**What is stewardship?**

Here is a google definition of stewardship:

stew·ard·ship

/ˈsto͞oərdˌSHip/

noun: stewardship; plural noun: stewardships

 the job of supervising or taking care of something, such as an organization or property.

 "responsible stewardship of our public lands"

A Christian definition has a deeper meaning:

A steward is a trustee of God's goods, he shows, and must see that his property truthfully

represents God and works the will of God. The trustee of God's goods will think more of God

than of goods. Wealth is a social product and must serve society. Stewardship for God,

therefore, means stewardship for society.

In Genesis God grants dominion over His Creation to us. This is not a call for domination, it

is, rather, a call for us to see God in His world around us and to know that God chose us to

care for what he made. Martin Luther wrote "God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone,

but also on trees and in flowers and clouds and stars."

What does this mean for us at Bethany? We on the Stewardship committee are grateful for your

contributions of time and money and for the church's leadership being good stewards of these

resources. Recent examples include the new solar array producing electricity for us and the

community and replacing the old lights in the small hall that produce more light with less

electricity. Pastor Whaley is leading us in the Faith Forward program, we had another successful

God's work Our hands Sunday. Also, as part of our need to be good stewards of the environment,

we will be looking into ways of reducing the use of plastic as it is increasingly becoming a

problem in our environment.

During this month The Stewardship committee will be giving more detailed information and will

be asking you to prayerfully consider increasing your contributions.

Once again we thank you for your contributions,

The Stewardship committee,

Dale, Stacy, Dave and Wayne