



Bethany Stewardship News

September 2013

The goal of our stewardship ministry is to help us grow in our relationship with God through the use of the time, talents, and treasures He has entrusted to us for the good of others.

Stewardship

The annual Time, Talent, and Treasure Commitment event will take place during **October** this year, and is entitled **“Found faithful, with little, with much, with all”**.

We need to be reminded that God has called us and equipped us to be faithful in our unique roles – be it as a plumber, accountant, mother, father, pastor, or teacher. God expects us to be faithful in our relationships with each other as well as with our resources.

Jesus taught us that faithfulness starts with the simple and everyday things of life. If each day’s activities are a letter written to God, it should be our goal to sign off each night with the words “Faithfully Yours.”

The “Found Faithful” stewardship emphasis we are using this fall focuses on our faithfulness in light of how we function – regardless of our age, status, or financial means – as stewards of all God gives us.

In what “little” ways is God asking us as individuals and as a faith community to help reveal grace to others? What has been placed in our care to pass on to others, small as it might be? Little is always much in the hands of Christ.

Many of us are still learning how God can multiply our resources when we understand the relationship between the gifts we receive, and the ultimate Giver. We are richly blessed. How does God call us to be faithful with these generous blessings?

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God. We are called to be wise, generous stewards of all that we have been given – of the gift of time, of the gift of talents, and of the gift of money and material goods.

Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to use your time, talent, and treasure.

Read Proverbs 3:9-10 for another view of Stewardship.

Our Ministries

Hope Chest
Food Pantry
Quilters
Good Samaritan Fund
UI Lutheran Campus Ministry
UI Hospital Chaplaincy
Riverside Bible Camp
Shelter House
Kids Against Hunger
Angel Tree
Mbakweni, Tanzania

Ongoing Needs

Hope Chest
Starting in October-Accepting
Fall and Winter Clothes

Food Pantry
--Please pick up the latest list as
you come in the door from the
parking lot

Good Samaritan Fund
--Monetary donations to help
those in need in our community

Fellowship
-- Please help with this
important Hospitality Ministry
by signing up on the Bulletin
Board by the Kitchen

*God's Work,
Our Hands!*

Thank You!

- To the generous person that donated 60 pairs of shoes for the Hope Chest! To all that continue to donate much needed clothing.
- To everyone that donated school supplies in response to our request in July and August!
- To all the volunteers that made our Vacation Bible School event such a success!
- To all of our members that continue to faithfully fulfill their pledge commitments, especially during the summer.
- To all who participated in God's Work, Our Hands Sunday!

Stewardship In Action

On August 12th 40 "Chemo" bags were delivered to Cancer Care of Iowa City. These bags were made by EPIC (youth in the 5th-8th grades) last spring and consisted of comfort items to help those undergoing cancer treatments. We were all surprised at the reaction of the receptionist. She was overwhelmed so much that she began to tear up. She couldn't stop thanking us and telling us how much the patients would enjoy these. She added that it will bring some hope and comfort during what is generally a very long and exhausting day. She also said a lot of young children come along with a mother, father, or grandparent receiving treatment and would also enjoy the items contained in the bag. When asked if they could use more she responded yes. EPIC will likely do another assembly of "Chemo" bags later this fall and again in the spring. We would like to thank everyone who donated items or money and also the youth who spent the time to package these bags. -(Amanda Whaley)

Did You Know...

In the past 3 months we've delivered 38 bags of food to the Food Pantry.

In the past 3 months the Hope Chest has helped 34 people needing clothes, and 15 children needing school supplies.

Sunday morning fellowship after church is an important part of our ministries of Fellowship, Hospitality, and Stewardship. All you have to do is look around on Sunday to see how much people enjoy talking with each other, and meeting new people after worship. Relationships and connections are important to all of us. Especially for our church members, since we might not see each other the rest of the week. Providing drinks and snacks for Fellowship doesn't have to be anything elaborate. Something to drink and a cookie to eat is just fine. If one or two people provided the "snack" each week, at most you would only have to do it twice a year. Remember, what's provided to eat at Fellowship isn't as important as the fellowship itself.

"The Master is Here and Calleth Thee".

Ever wonder where the plaque came from? Earlier in Bethany's history the quote was painted on the archway. During the 1974 remodel, the quote was painted over. In 1980 in memory of Mr. Homer Wiskes, his sister Mrs. Melvin Mickelson commissioned Mark Scharnweber of Wood Benders to create the current wooden carving on the archway. It was dedicated on November 30, 1980. -- (Paul Friis)

Take a look at the carving the next time you sit in church, and think about what the Master is calling you to do.

Ministry Highlight

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Chaplaincy

We provide monetary support to help fund the salary of Pastor Cindy Ford Breed. She is one of 3 chaplains that provide care to patients and families of all faiths as they deal with medical issues. She is there especially to minister to the 30-85 Lutherans that are hospitalized daily. Our members have benefitted from her services, and will continue to do so in the future. She is also there to assist the parish Pastors whenever possible.

Stewardship Committee

Chair: Nancy Bruns

Members:

George McCrory

Laura Twing

Jon Twing

Neil Korsmo

Chris Korsmo

David Poppen