[insert date]

Dear Fellow Members of [insert congregation],

The weekend of [month\_day] will serve as *Commitment Sunday* for this year’s stewardship emphasis: **“Ten for Ten”**. This is a time when all members of [church name] are asked to make a concerted, prayerful effort to *plan* their regular, weekly offerings to the Lord. In sermons and song, devotions and Bible studies, you have been encouraged to take a prayerful and personal inventory of God’s blessings to you and your family. With this packet, you are now encouraged to *plan* your response to God’s goodness.

This [month]’s “**Ten for Ten”** stewardship emphasis is based on the biblical practice of tithing (giving the first 10% of income to the Lord). We are asking each member of our [church name] family to prayerfully consider tithing for a ten-week period beginning [insert month\_day]. If tithing is truly not possible at this time, you will be encouraged to plan a percentage that you can *joyfully* give. If you are not currently in the spiritual practice of proportional giving (that is, giving a percentage of your income)—let alone tithing—take heart: God will richly bless you as you joyfully give your first and your best to the God who gave you his all!

Our Lord commanded his Old Testament believers to do something amazing in the book of Malachi. He actually invited them to “put him to the test” in their giving (Malachi 3:10)! God promised to bless their generous gifts. In the New Testament, we are asked to give “on the first day” of the week in “keeping with our income” (1 Corinthians 16:2). In other words, we don’t want to “feed God our leftovers.” Our Lord deserves our first and our best. The Bible teaches that God loves a *cheerful* giver. May he bless you with great joy as you plan your gifts for him during this “**Ten for Ten”** emphasis.

You will find several items enclosed to help you cheerfully plan your giving:

1. A *planning sheet* that will help you determine where your giving is now at and where, under God’s blessing, you would like it to go, and
2. A *planning card and envelope* for you to place into the offering basket the weekend of [month\_day].

Once again, you are kindly asked to place your personal giving plans into the offering basket the weekend of [month\_day]. Our plans will be placed at the altar for the following ten weeks. Why? So that we can regularly pray for God’s blessing upon our hearts’ intentions! Importantly, as this personal giving plan is between you and God, and *not a commitment to [church name],* these envelopes will remain sealed throughout the ten weeks. They will be returned to you after ten weeks, unopened, so that you can pray to the Lord further about how the “**Ten for Ten”** experience changed your attitude towards giving. You will not receive special **“Ten for Ten”** offering envelopes. Rather, please use your regular weekly envelopes.

Yours in Christ,

[your name]

Stewardship Commission members

PS: More and more [church name] members are choosing to give their firstfruits, regular offerings *electronically via VANCO* rather than using checks/envelopes. It is easy to sign up for this electronic giving service at [[church](http://trinitywels.com) website] Just go to the “[church name]” menu and select “Donate Now.” – [use if this applies to your church]