

From the Pastor

September 2019

A Message from Pastor Sondra



May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15: 5 - 6

I am always amazed ... and it happened on my way to the office this morning. Five lanes of traffic came to a halt as a group of geese – a gaggle – crossed the road. In the busyness of life, in the heartbeat of a city, in the noise and rush of traffic a complete stop!

Geese cause us to take note of things that make us slow down. It is possible!

Summer is a time to relax, renew, recover, recharge. I hope that you have enjoyed time with family and friends; that you've explored new places or returned to familiar places of respite. The extended daylight hours and bright blue skies help our attitudes. Well, at least my attitude.

Sometimes we need to pause ... reset ... renew ...

A devotional life is essential to helping us renew every day. Certainly, we realized as we "Beat the Heat with the Beatitudes" that God desires to give us the Kingdom. God wants to bless us, and guide us to experience the richness of God's grace. God wants to fill us with abundance!

God's Kingdom makes a difference.

My prayer is that Jesus is making a difference in your life. You are God's beloved child! This is our life together --- to help each person, all people, know and experience Jesus as the difference-maker.

God also wants us to share mercy, and peace, and the Good News of Christ with the world. When we work together as a team, we can help influence our community and world. We can cause others to stop and take notice. We ... you... can help someone recognize the difference Christ makes.

By the time you are reading this newsletter, daylight hours will have begun to lessen. For some, school. For others, less time outside. For all, a realization of the changing season – full of its own beauty. In the church, Journey Groups have regrouped. Choirs are rehearsing. Plans have begun for the Thanksgiving Meal, and Advent and Christmas celebrations.

Regardless of the season, God desires to be in relationship with you. May you strive to embrace worship, study, fellowship, and even service opportunities to renew and refresh your life with Jesus. Join in! Be part of God's team making a difference for Christ.

Pastor Sondra