

## 06-19-19 Wednesday Musing

Spring is almost over... the first day of summer arrives Friday! While I do love the warming days of spring... the brilliantly colored flowers and the awakening of all things green... Summer is my favorite season... with its long days and gleaming sunlight. I'm one of those crazy people who actually loves cutting the grass... and it's a really good thing I do because I mow close to 3 acres every week! Keeping my Mom's and my sister's and my yard in shape is quite the job... but one I do lovingly... When I get on my mower and start to ride around... covering every inch of the property trimming it... and take the string trimmer and whack down the grass and weeds that persist to grow close to buildings and trees... it gets me up close and personal with every living thing... Just the other day when I was trimming the grass near the end of the driveway, I scared a little bunny out of its hiding place... It was only about 5 or 6 inches long and would have fit in the palm of my hand. I just stood still and watched it for a minute as it scampered away to some day lilies near by to hide again... Such a tiny little miracle... There has never been a time when I could not find the presence of God outside... He made every blade of grass in the yard... and continues to sustain it to grow... He made the little bunny... the squirrels and the earthworms... He made it all... and sustains it all... yesterday... today... and tomorrow.

We can't predict tomorrow... and therefore we can't fully prepare for all that will happen in it... we can't fully provide for all we'll need in our future... God not only can... He already has!... God is never caught off-guard... or by surprise... He never comes up short... just like that little squirrel happily hops around from tree to tree finding the nuts that God provides... so can we look into our future without fear... God is already there!

When life gets tough... and it sometimes will for all of us... it's important to know a place where you can find God... or a place that you can draw Him out of your heart into your mind... my place is outside... or in my prayers... or in the face of a friend... or the hug of a family member... there are many places for me... but the important thing to remember is that the Trinity... the Triune God is always there... as promised... **Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."** ... and ... **Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."** ... and ... **Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."** ... and Jesus tells us in ... **Matthew 28:20 "Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."**

Scripture can be found throughout the Bible telling us that God is with us... and He gives us reassurance in our environment... He doesn't forsake the little bunny... the bird or the squirrel, He takes care of them all... In Matthew 6:26 we find out confirmation of this... **Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?** And let's follow that up with one of my favorites... from Romans 8:38-39, where we hear Paul say ... **"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."**

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So this week... take a few minutes to find and observe one of God's creatures or a part of God's creation in its natural habitat (be careful not to disturb it/ them). And as you do... ask yourself... "What does this creation say to you about God and God's nature?"

As we lift our hearts in prayer this week... remember Family of Jeanne Williams, Family of Mary Jane Pettigrew, Family of Pat Sellars, Faye Strickland, Frances Morgan, Harvey Sharpe, Donna Freeman and friends: Nancy Toney, Connie Papadis, Jeanette Hudson—mother of Connie Collins. Please remember the families as well as the person listed.

The sermon title this week will be "How Do You Score?". The Scripture will come from John 15:1-8 and 1 Corinthians 13:1-8a, 13.

Happening around the church: Sunday we will commission Dotti Davis and send her off to Uganda with our prayers. Jamie and Carol Fonville will be on vacation from June 24<sup>th</sup> through July the 1<sup>st</sup>. If an emergency should arise during this time please contact Deacon Chair - Elsie Bolick. On June 30<sup>th</sup>, the fifth Sunday of the month, we will have an organ music demonstration in the sanctuary starting at 9am.

Walk with God!

Joan 😊

