# Year 'round Planning Calendar

## January
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Know how much *God loves you.* [Luke 15:11-32](#)
  - **Growth:** Conduct a *church energy* assessment.
  - **Giftedness:** Read Ask, Thank, Tell by Charles Lane. ([Anchor Bay Press](#))
  - **Finances:** Give a *spiritual gifts inventory* or update time & talent sheets.
  - **Lifestyle:** Develop a *special appeal schedule* for the year.
  - **Planning:** Offer a men’s winter retreat - Appletree.
  - **Review and revise leadership succession plan.**

## February
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Rejoice in *God’s presence.* [Luke 15:1-10](#)
  - **Growth:** Introduce a *recycling* program.
  - **Giftedness:** Orientation for new leaders—council and stewardship team.
  - **Finances:** Celebrate gifts, skills, and talents discovered.
  - **Lifestyle:** Share stewardship stories in meetings.
  - **Planning:** Sermon on *life and faith* priorities.
  - **Set goals and priorities for current year.**

## March
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Understand *God’s purpose.* [Luke 7:31-35](#)
  - **Growth:** Read ELCA statement on *caring for creation.*
  - **Giftedness:** Conduct new member orientation.
  - **Finances:** Tell a story in worship of how someone used their time or talent.
  - **Lifestyle:** Receive a special *Lenten offering.*
  - **Planning:** Do a *Lenten service project.*
  - **Read The Power of Asset Mapping* by Luther Snow. ([Hope Haven](#))

## April
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Live in *God’s relationships.* [Luke 11:1-10](#)
  - **Growth:** Plant a *church garden.*
  - **Giftedness:** Offer *Kids, Money & Stuff* workshop.
  - **Finances:** Start planning *ministry fair* for fall.
  - **Lifestyle:** Write letter of appreciation to members for first quarter.
  - **Planning:** Plan a *sabbath rest* activity from *Sabbath* by Wayne Muller. ([Berenice](#))
  - **Read Effective Church Leadership* by Harris W. Lee.

## May
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Become a *good receiver* from God. [Luke 14:25-35](#)
  - **Growth:** Go on a *field trip* to a local nature center.
  - **Giftedness:** Read *The Generosity Factor* by Ken Blanchard and S. Truett Cathy. ([Deliverer](#))
  - **Finances:** Conduct a *leader appreciation* service.
  - **Lifestyle:** Use *Try-a-Tithe Sunday.*
  - **Planning:** Plan a *family game* or movie night.
  - **Offer leadership to twelve new people.**

## June
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Discover your *time and talents.* [Matthew 25:34-30](#)
  - **Growth:** Offer garden flowers and vegetables to the community.
  - **Giftedness:** Offer a *stewardship activity* for summer camp.
  - **Finances:** Recognize vocation gifts and talents.
  - **Lifestyle:** Send a reminder to worshippers about faithful *summer giving.*
  - **Planning:** Attend a *family church camp.*
  - **Offer leadership development experience like Growing Leaders.**

## July
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Learn how money *serves God* and helps others. [Luke 12:13-21](#)
  - **Growth:** Offer a *creation activity* at vacation Bible school.
  - **Giftedness:** Tell a *mission support story* at vacation Bible school.
  - **Finances:** Preach a sermon on spiritual gifts.
  - **Lifestyle:** Review *mission support* and benevolence commitments.
  - **Planning:** Go on a *summer mission trip.*
  - **Review and revise leadership succession plan.**

## August
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Take *risks* for God. [Matthew 13:44-45](#)
  - **Growth:** Plan a worship with *Seasons of Creation* liturgy.
  - **Giftedness:** Conduct a *stewardship orientation* for the congregation.
  - **Finances:** Evaluate *leadership development plan.*
  - **Lifestyle:** Form *annual response* action team.
  - **Planning:** Have a *congregational picnic.*
  - **Read How Your Church Family Works* by Peter Steinke. ([Berenice](#))

## September
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Express *gratitude* to other children of God. [Matthew 20:16](#)
  - **Growth:** Conduct audit of hazardous materials on church property.
  - **Giftedness:** Read *Giving to God* by Mark Allan Powell. ([Deliverer](#))
  - **Finances:** Offer a *spiritual gifts inventory* to every worshipper.
  - **Lifestyle:** Conduct a *liturgy’s table event.*
  - **Planning:** Plan a *fellowship event* around rally day.
  - **Develop a realistic *timeline* of congregational events.**

## October
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Care for *Planet Earth.* [Matthew 21:33-41](#)
  - **Growth:** Offer Bible study, *Awakening God’s Call to Earthkeeping.*
  - **Giftedness:** Offer *Give Bible study.*
  - **Finances:** Offer a *ministry fair* for congregation and community.
  - **Lifestyle:** Receive an offering for *World Hunger.*
  - **Planning:** Offer a women’s fall retreat – Appletree.
  - **Review all worshipper involvement.**

## November
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Connect *blessings* to God’s community. [Luke 18:1-8](#)
  - **Growth:** Evaluate *progress and set goals* for next year.
  - **Giftedness:** Share a *mission moment* in worship.
  - **Finances:** Review *gifts inventory.*
  - **Lifestyle:** Invite annual financial response from members.
  - **Planning:** Plan a *sabbath rest activity* from *Sabbath* by Wayne Muller. ([Berenice](#))
  - **Evaluate progress on goals for the year.**

## December
- **Theme & Focus:** Earthkeeping  
  **Growth:**  
  **Giftedness:**  
  **Finances:**  
  **Lifestyle:** Planning  
  **Planning:**

  - **Earthkeeping:** Grow as *God works* in your life. [Luke 5:33-39](#)
  - **Growth:** Promote *alternative giving* ideas.
  - **Giftedness:** Simple living: read *Whose birthday is it, anyway?* ([Alternatives](#))
  - **Finances:** Conduct a *spiritual gifts* event.
  - **Lifestyle:** Invite people from the congregation to make a *year-end gift.*
  - **Planning:** Do an *Advent service project.*
  - **Prepare annual report.**

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For more information about the resources in the boxes above, go to [www.elca.org/stewardship](http://www.elca.org/stewardship) or call 800-638-3522, ext. 2767.