



Dear Friends in Christ,

We greet you in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

With excitement, we write this letter to inform you that our congregation is undertaking a stewardship emphasis titled ***Transformed by Grace, Faith, and Love***. We will focus on God's gifts of grace, faith, and love and how God uses these gifts to shape us so he can accomplish his plan on earth through us.

Information will be handed out on Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup>. In addition, all the info can be found on St. Matthews web site [www.stmatthewsesko.org](http://www.stmatthewsesko.org) and the info can be downloaded. You may also choose to give online via the new website or you may utilize "Simply Giving" (info in the enclosed packet). Please return commitment cards and time/talent forms by Sunday, June 18th. They are to be placed in the marked box located in our church's gathering space.

**"Transformed by Grace:"** By grace, we acknowledge God's call to be his stewards, and we express our gratitude for the wonderful privilege to serve God through our stewardship. By grace, God gives us physical and spiritual blessings, especially the gift of his Son, Jesus. God's grace gives us life and salvation and that same grace makes it possible for us to know God's will and be equipped so we can do his will.

**"Transformed by Faith:"** By grace, God gives us faith. This precious gift of faith enables us to place our trust in Jesus. Through faith, along with God's strength and wisdom, we, as ordinary people, can do extraordinary things. Stewardship is our faith in action. Stewards guided by faith become Jesus' hands, feet, and mouth.

**"Transformed by Love:"** Love comes from God. *"We love because he first loved us"* (1 John 4:19). God demonstrated His awesome love for us by sending his Son, Jesus, to the cross to atone for our sins. He wants his love within us to overflow to others.

We pray that each of you will prayerfully consider a call to action with your time, talents, and money.

**Please bring the enclosed Commitment form and Time and Talent form with you to church on or before Commitment Sunday, June 18th and please place them in the Commitment/Time and Talent Box.** Thank you!

God's blessings on your continued faithful stewardship of the many blessings he has entrusted to your care. Your time, talent and treasure is blessing to St. Matthews and our community. Thank you for all that you do!

Serving Christ together,

*Pastor Jeff Walther and Pastor Tom Brinkley*