

## Week of August 20 2023



**From Woody:** Anniversaries of events, both personal and societal are opportunities to think about what is important in life and what isn't. We take time to reflect on the anniversary of a birth or death of someone who has played a significant role in our life. As a nation we remember the people and the events that make up the story of America.

Certainly, next Monday takes us back 60 years to a speech that brought a huge crowd of people to the Lincoln Memorial and sent them and all who heard it on radio and television back to daily life with a dream to work towards. Dr. King's dream is the American Dream of a country where equality and justice are cherished and where people of all races and creeds and backgrounds can come together in peace, with respect for one another, and make a better country for everyone. It is an interesting footnote to the story of Dr. King's address that the typed copy of the speech that he carried to the podium that afternoon was without the famous ending. ...the Dream portion. That copy is now in the Smithsonian and does not have the ending of the address. I was told by either Carolyn or Judy several years ago that it was the great singer, Mahalia Jackson, who was sitting behind Dr. King, who urged him to talk about his Dream. I am told that she was a great supporter of Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement and always was available to them. The speech is a classic in American history. I remember standing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial the last time I was in Washington and feeling the power of Dr. Martin Luther King's words and the emotional impact of those words. I got a bit emotional standing there. I think that speech of 60 years ago still has the power to bring us, as Americans, together despite our differences and to make us renew our commitment to working toward making a better country for everyone. Thank you to Mahalia Jackson and Martin Luther King for a great gift of a dream for our country, one for all of us to work toward.

**Thank you all for great worship attendance during the summer and hope we can continue to grow this Fall!**



**Concerts, Concert Make-ups and Brownie Sundaes:** Because of all the rain, there will be 2 concerts (and 2 chances to enjoy a brownie sundae) The first will be Tuesday, August 22 and second will be Thursday, August 24 Both concerts begin at 6 pm. We will again be

selling brownie sundaes at both concerts. I hope you plan to come and enjoy the concerts and a delicious brownie sundae!



**Baptism:** We will be celebrating a baptism at worship on September 3<sup>rd</sup>



**Celebration of Pets:** Our annual celebration of pets will be held on Sunday, Sept 10 on the church lawn (weather permitting). We hope to see lots of pets with their people. Peter Shea will share his thoughts on his life's work raising dogs.



**Church School:** Rally Day to celebrate the beginning of the church school year will be September 17. More information to come.



**For July and August,** flowers for the sanctuary will be "Potpourri" meaning a mixture of whatever anyone would like to share from their garden. No need to sign up. Vases are available in the kitchen if you need one. And many thanks in advance to those who can contribute to our worship service.



**Church Library:** The Church Library up and running in the church parlor. We are just getting started but if anyone wants to borrow a book it will be on the honor system. Borrow whatever book you want to read and return it when you're done. Also, if you have a book that you'd like to donate to the church library just leave it on the shelf. We want only books by Christian authors.



**Peace Quote:** Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children....*Martin Luther King, August 28, 1963*