indicate that the pew was for a named family.

The pew badge pictured here states:

*"In Memoriam, Chas. H. West., Sen.
Appropriated to Strangers"*

This pew badge was fashioned for

the West family who had endowed the required quarterly payments in honor of their beloved family member. In those days, families supported their church by pledging the ongoing funding for a designat-



ed pew, to be used exclusively by their family members and guests. The extraordinary difference in this pew badge was that it did not claim the pew for Charles' family.

The pew established in Charles' memory would immediately welcome "Strangers" who might otherwise arrive at the Church to find that all pews were claimed by families, with no seating available for the visitor. In stewarding a place for strangers, Charles' family created an evangelical outreach to all those who would enter.

ArtiFACTS

The Langdon Bakery Widows Mite Token is thought to have been minted in old brass in 1884, reminiscent of the coins in the Old Testament story of the widow who gave all that she had. The widow's mite is known as a lepton by coin collectors. The Langdon Bakery was established in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, by Sol Langdon.



Mr. Langdon handed these tokens out to all the customers of his bakery. Langdon was known to be a leader in his community who strongly believed in the tithe and its power to inspire a generous life. It was common at that time to bore a hole in a coin, and place it over the doorway of a business for good luck. Langdon didn't want his customers to rely on just luck but on the Lord's providence. Langdon's stewardship was exhibited to others, as he distributed the tokens, promoting the tithe,

even a tithe of a small "widow's mite". Another fascinating fact to numismatists is that the Lord's Prayer appears in fifteen microscopic lines, in the center of the reverse side of the coin. How this was possible without modern technology is still not understood by experts. Langdon exhibited faithful, deliberate stewardship as he witnessed to his community with these tokens. His long-ago stewardship serves as a beacon to Christians today

For more information on the Langdon Bakery Widow's Mite token, review the first issue of BEST Stewardship Illustrated from 2016 at nationalstewardshipcenter.org/ezine for this and other articles to encourage your stewardship journey.

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR STEWARDSHIP & GENEROSITY

Enabling the heart work of stewardship, The National Center creates, designs, sponsors, promotes, and executes variations of the programs and activities listed below.

- Experiential Stewardship Conferences
- Think Tanks
- Retreats and Fellowship Gatherings
- Networking and Experiential Mentoring
- Speakers Bureau
- Book Clubs
- Royal Stewards
- Center Sponsorships
- Center Memberships for Individuals
- Digital Stewardship Education
- Generosity Research, Development, Publication, and Presentation

Perhaps you're just 1° off the heading of the course you've set...
It doesn't seem like much.

Are you on course for the eternal impact of even a 1° change?

Is your family?

Is your business?

Is your ministry?

Is your Church?

Our vision is to see each person a good and generous steward.



Contact us to chart your course:

The National Center for Stewardship & Generosity, Inc.
916 East Cynthia Trail
Goodlettsville, TN 37072-3597
PH 615.944.3609
Fax 615.420.6923
bandrews@nationalstewardshipcenter.org
nationalstewardshipcenter.org