

Another Word January 11, 2022

To our family and friends of First Christian Church

Brrrr! 9 degrees out there. Actually, I didn't even want to get up, let alone get moving today. But each day that God gives us is a Well, more on that a little later on.

I want to thank everyone who participated in last Sunday's service so Donita and I could "get out of town" and visit family in Cincinnati. We had a great couple of days!

The rest of the single serve snacks and meals are being delivered to West Salem this week. So, my question to you is, what do we do next? Who do you know that needs a little help? We will continue to bring in "thinking of you" cards for the nursing homes, but if you know of someone or group that could use a little help, please let us know.

We have had a request to set up an email prayer group. I think this is an outstanding idea! If you are interested in being on this prayer list, just send in your info and we will get it started.

Our scriptures for Sunday the 16th are: Isaiah 62:1-5. Prayers and reading by our Elder, Lana Bell. Our New Testament reading is John 2:1-11. "He always made some mighty fine wine."

As we go to prayer, please continue to pray for John Whitmer and his continued healing, and please pray for healing for those caught up in the newest virus spread.

Almighty God, we find ourselves filled with hope, but also fears as we embark on a new year. May we never forget that regardless of the daily situations we find ourselves in, that You are there, guiding us and protecting us from harm. Grant that we always show compassion for those around us as we keep You at the very heart of what we say and do. May we live each day with contagious joy and a deep gratitude for all the mercies You shower on us. We offer this prayer in the one perfect name, the name above all names, Jesus the Christ, Amen.

Many years ago, my mother showed me a quilt that was made by a family member in the late 1800's. What made it unusual was that it was made from scraps of fabric from the old "C. E. Ward" Robe and Vestments Company in New London, Ohio. You may recall, they were at one time, one of the premier choir, graduation, and ministerial robe companies in the nation.

Needless to say, they had to have an inventory of hundreds of colors of sateen and cotton fabrics on hand to fill orders from colleges and churches from around the nation. And because of that fact, the amazing, colorful quilt in my mother's possession looked like a large stained-glass window. Imagine randomly sized pieces of fabric, being sewn to other random pieces. And never two of the same color touching. If you looked at each individual piece, the quilt was unimpressive. But when you unfolded it, took in the whole quilt, it was breathtakingly beautiful.

It occurred to me, that this is how God puts together the “tapestry” of our lives. Each one of us is like a piece of the quilt. But God puts us together, each day, and right where He wants us to be. It is up to Him to see the finished product, it’s up to us to realize that each day is how He operates.

It seems that God always does things, “One day at a time.” Look at Genesis for example. He appears to put life together, one piece at a time. In fact, scripture bears this out. Lamentations 3:23 tells us that His “mercies are new each morning.” Psalm 68:19 says He “Carries our burdens daily.” Jesus tells us in Matthew 6:11, that our soul will be “renewed, day by day.” Then He said, in order to follow Him, we need to “take up our cross,” when? “Daily.”

So, think of your life as one piece of the quilt of life. Like the quilt, our job is to be and to do the little pieces of life “daily.” And to not worry about the whole picture; that’s God’s job. He will put you where He wants you to be, and working together we will all be a part of God’s beautiful tapestry of life.

In His Peace,

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