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# MY GENEROSITY JOURNEY

*2024 Stewardship Campaign*

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

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**Generosity Autobiography**

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# My Generosity Journey

## Generosity Autobiography

The role of the Stewardship Committee is to help to grow a spirit of generosity in the congregation; generosity to church, to family, and to other organizations doing great work in the world. As we reflect on our generosity journey, a Generosity Autobiography can be a helpful tool for contemplating the role and influence of money and material possessions in our lives.

A Generosity Autobiography challenges us to explore the past to see how our attitudes, assumptions, and values concerning money and wealth were formed. The generosity autobiography provides a lens through which we examine how we manage money today and maybe, how money manages us. It can help us set some priorities and goals for the future. Writing a Generosity Autobiography helps us understand our behavior and feelings evoked by money and how those feelings, attitudes, assumptions, and values shape our approach to generosity.

You are encouraged to set aside some quiet time, take up your pen or keyboard, and discover for yourself the gifts of healing, insight, and freedom which often come when, in vulnerability and trust, we acknowledge feelings, attitudes and experiences evoked by money. This process is rewarding and sometimes uncomfortable, but through the discomfort we can grow in our faith and our understanding of generosity. Generosity is personal and this Generosity Autobiography is for your own personal use. However, it can be meaningful to share your Generosity Autobiography with those closest to you if you wish.



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## Looking back...

1. What is your earliest memory of money?

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2. What attitudes did your parents and other family members have about money?

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3. What is your happiest memory in connection with money?

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4. What is your worst money memory?

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5. Did you feel rich, poor, or neither growing up? Why do you think you felt that way?

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6. Did you worry about money when you were a child or a teenager?  
Why or why not?

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7. How has your attitude and feelings toward money shifted at different stages of life? (young adulthood, as a parent, at age 50, in retirement...)

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8. Reflect on times when you have given to meet the needs of another. How did that act of generosity make you feel?

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**Now...**

1. How would you describe a generous person?

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2. In what ways are you generous?

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3. In what ways are you not practicing generosity?

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4. How does your faith intersect and interact with your relationship with money?

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5. How do you decide how much money to share? How do you decide where and when to share?

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6. Circle the words below that best communicate your attitudes and feelings about money? Reflect on why you feel this way.

Money is ...

- |            |          |        |             |
|------------|----------|--------|-------------|
| Power      | Security | Hope   | Love        |
| Pleasure   | Prestige | Dirty  | Helpful     |
| Anxiety    | Identity | A Tool | Freedom     |
| Protection | Evil     | Fun    | Comfortable |

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## Looking ahead...

1. Are you as generous as you want to be? If not, what is holding you back and why?

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2. In what areas of your life could you be more generous and how can you live out that generosity?

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3. What legacy of generosity do you hope to leave when you are gone?

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4. Are your values, practices and attitude around money leaving the legacy of generosity you wish to leave? Why or why not?

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Thank You  
for your  
generosity!



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