



BETHANY UNITED METHODIST
Church Office: (253) 475-7098
email: bethanytacomaumc@gmail.com
web: www.bethanytacoma.com
5634 South Park Ave.
Tacoma, WA 98408

Greetings,

I hope you find this
devotional helpful
in your daily jour-
ney.

Blessings, Pastor
Dan

A Reflection: Empowered

Greetings:

In John's gospel there is a wonderful story of Jesus performing his first public miracle at a wedding. The story has many levels, which is common for John's Gospel, but a major theme is one of transformation through the Spirit of God. In it Jesus takes six large containers (containing 20 – 30 gallons of water) and transforms them into wine. What is assumed of the reader is that they understand the purpose of these containers. The jars are for ritual cleansing – some behavior/act has distance the person from God – through the waters and prayers they are restored in relationship to God. The shift in the story is that Jesus moves from external cleansing to an

internal movement.

This is depicted by the transformation of the water into wine. A new Spirit is coming to town. Jesus leads the way. Simply to have ones behavior “correct” is not enough for the Kingdom of God. This is a huge announcement for the beginning of John's gospel and then plays out through the successive stories. In addition, it is not just a little outpouring but an incredible generosity that is depicted by Jesus actions. I find this declaration quite hopeful particularly when we see it as God's action. As we find challenges in our lives and community is good to remember that God's intention toward us is so generous as well.

Grace and peace, Pastor Dan

Upcoming Dates

Monday: Bounty Food Bank 9 am to Noon, Volunteers welcome.

Friday: *Bounty Food Bank* needs Volunteers every Friday for food pickup and storage help. Call 253-335-7860.

Next Sunday: Worship Service 11:00

Feb 7: SPRC & Finance meet with D.S. - 7:00 p.m.

Feb 9: Foodbank board meeting, 10:30 a.m.

Foodbank open from 1-3 p.m.

Feb 16: Administrative Board Meeting 10:30 a.m.

Feb 21: Finance/Trustees: 6:pm/7pm

March 10: Congregation meeting with the D.S.

Valentine's Day - Give them a Papa Murphy Card!

They are only \$5.00 (no tax), no expiration date

*proceeds benefit the "Mid-High Madness! At Seabeck Christian Family Camp

Bounty Food Bank Item of The Week: *Soup*

This week, consider adding this item to your food bank donation. Also - We are always needing plastic bags - So, if you shop where they still give out plastic bags, the food bank would love to take them off your hands.

Please keep in your prayers...

Judy Egan & her family

Mary Egeland

Danielle - and family

Liz Best

Maria Aliaga's son and father (Dad stop drinking so much soda, son to be more harmonious in family).

Bill & Gail Rocheleau and her brother Donald

James & Jenifer Angus

Rev. Barbara Brown

Elaine & Jerry Ramsey

Anderson-Gammel family