

## 06-05-19 Wednesday Musing

Some of you know me well enough to know... I love to cook... baking a delectable dessert being my passion since early childhood. I think my maternal Grandmother instilled this in me many years ago as I stood by her... on a stool... watching and learning how to make her special recipes... The first thing I do when I'm thinking of cooking is to search my recipes... pick one and carefully go over the list of ingredients to be sure I have everything I need. This is somewhat the same process that I take when I go out to my shop to start a building project... or to the field to plant my garden... I carefully check to ensure I have the tools I need for the job... be they flour... sugar... a hammer... a drill... seeds or fertilizer... To complete any job you must have proper tools... In a similar fashion... God has jobs that require precision tools... and God has boundless supply... He produces new tools everyday... as well as retiring some when their job has been completed... His toolbox is made up of you and me... and all of our Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

When Jesus put His carpenter skills to work... He would get out His plans for the job... collect His hammer... and wood... saws and nails... each had its purpose... neither instrument could complete the job at hand on it's own... Each had a place to work in His plan... and He used each one accordingly to produce His desired results... When He hung up His carpentry apron and put on His robes for ministry, He needed different tools... His first twelve tools were His twelve Apostles... But they were not His only tools... Jesus knew that to accomplish the job at hand He needed many... many tools... That's where you and I come into play. None of us are here by chance... we have been made from birth to be the hands and feet of Jesus... to do God's work in the world... spreading His Word... showing His mercy... giving His love... as the tools in His belt... or in His cabinet... or on His potting table.

There is a plaque that hangs in my house that contains one of my all-time favorite sayings... one that came to me in one of my more beaten-down times of life... and it raised me up to see the light that is Jesus. It is written by Roy Lessin and goes like this... "Just think... You're here not by chance, but by God's choosing. His hand formed you and made you the person you are. He compares you to no one else - you are one of a kind. You lack nothing that His grace can't give you. He has allowed you to be here at this time in history to fulfill His special purpose for this generation."

Let that soak in for a minute... "He has allowed you to be here at this time in history to fulfill His special purpose for this generation" ... "You lack nothing that His grace can't give you". God has a "special" purpose for you being here... right this minute... right where you are... And when He want's you to do something for Him... it matters not if you feel adequate for the job... He's going to equip you to do it... and He will ... again and again, have a task for you to preform for His service. Isn't that amazing... that the Creator of all things... knows who you are... needs your help... and will assist you with anything that He asks you to do... He planned on your existence, right here, right now, for His purpose! He has given us His word as our instruction book... the manufactures guide for living... in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 Paul confirms that it is truly His instruction manuel... **"16 All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work."** And in 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 we find words regarding the tools and the use thereof... **"4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same**

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**Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."**

Listen for God's request... Watch for the hand of Jesus... they're needing your help... right here... right now... and while you're watching and waiting ... with thanksgiving make your requests know to God as well as lifting the following: Family of Mary Jane Pettigrew, Family of Pat Sellars, Faye Strickland, Millie Fraser, Frances Morgan, Selma Simpson, Jeanne Williams, Harvey Sharpe, Donna Freeman. Also remember our friends: Michael Clark, Nancy Toney, Connie Papadis, Daughter of Evelyn Rey—Carol Mitchell, Family of Barbara Smith, Jeanette Hudson—mother of Connie Collins. Please remember the families as well as the person listed.

As we look ahead...

- Remember BINGO is tonight... we will start calling numbers at 7pm... come early to check out all the wonderful prizes available and get a great seat!
- Dotti Davis is going to on a mission trip to Uganda June 29-July 14. She desires to take with her a picture of the congregation at First Christian UCC that is supporting her in this missionary endeavor. Therefore, on this coming Sunday, June 9, we are planning to have a photograph taken of our gathered Church Family which then Dotti can take to show to the people of Uganda. Plan to attend this Sunday so you may be in this picture! Our prayers of support go with Dotti as she uses this opportunity to share the value and hope found through our Christian faith as she shares her love for people.

Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> - 8:30 am - Official Board

Donald Sizemore sent an email that we wanted to share with you all... "I wanted to express my thanks to the church for prayers for Michael Clark through his heart attack. He was a Marine and still in his 40s, so even his cardiologist was surprised to find a 98% blockage in his heart's main artery. He had bypass surgery and is expected to make a full recovery. Thanks be to God!"

This Sunday's sermon title is "God Gifts Us to Share Good News". The Scripture will be taken from John 14:15-27 and Acts 2:1-21.

You are beautifully and wonderfully made by the hands of God,

Joan 😊

