Under New Management
(A low-key mini-stewardship program)

The following resources are available to help people understand that in Christ we are “Under New Management” and expected to bear the fruit of faith.

1. Sermon outline: Although the sermon outline may be used at any time, you may want to consider using it on June 26, 2011 when the Epistle lesson for series A in the three-year Lectionary is Romans 7:1-14.

2. Lay reader talk: This 90-second message will help members understand that God’s people live “Under New Management.”

3. Worship helps

4. Bulletin messages

5. Trifold brochure: The trifold brochure is an easy and quick read that discusses further the understanding that in Jesus we are “Under New Management.”

6. Banner: Visually seeing a person’s heart possessed by Jesus under the caption “Under New Management” is in itself a mini-sermon.

Trifold Brochures: 15 cents each plus shipping

Banner: Two sizes: 18 x 24 inch and 32 x 40 inch

Order Form

Please send _________ trifold brochures: 15 cents each plus shipping

Send _______ 18 x 24 inch multi-colored vinyl banner: $22 plus shipping

Send _______ 32 x 40 inch multi-colored vinyl banner: $49 plus shipping

Name __________________________________________________________ Church ____________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________

Churches will be billed:

Send this order to: Stewardship Advisors       Call 248-644-6150
2225 E. 14 Mile Road       stewardshipadv@aol.com
Birmingham, MI 48009
Sermon Outline

Sermon: “Under New Management”

Sermon Text: ‘Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to Him Who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God” (Romans 7:4).

1. Some time or another most of us have dined in a restaurant that has changed ownership and is now “Under New Management.” With the new management comes a new attitude, new menu, new and different service. The décor of the restaurant may even have changed. The old restaurant is hardly recognizable. So it is with our lives in Christ. God makes us into new people who live by grace and “have died to the law through the body of Christ.” In essence, we are new people who live under new management. The old godless person is hardly recognizable. God is now in control (Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:17).

2. We were born in sin as sinful flesh (Ephesians 2:1). Our Old Adam is totally sinful. He wants to disobey God. He is an enemy of God. Within each one of us is a spiritual battle. The management that we live under will determine where we will spend eternity. It will also give us either great joy or complete sadness in our daily living. Do we live in victory or in defeat?

3. The Holy Spirit gives us new understanding of ourselves and the spiritual battle going on inside us between our Old Man and the New Man (Ephesians 6:12).

4. We get this New Man through baptism in the washing of regeneration (Titus 3:5-7). We are Under New Management. The Holy Spirit works faith in our hearts.

5. What is the nature of a person under God’s management? Our text tells us that we belong to God and are to bear fruit for Him. Ephesians 4:24 tells us that as new people we are “created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.” This righteousness is not our own doing for we did not make ourselves holy or righteous. We are holy and righteous because we are forgiven for our sins through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. The restaurant changed to a new management through a financial transaction. God’s people are placed “Under New Management” through Jesus’ blood, suffering, and death.

6. When there are two completely different beings (one good and one bad) inside the same place, next to each other, there will be trouble because one is perfect and the other one evil. We experience constant battles.

7. Our New Management is seen as we put down the Old Man and put on the New Man, by keeping in step with the Spirit, by living by the Spirit. The Apostle Paul tells us, in Galatians 5:16 “I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.” In verse 25, he tells us “Since we live by the Spirit, let us walk by the Spirit.” That is the gospel way we will be able to live under our New Management.

8. What are the actions and deeds of the new person under this New Management? Let us ask ourselves if we have real love for God and for others. Do we show kindness and goodness to others regardless of whether they are first kind and good to us? Are we gentle in the way we speak to and treat others? Do we have self-control in our daily habits? Are we sharing the Gospel with others? Are we generous in our gifts to God through our church?

9. God gives us His grace and power through His Word which is the food He provides to strengthen the New Man. He provides the strength to bear the fruit of faith, the good works that we do. God’s love, grace, and mercy shown on the Cross compel us to serve Him by serving others.

10. May God grant that we will serve our Creator faithfully as people Under His New Management, knowing that we have victory over the old self, for Jesus sake! Amen.
Bulletin messages

Place bulletin message in bulletins two weeks prior to June 26th (weekends of June 11th and 18th)

**Under New Management**

On Sunday June 26th, Pastor’s sermon will be titled “Under New Management.” To give us a visual image of Jesus managing and controlling our lives, banners have been placed ____ (location)____. In Christ, we live “Under New Management,” and, through the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives, we are enabled to submit to His will. We worship and serve our Lord rather than ourselves. He is now the master of our lives. Living for Jesus gives us purpose for this life and hope for life to come.

The dates given are only suggestions. The lay reader talk, sermon, banner, and trifold brochures can be used on any dates. The material can be used together or independent of each other.

Use one of the following on June 19 and one June 26th

**WITH TRANSFORMED HEARTS, WE LIVE “UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT.”**

“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me, And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God” (Galatians 2:20).

**IN CHRIST, WE ARE NEW CREATIONS, WHO LIVE “UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT”**

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come” (2 Corinthians 5:17).
Under New Management

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17). Because Jesus has died and risen to redeem us from our old way of life, He is now the master of our lives. We are “Under New Management,” which is the title of pastor’s message to us today. Being “Under New Management” implies that we have died to our old way of life and have risen to new life in Christ.

Under Jesus’ management, we know that we are loved, saved, called and empowered by God to be His people. Knowing that God has created us gives us meaning and purpose. We know that we are created for a high and noble purpose “to do good works which God has prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:10).

“Under New Management,” we surrender any pretense of self-sufficiency and pride. As His children, we stand in total need of God for all we have and all we are, and He abundantly provides for both our spiritual and physical needs. God knows each of us by name and seeks fellowship with each of us through Jesus. In spite of our poor choices and our continual disobedience, He still loves us and holds us in the palm of His hand. We were dead in our transgressions and sin…but “God, Who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ” (Ephesians 2:4). We now live as forgiven and redeemed people.

Under God’s management, we are recipients of His love and blessings which flow through us to others. His love freely given to us compels us to bear the fruit of faith as we honor God through our serving and giving. Under Christ’s new management, we no longer live for ourselves but for Him.

May God give us the eyes, minds, and hearts to see how blessed we are to be under His management.
Worship Helps
“Under New Management”

Suggested Date: Sunday June 26th

Hymns:
Come Follow Me, the Savior Spake (688)
Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing (691)
O God, My Faithful God (696)
May We Thy Precepts, Lord Fulfill (698)
Sent Forth by God’s Blessings (643)

Readings:
Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 28:5-9
Epistle: Romans 7:1-13
Gospel: Matthew 10:34-42

Litany:
Leader: God, You created the heavens and the earth. Every animal of the forest is Yours as well as the cattle on a thousand hills.
People: Help us to see that You control and manage all things for Your glory and our good.

Leader: Lord, from Your hand come boundless riches.
People: We thank You, Lord, for providing for us spiritually and physically.

Leader: Lord, help us to see that the time, the talents, and the financial resources we have are sacred trusts from You.
People: We ask for Your help, Lord, to use all of our resources in worthwhile activities that give You honor and praise.

Leader: Lord, help us spend time in Your Word and in prayer that You might nourish the faith You give us.
People: Please change us, Lord, from being self-centered and selfish people. With transformed hearts living “Under New Management,” help us to be generous people who surrender our will to Your will.

Leader: Help us, Lord, to be wise and fruitful stewards of the opportunities You give us to use our gifts.
People: Through Jesus we pray. Amen.