

Another Word April 18, 2022

To Our Family and Friends of First Christian

Christ has Risen! He has risen indeed! Our journey to the cross has been completed. Ellie and I would like to thank Pastor Rich and Brian for all the special work during our Lenten journey. We would also like to thank the Elders who served and those who read the special scripture, including Matt Henderson, Bill Freytag, Shelley Carpenter, Jim Thomas, Jan Robinson, Todd Whitmer and Matt Potosky. Plus we are always grateful for the beautiful voices in our ensemble. We are so fortunate to have so many willing to step up and serve.

I want to mention those who delivered the Easter baskets to our shut-in members and those unable to attend. Thank you, Jan Robinson, Terri Thomas, Molly Henderson and Sue Detrow! I also want to thank everyone who brought in the candy and crackers. The baskets were well filled and much appreciated!

The baby bottles for the Ashland Pregnancy Center are now due. Please get them to the church by this coming Sunday if you haven't already done so.

Our scripture for Sunday is John 20: 19-31. Lana Bell is serving Elder and will be reading Psalm 150.

We are still collecting money for the food bank in Moldova who is taking care of the fleeing Ukrainians. We will try to wrap up this collection by this coming Sunday. If you wish to contribute to this, please write your check to FCC & mark for CWS. If you want to give cash please mark your envelope for CWS. To date we have collected \$1,325.00. The church will match any monies collected for this outreach.

Let us pray:

Loving God, in Jesus Christ you teach us to pray and to present our petitions to you in his name. Guide us by your Holy Spirit, that our prayers for others may serve your will and show your steadfast love for all. You have called us together to be the church of Jesus Christ. May we be one in faith and discipleship, breaking bread together, and telling good news so that the world may believe you are love, turn to your ways, and live in the light of your truth. In Jesus' name. Amen

Linda found this little story that I hope you will find touching.

At an airport I overheard a father and a daughter in their last moments together. They had announced her plane's departure and standing near the door, he said to his daughter. "I love you, I wish you enough."

She said, "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough too Daddy." They kissed good-bye and she left.

He walked over toward the window where I was seated. Standing there I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking. "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?" "Yes, I have," I replied.

Saying that brought back memories I had of expressing my love and appreciation for all my Dad had done for me. Recognizing that his days were limited, I took the time to tell him face to face how much he meant to me. So I knew what this man was experiencing. "Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-bye?" I asked.

I am old and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is, her next trip back will be for my funeral," he said.

"When you were saying good-bye I heard you say, 'I wish you enough.' May I ask what that means?"

He began to smile. “that’s a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone.” He paused for a moment and looking up as if trying to remember it in detail, he smiled ever more.

“When we said ‘ I wish you enough,’ we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with enough good things to sustain them.” He continues and then turning toward me he shared the following as if he were reciting it from memory.

“I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish enough “Hello’s” to get you through the final “Good-bye.”

He then began to sob and walked away.

Ellie and I agree that.....“We wish you enough”



In peace,

Ellie & Linda

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