



Clifty Cross†Walk



From the Interim Pastor,

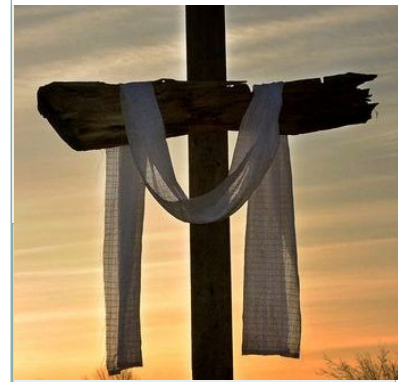
October 2020

A decade ago, I heard a story about a couple of reporters who conducted an experiment on the streets of Miami, Florida. They printed a copy of the Bill of Rights (the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution) in the form of a petition, put it on a clipboard, and then stopped people on the sidewalk and asked them to sign it. Most people just glanced at the document and walked on without signing it. Several people, however, became angry with the reporters and accused them of being radical enemies of the American way of life. In fact, the experiment ended when the reporters found themselves surrounded by a dozen or so very angry passers-by who were shaking their fists at them and calling them subversive Communists who ought to be thrown in jail.

I could talk about the fact that this experiment reveals that many of our citizens don't know the truth about the Constitution. They pay lip service to the country and its heritage but really, they don't even know the basic rights outlined in the Constitution. But I'm not going to do that, well at least no more than I already have. Instead, I would like to reflect on the fact that so many people do the same sort of thing about faith in Jesus Christ. They say they believe but they don't always know the basic tenets of the faith. They may think that believing means that they will never suffer. But Jesus said that if we follow him, we may well be persecuted for his sake. They may believe that being a believer means that God will bless them with a lot of stuff. God may do that but on the other hand Jesus said to the rich ruler, "Give all you have to the poor and follow me."

Our world is full of misconceptions about religion, especially Christianity. I could probably do a whole series of articles about the most common misconceptions, but today I would like simply to talk about the most profound category of misconceptions, the radical nature of Christ's love and his teachings about love. Jesus told Peter, "If you love me, feed my sheep." That means that we cannot claim to follow Jesus if we have no concern for those who starve, physically or spiritually. Jesus said, "Go! Make disciples!" We who follow Jesus are called and commanded by Jesus to share the Good News with others because Jesus does in fact love them as much as he loves us! Jesus said, "Pick up your cross and follow me," and again, "deny yourself and follow me." Being a follower of Jesus Christ entails commitment! Jesus ate with people who were considered to be undesirables. We who follow Jesus dare not make ourselves into an elite little group

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Church Calendar

10/1—WELCA Bible Study @ 12 pm

10/4—Worship @ 10 am

10/4—Rejoicing Spirits (Video posted on Hanover Presbyterian's Youtube page)

10/6—Food Pantry @ 2:30 pm

10/11—Worship @ 10 am

10/11—Council

10/18—Worship @ 10 am

10/20—Food Pantry @ 2:30 pm

10/21—Homemakers @ 12 pm

10/25—Worship @ 10 am

(Pr's Newsletter Cont.)

of folks who keep modern day “undesirables” from God. And perhaps the most challenging of all, Jesus said, “Love your enemy.” If ever there was a counter-cultural idea that’s it.

I would like to challenge you to spend some time reflecting on the radical nature of Jesus’ love. Ask yourself whether or not you love as Jesus loves. Ask yourself how you take this challenging truth to heart and let it transform you. Oh, and by the way, I’m pretty sure that a lot of people wouldn’t sign the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes either.

Pastor Vicki

Call Committee Update:

It seems like it has been a while since we have provided an update; however, that is primarily due to the fact that we don’t have a lot to report. It has been over a year since we began our search, and some things have changed since that time, but many things have stayed the same. Let’s first talk about the changes. Sue Fairchild is now a voting member of the committee, and we no longer have an alternate member. According to the synod, the worldwide pandemic has also slowed down the desire for pastors to relocate. This does not mean that it has stopped, but there has definitely been an impact. Now let’s talk about what has not changed. The Call Committee is fully dedicated to finding our next pastor, and trust that God has a plan for us, which includes a pastor that will lead us into the future. We will not ‘settle’ and have made a commitment to the congregation and to ourselves to ensure we do the most thorough discernment process possible. This requires a very thorough interview, listening to each other, and most importantly, prayer. The Call Committee has interviewed two candidates over the past year, and has not recommended either candidate to move on in the process. We ask that you continue to pray for the Call Committee, pray for our church, and pray that God will lead us to our next pastor. Until then, we are thankful for the thought provoking messages and leadership provided by Pastor Vicki.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Reese
Call Committee Chairperson

WELCA

WELCA will meet for bible study Thursday, October 1 at noon. Bring your lunch for fellowship before starting the bible study. We will be finishing the *Just Love* study. We plan to meet Thursday, November 5 and Thursday, December 3 at noon. The study is yet to be determined.

Homemakers

Homemakers will meet at the church on Wednesday, September 16 at 12 pm.

A few words from the Council,

We so enjoy being able to see many of our church family in person during service again. Also, awfully glad that others can still participate via ZOOM or a written copy of the service and sermon. Please feel free to share the Zoom invite with friends and neighbors or let Pastor Vicki or Rob Pekich-Bundy know to whom an invitation should be e-mailed.

Our thoughts are forward looking as we get closer to Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas as well as the end of 2020. While we will not plan on our annual Thanksgiving meal, out of caution and concern for everyone's wellbeing, we still need to plan for the approval of next years budget and discussion of other updates and topics. Council members will discuss and share plans how to do this in the safest manner possible. Please look for updates about this.

We are sad to have lost Jean Rogers, a dear member who was an active participant in the life of this congregation for many years. Our prayers are with her family during this time of sorrow.

During times of illness or loss it sometimes requires a little more effort to look around and see many of the things that can bring a smile or feeling of wellbeing. A warm fall day, pumpkins, leaves that take on new colors, a nice cup of tea or coffee, special music, a quick prayer, or anything else that is uplifting to you. Let us take the time to make a few moments special, every day.

Barbara, on behalf of Council.

Coins for Kids

Last January– February the coins were counted from the box. Fall and winter items were purchased mainly warm clothing for young people. Socks, underwear, hats and gloves were also purchased. In September we delivered 3 big bags of clothing to Rikers Ridge Elementary. The school nurse uses the items for kids who have had an accident or who come to school not warmly dressed. One large bag of warm clothing was delivered to the Jefferson County Youth Shelter. Thank you for all of your generous contributions to the “Coins for Kids” project!
Sue Fairchild

Little Free Library

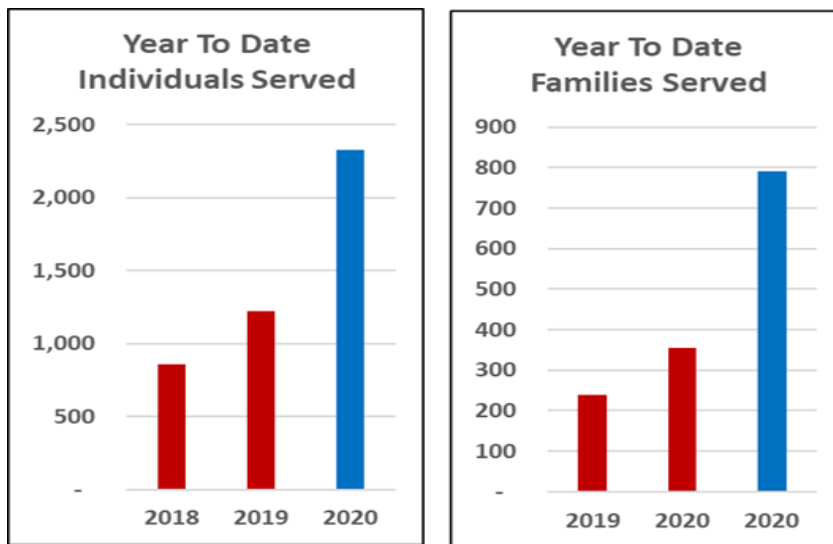
If you would like to donate books for our LFL you can leave them in room 4 by the bookshelves. We could especially use young adult/teen books, children's picture books, and children's chapter books.

Food Pantry

When the food pantry's doors opened on September 22, volunteers were surprised to see a long line of cars waiting for food extending out of the church's parking lot and onto Seneca Drive. The scene captured the surge of need we have experienced in 2020 as the pandemic's impact has been felt locally.

In September, service soared to record levels with 115 families (337 individuals) provided food packages. This was more than triple last year's total of 37 families when the pantry was open only one day per month; the pantry is currently open twice per month on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Service levels has exploded as shown in the following charts:





Despite this dramatic increase, net expenses to the church have remained below budget due to generous grants received from Gleaners (\$3,500) and Thrivent (\$250) as well as free frozen meat packages received from a federal government program to assist food pantries.

Many thanks for our loyal volunteers who have made this work possible. If anyone wishes to help in the future, please contact Gayle or John Podczerwinski.

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be part of Resurrection's email prayer list, please contact Gayle Podczerwinski by email gheiby@hotmail.com or text or call 812-599-3561. If you have a prayer request, the same contact info works.

October 2020

SUN 27 	MON 28	TUE 29 	WED 30	THU Oct 1	FRI 2	SAT 3
4 ● 10am Worship ● 3:30pm Rejoicing Spirits	5	6 ● 2:30pm Food Pantry	7	8	9	10
11 ● 10am Worship ● 11:45am Council	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 ● 10am Worship	19	20 ● 2:30pm Food Pantry	21 ● 12pm Homemakers	22	23	24
25 ● 10am Worship	26	27	28	29	30	31