

Sunday May 19 through Sunday May 26

- Pastor Robert will be continuing his sermon series journeying to Galilee while studying the beatitudes.
- Benefit Luncheon this afternoon following service. Stick around and enjoy the fellowship or get a meal to go. All monies go to fund Andrew and Jacob Goodman's trip to Resurrection Costa Rica.
- Administrative Board will meet this evening at 7 pm.
- The second part of the Apprentice Series study group will meet at the parsonage Monday evening at 6:30.
- Pastor Robert will meet the Tuesday morning study group at the Ugly Mug at 11 am.
- Wednesday night bible study will be at 6 pm.
- Choir practice will be at 7 pm Wednesday evening.
- Pastor Robert will continue his summer sermon series leading us to Galilee and through the beatitudes will show us how to be like Jesus. The focus will be mercy and how to give the same measure that we have received.
- UMYF will not be meeting.



This WEEK at Trinity

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Sunday May 19

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
12:30 pm—Benefit Spaghetti Luncheon
5:00 pm—UMYF
7:00 pm—Administrative Board

Monday May 20

6:30 pm—Parsonage Study Group
7:00 pm—Boy Scouts

Tuesday May 21

11:00 am—Ugly Mug Study Group

Wednesday May 22

6:00 pm—Bible Study
7:00 pm—Choir Practice

Thursday May 23

NO SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Friday May 24

9:00 am—MEOC

Saturday May 25

NO SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Sunday May 26

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
5:00 pm—UMYF canceled

A Hungry and Thirsty Soul

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled.

Several years ago Pat, my mother -in-law, sold her home and moved to an assisted living complex. She chose a few things to keep and the rest she gave away. Her home was filled with a life-time collection of things. When asked about the keepsakes she said, "I no longer need these things." Our needs change!

Several months later, Andrea and Donna, her sister, were with Pat after surgery. Even though she was in a "regular" room, things were not going well. Andrea called me. I heard the panic in her voice. "Tell me what you see happening to your mother," I said. "Have you pushed the "call button?" "Yes, we have pushed it twice but no one has come." "Andrea, you must immediately go to the nurses station and demand that a nurse come now."

A few minutes passed. Andrea called. She reported the nurse saying that her "demand" saved her mother's life. Sometimes, the measure of medication used to treat the general population is enough to overdose and kill an individual. The nurse immediately recognized what had happened, gave Pat a shot, and Pat's vital signs returned to normal.

Days later Pat called to tell me about her experience of being unconscious. She spoke of her fear. She described the darkness. She talked about crying out for help. Then, she shared a story I have heard many times. Pat heard a voice. The voice said, "Do not worry. Everything is ok. I am with you."

Did God speak to Pat? Did Pat hear the still small voice of God? Was the voice she heard the same voice that led Abraham to the Promised Land? Did Noah, Isaac, Jacob, and Paul hear this voice? Can you hear this voice also?

I am convinced that God speaks to everyone. God is Spirit! The "poor in spirit" have eyes but cannot see God. The "poor in spirit" have ears but cannot hear God. We want to avoid pain in favor of pleasure, but grief and mourning visit and over time swallow us whole. The flu or common cold does not have this power. Hearing the "C" word does! For others the "D" word, divorce turns into a Holy Spirit led journey into death and resurrection. God wakes some people in "mid-life crisis." Others wake up when they reach the bottom of addiction. Still others have an experience like Pat's.

Jesus says the "poor in spirit" and those who "mourn" are blessed. Experience gives me wisdom to say that my poverty in spirit and mourning resonate with God's healing wake up calls. My poor spirit and grief, yes, especially dark depression, opened the eyes and ears of my soul to hear the Spirit of God leading me into the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth as it is in Heaven!

We build a nest we call home. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Noah, and Paul left the safety of their nest to satisfy their hunger and thirst for righteousness. Maslow and others explain that our basic human needs must be met before we may take the inward journey, the spiritual journey, into our soul! I am blessed by Pat, and countless others, who have showed me the way through the things of this world, nest building, to recognize what Jesus calls the soul's "hunger and thirst for righteousness."

I am a voice crying in the wilderness; a witness that God is with us; and if us, then you. Listen to your soul!

One in Christ,

Robert