

# **First United Methodist Church**

**310 North Rowley, Mitchell, SD 57301**

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“...and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” Matthew 10:42

Ministry doesn't have to be complicated. There are those that believe ministry needs to be complicated and drawn out for it to be...ministry. And in the reality of our world, there are those ministries that are a bit more complicated and require considerable planning to be effective and successful. However, Jesus reminds us that ministry doesn't have to be complicated.

In Matthew 10 Jesus is talking about the mission of his followers and what is truly important in Kingdom Living. At one point Jesus says, “...whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones...” With those words Jesus makes two very important statements to those who are listening.

1. Doing something simple, like giving out a cup of cool water, can be an important way to serve God
2. Even those who seem insignificant, such as children, are worthy of being “touched” by God's love.  
(You have to understand that in Jesus day children were not as highly valued as they are in our day.)

This understanding or belief about ministry most likely raised a few eyebrows in Jesus day, but these are good words to reflect on and good words to try to live out in our world today.

As I write this article, we here in Mitchell are in the midst of Corn Palace Week. There's a carnival atmosphere, there's carnival rides, good food (like mini-donuts), there's concerts, Carmel Apples, oh...and there's free ice-water for those who are thirsty.

For the second year in a row, our church is giving out free ice-water as a part of our witness to the community and to those walking main street during Corn Palace Week. I realize it isn't a glamorous ministry, yet something as simple as a cup of cool water can really make quite an impact. I especially love it when the person receiving the ice-water asks, “How much do I owe you?” or “Where's the donation jar?” and our servants staffing the booth are able to say, “Nothing.” or “There isn't one. This is our gift to the community to let people know that God's love is like a refreshing drink of water.”

Ok, I understand that type of conversation doesn't happen real often. But it is the message we wish to convey. It is the seed we are seeking to plant in a person's life. It is my hope that all our ministries either are planting this seed or reinforcing this value in people's hearts and lives.

So, come on down to Downtown Mitchell First UMC and give out some cold water to children, youth, and adults ...and share the love of Jesus with the next generation from the heart of downtown.

Serving Together,  
*Pastor Keith*

Join us for worship this Sunday. I'll be wrapping up our “Summer Road Trip through Acts” sermon series. The Book of Acts has so many lessons for us and there's one more I want to emphasize. The message title is, “Home is Where...” I hope you'll join us! Worship begins at 9:30 am. Hymn Sing begins at 9:15. Also, Sunday afternoon is the Breakthrough Prayer Training Event being held at our church. It begins at 1:30 pm. It's not too late to sign up. E-mail me at [Keith@mitchellfumc.org](mailto:Keith@mitchellfumc.org) to get signed up. Thanks!!