



# Counting Every Blessing

## Listening Intently to God

July 19<sup>th</sup>

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**Series: Counting Every Blessing**  
**Sermon: Listening Intently to God**

### **Matthew 5:-10: The Beatitudes**

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

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

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

### **MESSAGE NOTES**

#### **Sermon Outline**

#### **1. Invitation: Listen intently to God**

- Matthew 5-7: Sermon on the Mount
- Matthew 5:3-10: Beatitudes

**“Beatitudes means supreme blessedness”**

#### **2. Blessed = “Near to the heart of God”**

#### **3. Poor in Spirit:**

- **Those who know they need God**
- **and listen intently to God**

**Food for thought:**

One way to think about the word "blessed" in Matthew 5 is to consider that to be 'blessed' is to be 'near to the heart of God'. When have you felt 'near to the heart of God'? How did you get to that place of feeling near to God's heart? How could you get there again?

Thinking of the phrase, "poor in spirit," we might think of those who know they need God. When in your life has it been extra obvious that you needed God? How can we keep the sense of our need for God in both good and difficult times?

How can you listen intently to God in the midst of a a chaotic world that includes a global pandemic?

#### **Happy Birthday!**

**July 19** Paula Homa

**July 20** Dave Nigbor, Madelynn Pouzar

**July 21** Aaron Bubbs

**July 22** Ed Goggins, Connie Leis, Jim Lewis

**July 24** Owen Martin, Phil Stodola

#### **Happy Anniversary!**

**July 19** Curt & Janelle Nicolaus

**July 23** Brian & Sue Becker, Mike & Dawn Peters,

Brian & Diane Radmer

Still Waters Family,

Happy middle-of-July! What a year/summer it has been! Continued prayers for you, your family, our nation, and our world.

We have several updates to share this week!

### **Welcome New Members!**

We are excited to welcome into our congregation the following new members (yes, they took a new members class via zoom in the middle of a pandemic! These are amazing individuals!)

- Tammy Baines
- Mary Dhein
- Craig and Jennifer Feiter, Jake, and Shay
- Scott Lopacinski
- Patricia Puhl
- Stacey Sigmund
- Vic Zisis

We will formally welcome them to our church in worship this weekend. Whether you are in person or at home, we will invite you to pray for our new members!

### **In-person Worship**

As was mentioned in the email sent yesterday, we had a great 'soft opening' to worship last week. We are currently planning on continuing the one worship service Sundays at 9:00. If you would like to continue worshipping online, that's fine! If you do plan to come in person, remember to register to come, so we can plan for the seating. Registration closes Fridays at 11:59 p.m. so that we have time to plan the seating for Sunday. Social distancing guidelines remain in place.

### **Camera Installation Update**

Our camera installation is scheduled for tomorrow, Friday! We are so excited! We have a contingency plan to have both recorded as well as live worship this week. Once we get everything running smoothly, we'll be able to simply live stream and record. Thanks ahead of time for patience as we learn this new camera system!

### **Study Group, "More Parables from the Backside"**

Monday nights, beginning July 20, from 7-8 p.m., for 6 weeks on zoom, Pastor Lori leading. Please sign up for the group on our website ([www.stillwaterschurch.com](http://www.stillwaterschurch.com), and click 'sign-up,') or email Pastor Lori at [llossie@yahoo.com](mailto:llossie@yahoo.com). Don't forget to sign up so we can send you the zoom link.

### **Vacation Bible School- VBS**

This year, VBS will be a one night event, so please select one date that works best for your family! Go to "SW KIDS ONLINE" tab of website, and then click "Sign Up For VBS". If you choose not to attend in-person, there is still a take-home packet available for you!

### **Christmas in July**

We continue plans for our Christmas Store in December, allowing families struggling financially a dignified way to shop for their children and experience the joy purchasing gifts for their kids. We are running our Christmas in July program, with a goal to raise \$5,000 so that our expert shoppers can begin to look for deals and purchase items for the Christmas store. Listen to the feedback we have gotten from our families who have shopped at our Christmas store:

- *"Words can't explain what a blessing this was to my family."*
- *"Thank you for allowing God to use you to help me and my family."*
- *"I would love for The Christmas Store to be available again in years to come."*

Checks can be made to Still Water Church with "Christmas" in the memo or click "Give Now" on our website and click on Christmas Store.

### **Did you know??? (Continuing on mission!)**

- Did you know... In the three months that we have participated in the "Feeding America" program, we have helped distribute 21,262 pounds of food? Wow!
- Did you know... our Still Waters Facebook page has reached over 3,000 different people within the last month?

Let's keep thinking of ways to stay connected. More and more there is potential for people to feel isolated. What if every one of us reached out to at least one person with a phone call, text message, email, or card this week? Always feel free to contact the pastors if you would like to talk with someone as well.

Blessings,

Pastors Lori and Bridget

## Meet our New Members

**Tammy Baines** – I searched a long time after I left the Catholic Church to find a place where I felt comfortable and then a congregation that was welcoming. I'm looking forward to volunteering and helping with the mission of social justice because that is incredibly important to me. I'm a new grandparent and my daughter and I own a home together so my time isn't completely my own but I'll do what I can!

**Mary Dhein** – I was born and raised in Germantown. Have been a resident of Wisconsin most of my life and now live in Germantown so I am close to my husband Lee Schuldt, who resides at Tender Reflections Assisted Living, due to complications from a 2013 stroke. We have 2 adult sons who live in Milwaukee, Jeff (Sarah) and Jon. I enjoy nature walks, building stone towers and flowers.

**Craig & Jennifer Feiter, Jake and Shay** – (Craig) I was born and raised in West Bend. I've been married to my wife, Jen for 17 years and we have two children Jake 15 and Shay 13. I've worked at Froedtert West Bend Hospital for the past 21 years in the Cardiopulmonary Rehab Department and Cardiac Stress Testing.

(Jen) I have been working with the families of Jackson for the past 21 years. I am dedicated to the community and find value in strengthening relationships and supporting those around me.

**Scott Lopacinski** – I consider myself hard working, easy going and dependable. I am the father of 3 kids. I try to help when I can with things for friends or family. I am looking forward to meeting new people at Still Waters Church.

**Patricia Puhl** – I have 3 children. I am looking forward to joining Still Waters and meeting new people. I love to read, knit, crochet and socializing with friends.

**Stacey Sigmund** – I am a mother of two, Lydia and Logan, and reside in Germantown. I am very excited to join the Still Waters family and I am looking forward to meeting new friends. In my spare time I enjoy swimming, fishing and weekends in Door County.

**Vic Zisis** – I'm retired and love to fish and work around the house.