

Another Word May 16, 2022

To our friends and family of First Christian Church

There was a song back in the 80's that began, "Cha—Cha—Cha--Changes." So, I thought I should just get to the Cha--Cha—Cha--Changes for next Sunday. We will "NOT" be having a cook-out celebration this Sunday at 4pm. If you signed up to prepare or bring an item, please don't. There are so many parties etc. this Sunday that we decided to have a reception for our graduating seniors right after services. Cake and punch will be served, so plan to stay and congratulate their accomplishments. A cook-out will be planned in the near future!

Please remember to stop by the banquet room at Brethren Care (across from the swimming pool) from 2-4 this Sunday, to celebrate Alice Metcalf's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

This Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, classes begin here for those who would like to be a volunteer with Pathways Hospice. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn loving techniques to share with our neighbors in need. You may either contact me or just show up for the free class. Hope to see you there.

Our scriptures for this Sunday are, Psalm 67, and John 14: 15-30. "You don't have to go it alone." Shelley Carpenter is our serving Elder.

As we go to prayer, please keep Mary Bee, Dick and Lennie Reich, and Mike McCormic in your prayers.

Dear loving Father. Your Grace and majesty fill us with awe and wonder. The bounty You shower on us is like an unending banquet, offering wonderful gifts. Mere words can't begin to express our thankfulness and gratitude. So, we bow our heads and humbly say thank You. We also hold up those in need of Your healing and peace. May Your protection cover our public servants whose duties are an extension of Your caring. Guide us as we traverse our journey of life, watching out for our neighbors and living full lives in Your service. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Donita read an "observation" from someone on Face Book this morning that I can't get out of my head, so I thought I would share it with you.

A good number of pizzas were laid out at a party. As people lined up to eat, some took 3 or 4 pieces thinking they may run out while others only took one piece for the same reason. If you think about it, this is a perfect example of our society today. Some folks are looking out only for themselves, while some look out for the welfare of others.

It also brought back the years Donita and I spent at The Pumphouse, especially when we offered meals for the community at Thanksgiving and Easter. Some would pile plates high and return 2 or 3 times, while others would take smaller portions and only go through the line once.

The world tells us to grab what we can, because the more we have and acquire, the better off we will be; even if it comes at the expense of others. But Jesus has a better idea. If you have 2 coats (and that's ok)

but see someone without a coat, you really should offer your spare to them. Why? I think we all know the answer! You see, Jesus wants us to be more concerned with our neighbor's needs and welfare than ourselves. When we concentrate on others, the whole world becomes a kinder, gentler place, and starts to resemble Heaven on Earth.

So, as you glide through the great buffet line of life, take what you need, share with others when needed, be sure others behind you are able to be "clothed and fed." Oh, and save a piece of pie for me.

In His Peace,

*Rich*