

First United Methodist Church

310 North Rowley, Mitchell, SD 57301

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“We’re on a mission.....a mission from God!” Some of you will recognize that line. It comes from a movie released in 1980 called, “The Blues Brothers.” The two main characters weren’t particularly what most would consider the “religious” type, yet they found a cause they believed in and felt compelled to help with. This drove them to action, thus they felt they were on a mission...a mission from God.

So, let me ask you this, what is your mission? What do you feel compelled to do to make a difference in the world? Do you have a mission from God? As United Methodists, our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World. So, if you are a part of our church family, this is our combined mission. But I also believe that God has a mission for each of us to accomplish. This is a part of our United Methodist belief that God calls each of us to be in ministry. This doesn’t mean that everyone is called to be ordained or licensed as clergy, but it does mean that we all have certain gifts and abilities that God has given us and wants to use in this world for God’s Kingdom purposes.

Years ago, while serving a church in North Dakota, I was wrestling with what my mission was in my chosen (and called) profession of ministry. One day as I was driving to another community for a meeting, my mission popped into my head. And yes, I do believe that God placed it there. The mission statement that filled my heart and mind was this, “To help people touch and be touched by the Living Christ.” That statement has guided me in so much of the work that I strive to do in my ministry. I’ll admit that now some 20 years later, I at times wonder if this is still the mission that God has for me to do??

To help us all consider the mission or the dream that God has placed within us, our church is going to offer a study during Lent (which begins March 1) called “Dare to Dream.” This is a study developed by Rev. Mike Slaughter, a United Methodist pastor in Ohio. It is my hope that many of you in our church family will participate in this study and our church will offer a number of small groups that will meet throughout the week to accommodate people’s schedules. I am also looking for individuals that would be interested in leading one of these small groups. If you’re interested, please get in touch with me.

I believe that God has a great mission for Downtown Mitchell First Church...and I believe God has a great mission for each of you. Your age doesn’t matter, the Bible is clear in that God uses people of all ages, races, genders, etc. I hope that beginning now you’ll be praying about being a part of this study during Lent...and that you’ll be praying about what God’s mission is for you. Remember, great things happen when we say YES to God.

Serving Together,

Pastor Keith

Join us for worship this Sunday morning at Downtown Mitchell First Church, 310 N. Rowley, Mitchell, SD, at 8:30, 9:50, and 11:00. We also offer a Wednesday evening worship experience at 6:00 pm. I am continuing with the Nehemiah “Re-Build” theme. This week’s topic is “Re-Build: Community.”