# THE CHRONICLE

providing Expertise that brings Clarity to finances enabling leadership to have Confidence in decision making



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### **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

December. Such a special time of year, waiting in anticipation during the season of Advent, to the culmination of celebration during Christmastide. Which also comes with the "holiday have-to's" of cookie exchanges, ugly sweater parties, Christmas programs, and movie marathons.

On their own, all are special times. Stacked back to back to back, along with multiple holiday services, and your calendar is busting at the seams. Then your friends at MM start talking about **budgets** being due. Reminding you your **housing allowance** needs to be voted on and approved. And don't get me started on the requirements for **year-end giving**. Actually, see page 2.

We might not be able to help you trim your tree, bake your cookies, or tear-down after service. But we can make sure your ministry is set up for success to close out your year, account for all 1099 workers, and get those giving statements out the door. Actually we do have some ideas to inspire you to reach those **2024 goals** and have a fun December along the way.

No matter what you need from us this month, we are so thankful for your partnership, and wish you all a **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!** 

# THE CHRONICLE Industry Resource



### **RECORDS RETENTION**

Nonprofit organizations are often confronted with the challenges of record management and retention. It is common for convenience and limited space to drive such decisions; however, a variety of government regulations and best practices need to be considered. That's why we provide a **Record Retention Guideline** as a PDF download so you know what things you need to keep, what is okay to toss, and how long you need to keep items. Get those shredders and label makers ready.

"<u>Housing allowance</u> is an annual amount of compensation that is set aside by the church to cover the cost of housing related expenses for its ministers. The amount spent on housing reduces a qualifying minister's federal and state income tax burden." - MM Position Paper

# **YEAR-END GIVING**

We recommend paying very close attention to dates on checks, postmark dates, and transaction dates all-year long, but especially during this time of year. Similarly, we recommend making two separate deposits – one for 2024 giving and one for 2025 giving. This isn't just our rule, per **IRS Publication 526**, contributions should be dated at the time of unconditional delivery. To learn more about what that means, read our post on **Year-End Giving**.



# THE CHRONICLE MM Highlights



# YOU ASKED, WE DELIVERED: ON DEMAND COURSES

We now have the capacity to be able to give the people what they want: our training courses, on your schedule. Right now we have **three courses on demand** for your viewing pleasure. Simply buy a ticket for the current week, then you will be emailed a link to the course page with the option of watching the replay and accessing the eBook at any time. In the next few years, look for more courses to be added.

Current courses include: <u>Mission Driven Budgeting</u>, <u>Creating</u> <u>an Effective & Efficient Offering Counting System</u>, and <u>Ministerial Taxes</u>.

"There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil." - Ecclesiastes 2:24

# **CONGRATULATIONS, DR. MILLER**

2024 has given us a lot to celebrate. 35 years of business is an exciting feat. Next, we had several **milestone staff anniversaries** this year. Then, our President graduated with his DMin in Leadership at the beginning of this month. Not just following in our founder's footsteps, but gaining valuable knowledge on continuing to run MM well for our clients. Congratulations to the new Dr. Christopher Miller! If you'd like to send him well wishes, you can do so on our **Facebook** post.



# THE CHRONICLE Next Steps



### **CONTACT US**

Visit our **website** to find valuable information regarding FAQs, trainings, additional services, or just a general question.

If you can't find your answer, reach out to your MM representative, or fill out our form at: <u>https://goodfaithaccounting.com/contact/</u> and someone will get back with you.

The 2025 Miller Management training course list is now available! Visit <u>https://goodfaithaccounting.com/2025-courses/</u> to learn which dates to save and see what topics are coming your way.

## **PAST CHRONICLES**

As mentioned previously, this is our 35th year of business and we've been producing this client newsletter for 10 years.

To visit past issues, you can view those at: https://goodfaithaccounting.com/newsletter/ MANAGEMENT