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Ronald Blue Trust Offers Financial Guidance to Faith Leaders through Partnership with ChurchSalary Tool

New Church Compensation Resource Features Personal Finance Tips and Guidelines Based on Biblical Wisdom

ATLANTA – Wealth management and trust company, Ronald Blue Trust, has partnered with Church Law & Tax, a publication of Christianity Today, to provide content for ChurchSalary. Released this month, the tool features compensation best practices and guidance on personal financial topics, including budgeting, debt management and retirement planning.

ChurchSalary was born out of the National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders. Funded by \$28 million in grants announced in December of 2015 by the Lilly Endowment, the initiative resulted from extensive nationwide research. It showed that pastors from multiple denominational groups and geographic locations were facing serious financial stresses and obstacles. ChurchSalary is designed to help alleviate some of those pressures.

"We are pleased to contribute to an initiative that helps faith leaders live with clarity and confidence about money," says Nick Stonestreet, chief executive officer for Ronald Blue Trust. "Our hope is that when faith leaders are equipped with the tools and knowledge to become better stewards of their finances, they will live enriched lives and be an even greater blessing to others."

A division of Thrivent Trust Company, Ronald Blue Trust provides wealth management strategies and trust services based on biblical principles. The division (and its predecessor) has been serving individuals and families with complex financial needs across generations since 1979, helping them enjoy a healthier relationship with money and be inspired to live more generously.

This is the first year the *Church Law & Tax* editorial team sought assistance from a wealth management expert to provide personal finance resources within the ChurchSalary tool. Ronald Blue Trust has contributed a series of articles that address a variety of topics, including strategic giving, four financial decisions that may affect contentment, five methods of budgeting, and five principles of stewardship.

"We are delighted to have Ronald Blue Trust's participation in our enhanced efforts to provide church staffs with information to navigate tough financial issues and create an atmosphere of healthy stewardship," says Sam Ogles, project leader for ChurchSalary. "When those employed to serve in the church are paid adequately and fairly through a culture of generosity and blessing, they're free to focus on the good work of ministry."

For more information about ChurchSalary and to access the tool, visit www.ChurchSalary.com. Information about Ronald Blue Trust and additional resources are available at www.ronblue.com.

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About Ronald Blue Trust

Ronald Blue Trust (www.ronblue.com) is a division of Thrivent Trust Company, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Thrivent Financial (www.thrivent.com). Ronald Blue Trust serves individuals and families across generations with complex financial needs and helps them to enjoy a healthier relationship with money and be inspired to live more generously.

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About Christianity Today

Christianity Today is a nonprofit, global media ministry centered on Beautiful Orthodoxy—strengthening the church by richly communicating the breadth of the true, good, and beautiful gospel. Reaching over five million people monthly with various digital and print resources, the ministry equips Christians to renew their minds, serve the church, and create culture to the glory of God.

PHOTO CUTLINE: Ronald Blue Trust has partnered with Church Law & Tax to provide financial guidance for faith leaders in the latest release of the ChurchSalary tool.



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How to Avoid the Dangers of Debt



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Overview

veryone seems to be using credit, finding more sources of credit, and increasing their lines of credit, which only adds to the desire to spend now and pay later. Is this wise? This Ronald Blue Trust article will attempt to help you understand the dangers around too much debt.