

Stewardship Minute -- Curt Cowan
November 17, 2019

My family came here from Memphis because my wife, Sarah, is attending Virginia Seminary for three years as a postulant for the Diocese of West Tennessee. We're very thankful that the Diocese and our sending parish have been so generous in their support of Sarah's journey. It certainly lessens the pain of the checks we're still writing to fulfill our parish capital campaign pledge – a pledge we made, of course, before we knew we'd be quitting our jobs and moving to the Seminary!

So now we mail a check to Memphis and they mail a check to us here and then we take a small slice of that and we give it to Immanuel (wouldn't this make a fabulous money laundering scheme?).

But about that last part, the little slice we give to Immanuel -- We had people telling us "Look, when you're in seminary, you'll go to a lot of different churches and nobody expects you to pledge."

But to me, that totally misses the point.

We don't pledge here because someone expects it. We pledge here because this is our church home. And just like any other home you might share with other people, we all need to chip in to cover the groceries. And practically speaking, if you put it in the form of a pledge, the parish can count it as revenue on the budget so the parish can operate.

This is just how I was raised and even if it's just a tiny, nominal pledge (which it is), it's the example I want to set for my kids: One of gratitude to God for all our blessings.

I hope you will consider joining us in doing the same.