

As we move into the fall, I've been reflecting on all the activities we have starting up again; Bible Explorers, Youth Group, Confirmation, First Communion Instruction, events like the All Hallow's Eve Party for the littlest ones and Diamond Treasures banquet for our senior adults.

I've been thinking most about how all of these ministries benefit from our stewardship. Look at all the folks who give their time to educate our youth and adults, to prepare meals, to present a program. Imagine if those who have a gift for public reading stopped serving as lector. What if no one stepped forward to usher, or to prepare communion? What if there was no one to preach or administer the sacraments? What if there was no group to lead our singing, or no one to play the organ? What if no one had ever bought an organ or piano in the first place?

Imagine if we had never built a building, or didn't maintain the one we have. Where would people gather to learn about God's love for them through Jesus? Where would they experience Jesus in the breaking of the bread?

What if we didn't collect an offering? There would be no lights or heat, no teaching materials, no staff, no building. There would be low overhead, but also a low return!

How amazing it is, then, that God allows us to be instruments of grace and mercy. God allows us to participate in Christ's mission through our time, our talents and abilities, our tithe from our firstfruits and our gifts of abundance when we have a surplus.

The Stewardship of Life committee will be hosting a Stewardship Carnival on October 5th during and after worship that will help us to discover many ways we can be a part of God's mission, and give thanks for the ways that we already are.

Peace,
Pastor Chris