

Ten Things for a Treasurer to Know...

(AKA, I wish someone had told me this...)

DOMA Treasurer's Training

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MID-ATLANTIC

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As Treasurer of your church, your primary duty is to protect the integrity of the church's assets and assure they are used for their intended purpose.



"Honesty is the first chapter of the book wisdom."

~ Thomas Jefferson ~



In a climate growing increasingly hostile to Christianity, it is more important than ever to make sure we are squeaky clean in our handling of money – both as a witness, and as protection.





Most clergy that get in trouble get there because of issues related to sex or money – we hear more (finally!) about mutual protection in the area of sexual misconduct but haven't gotten there with finances.





Although we are exempt from many legal and HR requirements, we do not have carte blanche exemptions from them. It is wise to know the difference!





Fringe benefits must be granted and administered in an equitable manner in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. There are numerous “can’t do that” guardrails that must be followed!



Best practices (separation of duties, segregation of counting and recording responsibilities, etc.) are for your protection as much as for financial integrity.





**Never let anyone be alone with cash
(including yourself)**





Benevolence accounts (not “discretionary funds”) are still subject to accountability and oversight. Handling them incorrectly can result in penalties to the rector (and others...)





Whether or not your accounts are formally audited, they should be periodically reviewed by an outside expert. It's not just a requirement; it is a good idea!





When in doubt, never be afraid to ask. If you are not comfortable with the answer, keep asking.





Discussion?

