

REPORT TO THE ASSOCIATIONS
STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT
CLARENCE E. HACKETT, DIRECTOR
FLORIDA BAPTIST CONVENTION
2010-2011

PRESENTING THE CHALLENGE AND COMMITMENT TO BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP in your church can produce changed lives, changed priorities, and a deeper commitment to Christ and His work. Stewardship is a transformation of one's heart, not a financial transaction of the pocketbook or checkbook. Biblical stewardship is **affirming** God's ownership over all that we have, **acknowledging** our accounting to God, and **accepting** the management responsibility for the gifts and resources God entrusts to us.

Transitions: Discovering the Generosity Factor is the 2011 theme for the Stewardship Department. Transitions is a three-Sunday church stewardship resource specifically designed to help church members visualize the stewardship responsibilities as: 1.) God promises a life of blessing; 2.) We discover God's blessing through a life of stewardship; and 3.) The community of faith extends God's blessings through missions. Resources include Three-Sunday annual emphasis on tithing including bulletin inserts, offering/commitment envelope, poster/emphasis guide, Sunday School lessons, dramas, theme song and sermon ideas on CD/DVD are available for this emphasis.

PEOPLE AND MINISTRIES become the direct beneficiaries of faithful giving/tithing. Specific church ministry budget items such as the Cooperative Program and your local association enable your financial gifts to implement the ministries of your church, association, state convention, and around the world.

NEW MATERIALS presented to pastors, church staff and laypersons this year were:

Authentic Stewardship pastor's book ; *Transitions: Discovering the Generosity Factor* (a three-week giving emphasis which includes bulletin inserts, offering/commitment envelope, poster/emphasis guide, Sunday School lessons, dramas, theme song, and sermon ideas on CD/DVD); *Managing Your Money in the Last Days* by Darin Kress ; *The Biblical Concept of Stewardship* (Revised); *Be Generous* bulletin inserts by Ernest Standerfer ; *Navigating Church Ministry Budgeting* by Clarence E. Hackett and *Church Financial Guidebook* (Revised).

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE: In the last 12 months, five churches have completed BTF programs, totaling \$5,979,848. Expect spiritual renewal to occur in members' lives and thousands of dollars in interest payments to be saved when your church uses BTF. Reinvest these savings in the ministries of your church. BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE can be used in any size church in Florida. Use the Florida Baptist Convention's Capital Campaign in your church this Fall or next Spring.

YOUR CHURCH AND ITS MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP: Developing a ministry of stewardship in the church requires planning and an understanding of the available resources. Last year seven stewardship specialists worked with the director to conduct 41 Pastors Stewardship Meetings with over 800 pastors, staff members, and stewardship leaders from 570 churches in attendance; and 10 Lay Stewardship Conferences with 120 in attendance from 90 churches. In addition, approximately 39 churches received personal training and assistance through our department's church consultations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT as we continue to proclaim the message and mandate of biblical stewardship. Florida Baptist churches face monumental challenges in the years ahead. Please let us know how we can assist you in your vital ministry of developing faithful stewards.