

Week of February 19, 2023



From Woody: . . . Ever wonder what happened in the South after the end of the Civil War? The answer is found in a book that my friend Chuck read and then sent to me. It is called *SLAVERY BY ANOTHER NAME* by Douglas Blackmon. It explains in graphic description how slavery was changed into a new form of slavery that existed until World War II. He begins the book with a quote from George Mason, a Virginian who was a patriot, member of the Constitutional Convention, and a white Southerner who came to the conclusion that slavery should be ended. As a member of the Constitutional Convention he refused to sign the proposed Constitution because it did not contain a Bill of Rights. This quote, which I had never heard or read before, is worth pondering in Black History Month. He uttered these words in July of 1773 during the Virginia Constitutional Convention:

Slavery...that slow Poison, which is daily contaminating the Minds and Morals of our People...Every gentleman here is born a petty Tyrant. Practiced in Acts of Despotism and Cruelty, we become callous to the Dictates of Humanity, and all the finer feelings of the Soul. Taught to regard a part of our own Species in the most abject and contemptible Degree below us, we lose that Idea of the dignity of Man which the Hand of Nature had implanted in us, for great and useful purposes.

It is hard to imagine that being well received by most of the "Gentlemen" who were at that Convention. The book is well worth reading but probably banned in Florida schools and maybe here in NH.



Lent: Ash Wednesday is this week and begins the 40 days of Lent, leading up to Easter. We often give up something during this period. Nothing wrong with that, but another helpful action, either along with or in place of that, is trying to do something positive for making the world a more Christ-like place, for another person or for a loving cause.



Church Directory: The church is putting together a Church Directory so that church members and friends are able to keep in touch! If for any reason you do not want your name, address, phone number or email address, or any part thereof, included in this six-eight page directory, please notify Craig Anderson t carig.nane1980@gmail.com or 603-487-1330. Watch for the new directory on the literature tables in mid-February.



Peace Quote: Peace does not rest in charters and covenants alone. It lies in the hearts and minds of all people. And in this world, no act, no pact, no treaty, no organization, can hope to preserve it without the support and the wholehearted commitment of all people.....*John F. Kennedy*