

A New Look at Stewardship, Currency of Time and Place

The Currency of Time and Place seems obvious to most members of Christ the King. 1) Paid and volunteer time that leaders, members, and non-members offer to the ministry. 2) Property from which a ministry operates and other physical or virtual (online) properties owned or can be accessed by the ministry. However, there is much more to the Currency of Time and Place than one first thinks.



Much of our members' time and interaction with the community is beyond that spent at church or doing the work of CTK ministries. Similar to many churches, the primary use of our property (pre-Covid) is once a week when we come together for Sunday services. While some members gather weekly or meet occasionally and community groups utilize our facilities on a regular basis, much of the property owned by CTK is used infrequently.

- ✠ What ways can we build upon our present Currency of Time and Place?
- ✠ How can we make the Cycle of Blessings of the Holy Currencies flow better and further into our community?

The first step is to complete a series of inventories to determine 1) how CTK members and employees use their time at church or toward CTK ministries and time away from church and 2) who uses our property, then when and how.

- ✠ What gifts and interests do members have to share with other members or our neighbors?
- ✠ Who in the community do members know that may lead to opportunities to build new relationships with our neighbors, establish trust to reveal their needs (truth) and new ways to serve our community?
- ✠ What spaces at CTK are available and when are they unoccupied?
- ✠ Who in our community could use space at CTK when we aren't using it?
- ✠ What can we exchange for our Currency of Time and Place?

The following is an example from Eric Law's blog, *The Sustainist*, of how a church put into action their Stewardship365 learnings by using their parking lot to connect with the community.

Church leaders realized while completing an inventory of the church property that the parking lot occupied the largest percentage of space. Through a year-long Holy Currencies workshop, they had learned about the Currency of Time and Place and began to explore how they could further use the parking lot. They wanted to exchange it for the Currencies of Relationship with neighbors and Money because they knew the roof of their church needed to be repaired soon.

They decided to offer their parking lot to food trucks one night a week in exchange for a 10% donation of each food truck owner's proceeds to the church's roof fund. Once a month they held a themed food truck event to reach more members of the community. Church members set up tables and chairs for people to eat then stayed to meet and listen to people in the neighborhood. While doing so, they built trusting relationships and discovered the truth about the needs and concerns of the community.

Church members responded to the needs and concerns by investing other currencies to provide wellness programs to create a more sustainable community. With donations from food truck owners *and neighbors* the church roof was repaired sooner than expected.

Your Stewardship committee is excited about the many ideas we've already noted to expand the use of CTK's Currency of Time and Place, the opportunities that will be revealed from the completed inventories and achieve our goal of becoming more relevant to our community!

Stay tuned and be well, your Stewardship Committee

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