

*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Psalm 24 Verse 1*

Being a good Steward; our time, our talent and our treasure are all familiar words that surface during Church budget approval times and capital campaigns. When asked to write about Stewardship I felt inadequate and challenged but honored to express my thoughts. Well let's look at the bottom line on this subject.

Stewardship; "generosity," and "giving" are not synonyms and Stewardship doesn't always refer to money. Being a good steward is easier said than done as we must focus on managing our time our energy and our affections.

Since God created and still owns all we have, Stewardship is recognizing that God is the owner and we are his managers responsible for using God's possessions to please him. Shouldn't this elevate stewardship for all people to action in their daily lives? Practicing Stewardship daily may be as simple as helping a friend or acquaintance through a difficult situation.

The rock in my life for help and support has always been First Lutheran, its Pastors, leaders and members. I know others share this focus. Today we are challenged to practice our Stewardship by renovating the historic Peel House into a useable facility to continue its mission of ministries, support groups and evangelism outreach. Upon completion and preservation of this historic building it will demonstrate our Stewardship to the community, our friends and our neighbors.

*-Gary Bradley*