

Week of July 9, 2023



From Woody: Frederick Buechner had a great ability as a writer to apply the words of faith to the experiences of life. Too often we preachers talk theology rather than how the theology relates to our lives. Where is God if not in the experiences of life? I think that Jesus is the prime example of God speaking to us in a way we can begin to grasp. Somehow in this carpenter from Nazareth, we can find clues to the mysteries of life itself. There are miracles around us if we but take time to look amidst the noise, the tumult, the fears, the joys and the sadnesses of life that speak to the core of the human experience. I share a wonderful passage from the late Rev. Buechner as food for thought on a summer day:

After lecturing learnedly on miracles, a great theologian was asked to give a specific example on one. "There is only one miracle," he answered. "It is life."

- Have you wept at anything during the past year?
- Has your heart beat faster at the sight of young beauty?
- Have you thought seriously about the fact that someday you are going to die?
- More often than not do you really listen when people are speaking to you instead of just waiting for your turn to speak?
- Is there anybody you know, in whose place, if one of you had to suffer great pain, you would volunteer yourself?

If your answer to all or most of these questions is No, the chances are that you're dead.



Strawberry Festival This Tuesday! Unfortunately, the concert on June 27 was cancelled. But the good news is all the strawberry fixings are ready to go for the next concert on **July 11**. Come and enjoy the band concert and delicious strawberry shortcake or strawberries and ice cream. If you can help, set up is at 5 pm.



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.



Thanks to all who contributed: We now have the defibrillator, thanks to the contributions of many people. This will be a great addition. There will be training, but it looks quite easy to operate. Thanks to Lynda French and Bruce Tostevin for spearheading this effort.



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 The making of peace is the noblest work of God-fearing people.....*John F, Kennedy*