



GOD FIRST

ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES
WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

STEWARDSHIP AND TRUST SERVICES ACTION PLAN 2025

Theme: “Holy Spirit Transformation for Eld Time Proclamation: God First”

President: Pastor Glen O. Samuels

Stewardship Director: Pastor Vencot Dyer

Departmental Secretary: Miss Anna-Kay Williams

TO: ALL STEWARDSHIP & TRUST SERVICES DIRECTORS

I greet you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour, Christ Jesus.

The year 2024 has been a challenging one for many in the aftermath of hurricane Beryl and other eventualities, but through it all we can still declare that God has been faithful to us. All that we have seen are but reminders that we are living in the last days before the coming of the Lord. It is also an encouragement for us to trust in the Lord, and to acknowledge him in all our ways, for it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful (1 Cor 4:2).

I take the opportunity to welcome all our Stewardship Leaders serving for the first time in this role, and to commend those who have served before and have been asked to serve again. Your faithfulness has not gone unnoticed. I encourage you to continue to be faithful, as you lead your churches and guide them into faithfulness.

I, therefore, encourage you to join in the thrust of the General Conference to encourage all to put **God First** in everything. Consequently, we have instituted a **monthly stewardship theme** present on the 2025 Calendar of Events, as we endeavor to focus the attention on the holistic nature of stewardship. Also, one of the aims of the GC Stewardship Strategic Orientation is to have a greater portion of the church practicing systematic benevolence, and to see a minimum additional 2 percent of the attending membership beginning to tithe at the start of each calendar year. Please note, we will also take the opportunity to widen and deepen the knowledgebase of the local church in West Jamaica regarding trust services, and to have more members involved in the mission of the church via involvement with ASI in 2025. We also commend you for your faithful support of our quarterly parish seminars, which has now transitioned into the biannual Parish Mission Seminar now for 2025.

Kindly take the time to observe the dates and activities that are attached to the Stewardship Calendar for 2025 that will require your participation.

Do have a prosperous 2025 and may the love of Christ constrain us.

- *Vencot Dyer, Stewardship and Trust Service Director*

WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

MISSION STATEMENT

To glorify God by proclaiming the everlasting gospel, meeting human needs, and discipling every believer in West Jamaica Conference

WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

VISION STATEMENT

Every believer living in readiness for Christ's second coming

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

STEWARDSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

Inviting people to trust God as Owner and Provider, and to partner in His final mission through regular and systematic giving.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

STEWARDSHIP VISION STATEMENT

People putting God First

WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

STEWARDSHIP STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 2025

The stewardship department of the West Jamaica Conference holds as its vision, "God First: Every believer living in readiness for Christ's second coming." This is in tandem with the General Conference stewardship department global focus – "God First." Therefore, we are inviting people to trust God as owner and provider in the embracing of our philosophy of biblical stewardship, and to partner in his final mission through regular and systematic giving. The stewardship department aims then to provide spiritual empowerment for all members, and stewardship education for all people, while building trust and confidence in our partnership with God. These we aim to fulfil through the overarching strategic issues of our conference, which are:

growth and consolidation, education and training, health and family wellness, and the Church being alive in the community. Ultimately, it is our aim to lead all to acknowledge the inalienable ownership of God and that all man's possessions; talent, treasure, time, temple (body), influence and the environment, truly belongs to him. This we will continue to do through seminars, sermons, presentations, practical illustrations, commitment ceremonies, interactions, and other relevant activities.

Lead Measures

The lead measures of the strategy are spiritual empowerment, stewardship education for all, and building trust and confidence through accountability and transparency.

- 1) **Spiritual Empowerment.** Under the first lead measure, spiritual empowerment – the members are to be nurtured spiritually, with a focus on the God-first principle, through home visitations, weekly offertory devotionals, regular stewardship sermons, annual commitment ceremonies, and other relevant activities.
- 2) **Stewardship Education for All.** In fulfilling lead measure number two, stewardship education for all – all segments of the church membership including prospective members, should receive adequate training in regular and systematic giving in their responsibility of supporting the local and worldwide mission equitably. For the community at large, the church should provide education in the management of personal finances, wealth creation, and other relevant topics, based on the Bible, Ellen G. White's book *Counsels on Stewardship*, and her other writings.
- 3) **Building Trust and Confidence.** And regarding lead measure number three - stewardship leaders are to encourage and work together with the leadership of the church to establish an internal control system, encourage compliance with the *Use of Tithe* guidelines, assist in ensuring that regular financial information is provided to all members, and to engage in other actions that contribute to building trust. Accountability and transparency initiatives are critical to this lead measure.

STEWARDSHIP IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FOUR STRATEGIC ISSUES OF THE WEST JAMAICA CONFERENCE

The four strategic issues of the West Jamaica Conference are: growth and consolidation, education and training, health and family wellness, and the church in the community. Guided by our philosophy of stewardship and the GC Stewardship Strategic Orientation 2020-2025, the following proposal for the WJC Stewardship Department is to guide its initiatives for the rest of the quadrennium under the current administration.

Growth and Consolidation

Growth and consolidation can only take place within the context of adequate, relevant, and effective information that will lead to qualitative and quantitative growth. The aim of the department then is to achieve the goals of the GC Strategic Orientation, The objectives of the WJC Department within the context of our philosophy, and the key strategic issues of the conference. To realize growth and consolidation of the local membership (stewards) of our church, we propose:

- 1) To conduct an annual **Stewardship Symposium**, which will be held on **December 06, 2025**. At this symposium, the God First Strategic Orientation will be presented along with the Combined Offering Plan. The proposed goal of an additional 2% of the local church membership, at the start of the year, be participating in tithing and regular giving will also be presented. The “God First: iPromise” commitment cards will be shared, and the “Generosity Factor” Calculator will be introduced.
- 2) That each stewardship day for 2025-26, the promotional segment will be used to promote the engagement of stewards with the iPromise commitment cards as we seek to increase the number of individuals participating in regular and systematic giving.
- 3) That for spiritual (qualitative) growth the entire Conference will participate in the God First **Stewardship Revival Week from November 29 to December 06, 2025**, and each year subsequently during the first week of December.
- 4) To ask each member to commit of their time to utilizing their talents in the fulfilment of the mission of Christ, and in aiding the needs of others via wholistic Christian service.

Education and Training

The stewardship ministries department must cater to the education and training of all members of the church and the community regarding their stewardship responsibilities. Our approach will be to educate the church on the importance of faithfulness in relation to salvation with the expected result of a deeper appreciation for the ownership and lordship of Christ, resulting in an increased percentage of membership involvement, lifestyle adjustment as stewards, systematic and regular giving commitment, and the support of the church and its programs, especially by children and young professionals. This will be realized through:

- 1) The Parish Mission Seminars.
- 2) District Officers Consultation.
- 3) The execution of at least one presentation at the quarterly pastors' meetings each year to further equip the pastors as stewards of stewards.
- 4) The introduction of stewardship books and materials to the pastors and stewardship leaders.
- 5) The sharing of each publication of the *Dynamic Steward Magazine* and *God First Newsletter* with the pastorate and local church stewardship department leadership.
- 6) The guidance of members to be intentional about seeking ways to develop their natural or learnt gifts and talents, and to develop initiatives and strategies in which these talents may be utilized in the mission of Christ.
- 7) the leading of the membership to the study of the book ***Counsels on Stewardship***.

Health and Family Wellness

Considering the wholistic nature of the stewardship principle, then wise and faithful stewards must be judicious and temperate in the management of their lifestyles and health decisions. Consequently, the Stewardship Ministries Department will collaborate with the Health Ministries, Possibility Ministries, and Family Ministries departments to promote and execute programs that cater to the health of the individual and his/her family. These will include involvement in and promotion of:

- 1) Health Fairs in Collaboration with the Health Ministries Department. These will focus on healthful living and nature's remedies as proposed through Advent Health focus and acronym CELEBRATIONS.
- 2) Health Walks/Runs in collaboration with Health Ministries.

- 3) To encourage as many families as possible to be involved in the **God First Stewardship Green day**, which will be **December 07, 2025**, as we seek to intentionally impact our environment in a positive way on that day through the planting of trees, reduction in CO₂ emissions by park and walk initiatives, cleaning of beaches, drains and roadways, waste reduction and recycle drives, etc., on that day.

Church in the Community

The fact that God's ownership extends to every dimension of existence and that includes humanity, then differences in, or absence of religious belief or persuasion, does not remove one's stewardship responsibility. We are all stewards. Therefore, we have an equal responsibility to educate the community as we do to the church membership. All members of the community should be educated regarding their stewardship responsibility to God. This will be fulfilled through the following means:

- 1) Sermons.
- 2) Premarital counselling sessions.
- 3) Through special invitations to the Stewardship Revival Week local church programs, and through recognition of exemplary community stewards at our Stewardship Symposium, December 06, 2025.
- 4) Partnership with the mentorship coordinator in programs catering to the growth and development of community youth through responsible mentoring by spiritually mature members, and to teach them about who they are (stewards) in relationship to who God is (Owner and Lord.)

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of any strategic initiative is critical to its success. Consequently, the local church stewardship leader or treasure should report about the achievement of the goal to the church board at least once every quarter. Also, all administrative units should report about the achievement of the goal to Conference at least once per year. This report will be due and should be taken to the Stewardship Symposium on December 06, 2025.

STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT CALENDAR OF MISSIONS 2025

DATES	ACTIVITIES	LOCATION
January	Stewardship Emphasis – God’s Ownership	All Churches
11	Annual Convention - St James/Hanover	
18	Annual Convention – Westmoreland/ St Elizabeth	
26	Clerks, Auditors - , Treasurers, & Stewardship Directors’ Workshop - Hanover	Lucea SDA
February	Stewardship Emphasis – Man as Manager	All Churches
02	Clerks, Auditors, Treasurers, & Stewardship Directors’ Workshop – St James	WJC
09	Clerks, Auditors, Treasurers, & Stewardship Directors’ Workshop - Westmoreland	Footprints
13	Trust Services Virtual Workshop	Online
16	Parish Mission Seminar - Hanover	Lucea SDA
23	Parish Mission Seminar – St Elizabeth	Santa Cruz SDA
March	Stewardship Emphasis - Time	All Churches
8	Stewardship Ministries Day	All Churches
9	Parish Mission Seminar - Westmoreland	Sav-la-mar SDA
16	Clerks, Auditors, Treasurers and Stewardship Directors Workshop – St Elizabeth	Santa Cruz
30	Stewardship Leaders Certification Training (WJC&NJC)	WJC
April	Stewardship Emphasis - Talent	All Churches
13	Parish Mission Seminar – St James	WJC
May	Stewardship Emphasis - Treasure	All Churches
June	Stewardship Emphasis – Temple	All Churches
July	Stewardship Emphasis - Mind	All Churches
August	Stewardship Emphasis - Influence	All Churches
17	Parish Mission Seminar - Hanover	Lucea SDA
24	Parish Mission Seminar – St Elizabeth	Santa Cruz
September	Stewardship Emphasis - Mission	All Churches
October	Stewardship Emphasis - Legacy	All Churches
25	Stewardship Ministries Day	Local church/WJC
November	Stewardship Emphasis – Environment	All Churches
30-Dec 06	Stewardship Revival Week	All Churches
December	Stewardship Emphasis: Faithfulness	All Churches
06	Stewardship Symposium – West Jamaica Conference	WJC
07	Stewardship Green Day	All Churches