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Thoughts from Terilynn



Make time for what's important!

During the children's sermon, the pastor asked a question to get the little ones thinking. "What will you be when you grow up?"

An energetic girl quickly threw up her hand with an answer. "Tired!"

During the months of June and July I look at the church calendar for the

next 18 months. All events, even the personal ones are scheduled around Advent and Lent. As I take note with the flow of critical mass generating momentum around Christian seasons and holidays, I wonder: Is this insane?

Once upon a time, time management was fun.

I loved Alan Lakin's classic *How to Get Control of Your Time and Your Life.* When I attended a Franklin Covey workshop—I thought I was in heaven. But now, I ask questions.

Is it healthy to be exhausted? Am I secretly proud of being too busy? Lord, have mercy and deliver me from this idolizing madness!

Balance is important and like everything else in my life bringing the schedule to God is the answer. I find comfort in what the prolific writer, professor and pastor Barbara Brown Taylor's says.

Lord, help us to remember that relationships take precedent over tasks and schedules.

Serving Christ is an adventure.

Julian

Reflections on Annual Conference 2017 - Living Into Beloved Community: Food and Water Insecurity and Justice

There is great comfort in coming home. I can sleep in my own bed with my own pillow contoured to fit my head. And I can fall back into my normal routine, which I can practically navigate with my eyes closed. But, my friends, I do not want to be the same person I was before I attended Annual Conference. I want to be someone new, someone more open, someone more loving.

I'm an Annual Conference junkie. I love to be there among the large number of clergy and laity who make up our Rocky Mountain Conference. I understand there were 750 of us this year. I have attended quite a few Annual Conferences, but the one this year was the best ever. In conversations during and afterward, Sharon Clayton, Shirley Greener, Elaine and A.J. Johnsen, and Rev. Terilynn and I all were full of tales about what we liked best about this year's Annual Conference.

Rev. Terilynn said the clergy session was the best one she's ever attended since she was ordained! That's saying a lot for a required meeting with "the boss." Rev. Terilynn said, "The Holy Spirit thrives! The testimony surrounding the calling of clergy with the ordination process brought tears to my eyes. And the diversity is beautiful!"

We all talked of the magnificent group who led the singing at all of our worship services. It was a quartet who had just come together for this purpose. One man played the keyboards and was the lead singer with a smooth voice and a range to envy. His hands caressed the keys whether on the organ or the piano. He's on staff at lliff. One was a young woman student at lliff who

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coaxed the rhythm from drums large and small but never obtrusively. She also has a beguiling voice, with which she could make megabucks. Later, she commented to me that big money was not in her future, as she has chosen the Ministry. (smile). The third member was a guitarist who strummed and plucked and massaged the strings to add color to every piece. His harmonizing brought a fullness to the sound. While he's not at Iliff, he's been playing in this trio for some time. Most recently—with this gig in mind—a fourth member was added to the group. A commanding, yet humble, presence on the dais, this woman "scatted" the old hymns, new tunes, and traditional music of several cultures with a velvet voice and a loving, wide smile. We found out on the last day, that she once sang on Broadway. We were not surprised. At the closing worship at the ordination service on Sunday, the Tongan choir of (I'm guessing) 50-75 voices harmonized in pitch-perfect a cappella music in their native tongue. Did we understand the words? No, but the sheer beauty of the singing alone was worship.

Following our theme of food and water insecurity and justice, a new activity this year took us out of the conference hall and into the community. Several options were available among the immersion projects with everything from discussion groups to hands-on manual labor. One group toiled in the 93-degree sun at an urban garden. One of the women I talked to the next day said she had never been so tired in all her life and that every muscle in her body ached. She also said she was very glad she had chosen that activity. Among the options were a Xeriscape learning garden, a tour of the Denver water facility, stocking shelves at one of four food banks, and other service and justice-oriented activities surrounding food and water insecurity. Elaine chose "The World of Local Food," which featured speakers from the Poudre Valley Community Farms, Colorado Food Hub Network, and other food agencies in the San Luis Valley. Her heart was saddened with the knowledge that many family-operated farms are about to close. Sharon, Shirley, and I chose to work with After Hours Denver. Read all about this innovative "church" on the internet at www.afterhoursDenver.org or ask us. We're really excited to tell you about sharing "Jesus" and PBJ sandwiches with the street people in Civic Center Park.

Business is always a big part of Annual Conference. This year I helped with one of the legislative groups counting votes. (I could use my fingers—smile) I am so proud of the young people of our Conference. My friends, I feel the United Methodist Church will be revived by these bright and caring kids. Yes, they range in age from 13 to 30 and are in a young peoples' network within our Conference. Under the leadership of a young pastor, these future leaders brought forward a petition, which passed resoundingly in committee and was quickly adopted on the floor of the plenary the next day. In summary, Petition AC11 "Standing United and Embracing Our Differences" is a call to (my words here) community, acceptance, and love.

You need to know that in order for a petition to be presented at Annual Conference all the paperwork must be submitted by April 10 preceding that year's Conference. That means these young people started working on this petition a year ago, right after the 2016 General Conference, and had it submitted on time and *in the proper format and using the prescribed language*. The young woman who presented the petition did so articulately and confidently. Then she answered random questions and concerns with aplomb and dignity.

Petition AC11 encourages us to "stand united and welcoming to all" by committing all churches to a "covenant to engage in intentional dialogue and conversation on a congregational level about understanding diversity and embracing difference. We will then report back to the District Superintendent on our progress at our Charge Conferences. Finally, we challenge ourselves to embrace difference on an individual level in our day-to-day lives." They ended the petition with a John Wesley quote, "Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike. May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion?"

Dear Church Family, I am filled with hope for our United Methodist Church, for our purpose in this world. The 2017 Annual Conference was overflowing with hugs and handshakes, laughter

and tears of joy as we embraced old friends and new acquaintances. We stood side-by-side to serve others outside the confining walls of our institution. We did the work of God in community. I feel we can be Jesus in the world, and it starts right here at Good Shepherd with holy conversation. I urge you to sit in a different pew (the ones at the front are always available....smile), talk with someone over coffee with whom you've not talked before, reach out and surprise someone with a genuine hug of acceptance. Listen to someone's story. So many people are silently hurting in our world today. They don't feel like they belong, and they think no one loves them. Prove them wrong. Let us live into the love of Christ. Mary Ann Tabor

Save This Date...July 2

The Mission Team is sponsoring a BBQ after church. The team will be grilling hot dogs and burgers, and we will have good old fashioned home-made ice cream. Please bring your favorite picnic side dishes. This is a time for fellowship and good food.

Your Help Is Needed!

Staff Parish Committee is seeking a paid child care provider and volunteers that could help in the nursery as child care providers. Our nursery policy requires that we keep two care givers in the nursery whenever we have children in the nursery. Marjorie Van Tuil is our current provider on Sunday mornings. We need to hire another paid care giver to work with her on Sundays. In addition to permanent help, we would like to develop a list of volunteers that we might be able to use to cover for our paid caregivers when they need to be gone. Volunteers must fill out required criminal and child abuse background check forms. They must also complete a child protection program within one year. If you are interested in the paid position or the occasional volunteer positions please contact Joyce Nicholson, 719-390-6842.

<u>Celebrating 65 Years of Love & Laughter – You're Invited!</u>

The Gilham family would like to invite you to join us on Saturday, July 29 from 1:00 – 4:00 PM in Cooper Hall as we celebrate the love and laughter and 65 years of marriage of Pat & Dick. Good Shepherd is a such an amazing part of our family and we would love for you to join us. Please come by celebrate and enjoy some cake and punch and snacks. No gifts please. Your presence, hugs and smiles are the gifts we enjoy most!

Boy Scout – Pack 32

We will have a fundraising car wash on July 8 from 10:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. It will be held at the UMB Bank, 502 Security Blvd. Come show your support as you get a squeaky-clean car.

Empowering Generosity

It is fun learning new ways of doing business. I do, for instance, still carry a checkbook and write checks for certain purchases. Other times I do business online and I do have deposits to my account electronically. Social Security requires participants to receive benefits electronically, so no matter our age or stage, we probably have used electronic banking in some form.

I hear from some folks that they no longer carry a checkbook and rarely any cash! So, placing a gift in the Sunday morning offering is not easy. The Church council has authorized the implementation of two methods of electronic giving. In partnership with the National office of Finance & Administration for the United Methodist Church and with Vanco Payment Processing we have setup the account, designed specifically for UMC's. Soon you will be able to donate by going to the church website, scanning a QR code, or downloading our very own app. As a finance committee, we are excited for this new opportunity and we hope you are too. It's not for everyone, and we understand that. We will of course "pass the offering plate" and consecrate your generosity.

Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministry of our beloved church. *Elaine Johnsen*, Finance Committee Chair

Lay Readers Needed

Not everyone can do it! Stand in front of people and speak. If you have the gift, please consider leading as a Lay Reader during Sunday worship. The Lay Reader welcomes, guides the congregation through the unison prayer, hymns, the offering and shares Joys and Concerns. Interested? Contact Dee Beecher, the Lay Reader coordinator at 576-8093 or drfifield@hotmail.com

Hi All

It's official, the Golf Tour (Good Shepherd United Methodist Men and Friends) will take place July 17 – July 20. We will play Hollydot Golf Course (outside the package) on Monday. Check into Alamosa Monday afternoon. Play Cattails Golf Course on Tuesday. Play either Cattails or Rio Grande on Wednesday. Check out early Thursday and play Desert Hawk at Pueblo West (also outside the package) on Thursday. The two courses, Hollydot and Desert Hawk, are at special prices and will allow for golfers NOT playing all four days. I'm still waiting for final prices for the packages but they should be similar to last year.

Please let me know:

- 1. Yes, I can go for the four-day tour.
- 2. Yes, I would love to play Hollydot only.
- 3. Yes, would love to play Desert Hawk only.
- 4. Yes, would love to play Hollydot and Desert Hawk, but can't go to Alamosa.
- 5. No, can't go this year.

Let me know soon so that I have numbers. Thanks, Jim Skadden

UMW Serves Soup at Fountain Church Supper

On Friday night, June 9, our local UMW unit joined other community groups who have served a free soup supper in Fountain. First United Methodist Church of Fountain has been sponsoring this free meal for some time and now other groups around the area are helping in this effort. Nine women from Good Shepherd made soup and/or cookies and Sharon Clayton, Pat Nyborg, Mary Moberly, Shirley Greener, and Beulah Olsen served the meal at Fountain United Methodist Church.

Sharon reported that many of the people who come for the weekly meal are seniors and enjoy the fellowship as much as the soup. She noted that one man, who may have not had a steady place to stay, was especially appreciative of the meal and offered his thanks to each of them as he moved through the line.

The women who helped with this project were so touched by their experience that they have asked to serve soup again later this year. Their hearts were warmed in this simple act as they reached out to the community through a bowl of soup.

Mary Ann Tabor

Here's A Toast To You America

Here's a toast to you America on this glorious Fourth of July! May the grand old flag, the stars and stripes, ever wave on high! As we toast your birthday, may we always keep in mind, That you're the grandest nation ever established by humankind!

Here's to the stalwart patriots who endured the Revolution, And to the resolute framers of your precious Constitution! Here's to all those courageous founders to whom so much is owed, For creating our cherished liberties that they alone bestowed! Here's a toast to "Honest Abe" who with steadfast resolve, Triumphed over opposition that a united nation might evolve! A toast to the pioneers as onward they relentlessly pressed, To tame your virgin lands in their fearless westward quest!

Here's a toast to every soldier who has served this great nation, For each has earned the title of "The Greatest Generation"! Here's to common folk who with skill and aspirations, Helped to attain the title of "The Greatest of All Nations"!

A toast for welcoming to your shores the oppressed and weak. You are indeed a beacon of hope for the world – for that you are unique! We honor you America and will hold high the red, white and blue. Here's a toast to you America! May God's grace ever shine on you!

Bob Hinshaw

The Story Behind the Hymn

The gift of forgiveness is often best appreciated by those who need it the most. The Reverend John Newton experienced this truth firsthand. His tombstone tells the story: "John Newton, clerk, once an infidel and Libertine, a servant of slavers in Africa, was, by the rich mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, preserved, restored, pardoned, and appointed to preach the faith he had so long labored to destroy." These words were written by Newton himself, a testimony to God's transforming power. After years as a hardened slave trader, the "wretch" met Jesus Christ and abruptly turned to defend the gospel he had so long despised

Throughout Newton's years of ministry, God's amazing grace remained central to Newton's thinking. When it was suggested he retire (at age eighty-two!) due to poor health and a failing memory, he responded, "My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things: that I am a great sinner, and that Christ is a great Savior!"

Amazing Grace

- 1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
- 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.
- 3. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
- The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures.

- 5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease, I shall possess, within the veil, A life of joy and peace.
- 6. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise

July Worship Schedule - 2017

- July 2 Independence Day Sunday
 Who Will be in GOD'S KINGDOM of HEAVEN Hebrews 10:13 Scripture
 readings: Genesis 22:1-14 and Matthew 10:40-42
 Holy Communion
- July 9 Our Loved Ones in GOD'S KINGDOM of HEAVEN –
 I Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Scripture readings: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
 Noisy Offering
- July 16 Our Bodies in GOD'S KINGDOM of HEAVEN I John 3:2-3, John 20:19-31
 Scripture readings: Genesis 28:10-19a and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- July 23 The Other Place or GOD'S KINGDOM of HEAVEN Revelation 21:1-8
 Scripture readings: Genesis 28:10-19a and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- July 30 Enjoying Life in GOD'S KINGDOM of Heaven Revelation 7:9-12, 21:3-7, 22 Scripture readings: Genesis 29:15-28 and Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Loy Jones	1
Sally White	3
Dave Bell	4
Mary Humphreys	4
Sharon Heintzen	5
Bob and Sadie Rickard	5
Mary Moberly	11
Patricia Mikita	13
Cindy York	22
Shelly Clemens	24
Pat Nyborg	25
Robert Atkins	26
Mark Davis	31

Long-Term Prayer Concerns

Alma Arnold, Robert Dillard and Family, David Harrison, Candy Hatton, Lorraine Helminski, Mary Hill, Vera Hinshaw, Conner Peck, Letha Phillips, Marketa Protzy, Carrington Seay, Keith Simpson, Vanda Skadden, Nancy Waller

Short Term Prayer Concerns

Tammy Everett, Hilde Mankowski, Veronica Farrell, Gary Trujillo, Patricia Hogan, Amanda's Aunt Lisa, Kathy Sturdevant, Cheryl Foley, Amber, Dewitt Davenport, "Shane", The Beverly Parsons Family, Marty Siuda, The Negrette Family, Charlie Riley, The O'Donnell Family, The Miller Family, The Berglund and Yates Families, The Shalinski and Pendergast Families, Jim Largent, Ken Taylor, The Randquist Family, The Stock Family, The Richard Napolitano Family, The Lambert Family, Deb Dougherty, Uncle Lynn and Family, The Don Shelstad Family, Tony and Gayla, Pat Smith, Texas Accident, RMC and Bishop Karen Oliveto, Tamara Olsen, Isaac Shepherd, Wisdom and Safety of our Country (Armed Forces), John Hart, James Peters and Family, Payton West, Sabrina Bell, The Young and Zentz Families, Beverly Weinert, The Bob Allgood Family, The Mike Scull Family, David Rickard, The Russ Hawkins Family, Ashley Osborne, Prayers for Rev. Donna Pewo and assistant Kehly Riggs at Clinton Indian Church and Community Center, Robert Young, "Andrew", Doris Hogue, Thomas Mason, Ron Null, "John", Jeff Lawson, Terilynn Russ, Carrol Pheasant, Henry Tuttle, John Smith, The Pat Nyborg Family, The Cohu Family, Claude Cooper, Rylee Hogan, Rosemarie Wetherbee, Mary Wyatt, "Vicki", The Bob Hicks Family, The Else Francis Family, The Dave Wimmer Family, Keri, Dee Becher, The Gladys Staatz Family, Beulah Olsen, Ryan George, "Rebecca", The Ann Kondo Family

GSUMC Loved Ones

The Stephen Stahl Family, The Gladys Staatz Family, The Doug Somers Family, The Stephen Smith Family

STAFF

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. In an Emergency, After Hours, please call Pastor Terilynn Russ at (719) 469-9929

SERVICE TIME

Sunday Morning9:30 am