



STEWARDSHIP 2024 Resource for Parish Callers - FAQ

Thank you again for your willingness to serve as a Stewardship Caller in our 2024 Stewardship Campaign. You have good material already with the Training Video and Stewardship Caller Training PDF. If some Adventers have specific questions related to their pledge, the Pledge Card, or our process, here is an FAQ that we hope will be helpful.

What do the pledge categories mean?

If you check the first box on the pledge card, the Advent will send 10% of your contribution to the Diocese of Alabama. The Diocese will, in turn, send a portion of this amount to the Episcopal Church (the national church). The end result is that approximately 90% of your pledge contribution remains at the Advent, 7-8% is available for use by the Diocese, and 2-3% goes to the national church.

If you check the second box on the pledge card, the Advent will send 10% of your contribution to the Diocese, but the Diocese will not share any part of this amount with the national church. The end result is that approximately 90% of your pledge contribution remains at the Advent, and 10% is available for use by the Diocese.

While no other box appears on the pledge card, the Advent will strictly adhere to instructions and designations that a parishioner includes as part of his or her pledge. (Please remember that all pledge contributions are used to fund the annual operating budget, while contributions to specific ministries or programs are handled separately and are not considered to be pledges.)

Did the Advent used to offer an “Advent Only” option? Is that still an option?

In previous years, the Advent did have a pledge category for “Advent Only”. If they so choose, Adventers may continue to direct or restrict their giving, indicating their instructions on the Pledge Card or Online Form.

Who can someone call with questions about pledge designations or something else?

The Advent has effective policies and procedures in place to ensure that pledge designations are honored. If you have questions about this, please call our Administrator, Bryan Helm: 205-226-3501. Any complicated or sensitive questions can be referred to the Administrator or clergy.

Can Stewardship Callers answer questions about pledge designations?

Yes. If someone has a question about what the checkboxes on the Pledge Card mean, or if they can write in Advent Only, Stewardship Callers can answer their questions. Please use the guidance from this FAQ to help clarify any questions.

Who has access to financial information and giving records at the Advent?

The Advent’s administrative staff and financial office handles the regular and routine processes regarding the church’s finances, including giving records of members. The Advent maintains strict levels of financial accountability and confidentiality, with audits from an outside firm occurring each year.