Newsletter article (preceding emphasis)

**Faithful Stewards of God’s Grace**

C.S. Lewis said, “There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, ‘Thy will be done,’ and those to whom God says, ‘All right, then, have it your way.’” As redeemed children of God, of course, we desire to belong to that first category. God has not only adopted us as His children, He honors us with the privilege of being stewards of all that He has created. As God’s stewards, we earnestly pray, “Thy will be done” as we strive to manage faithfully our time, talents, and money.

To help us grow as stewards, our three-week stewardship emphasis, **Faithful Stewards of God’s Grace,** will focus on one verse found in the Apostle Peter’s epistle. 1 Peter 4:10 reads, *“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”* We will learn how the Holy Spirit, working through Word and Sacrament, transforms us to be more like our Chief Steward, Jesus, Who willingly poured out His life in a life of service, ultimately sacrificing His very life for our eternal lives. Just as Jesus faithfully served His Father by serving the sick, blind, handicapped, and the poor, we are to use our lives and gifts in faithful service to Him by using our gifts to serve others. By grace, God not only gives us the privilege of being His stewards, He empowers us to be faithful stewards.

The weekly themes for the emphasis are:

\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_\_: “Receiving and Using God’s Gifts”

\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_\_: “Serve One Another”

\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_\_: “Good Stewards of God’s Grace”

With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can devote our lives and all that we have for God’s purposes. We are called to be God’s stewards each and every day.

As your pastor, I pray that each of you will take advantage of these opportunities to grow in the grace and knowledge of your Lord that you might be strengthened in faith both for eternity and for a fruitful life here on earth.

May God grant us strength and wisdom to be the faithful stewards that He has called us to be.