

Wednesday, March 20, 2019



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Greetings,

I hope you find this
devotional helpful in
your daily journey.

Blessings, Pastor Dan

Reflection: Prayer

Greetings:

Do you ever feel your prayers are not being heard? In the book of Isaiah we hear this very complaint being voiced by the people (Isaiah 58:3). Seemingly, they are doing all the right things to get God's attention: prayer, fasting, even putting on scratchy clothing (sackcloth) to remind them to think of God throughout the day. They are not told to stop doing these things; rather, something else needs to come first. How they treat each other is short-circuiting their prayers. In other words, "treat people the same way you want them to treat you." Matt. 7:12 It can be rather alarming to think that your interpersonal relationships could have such effect! As we journey through Lent, part of our reflection and prayers should be about how we are treating those

around us, about not hardening ourselves to the plight of those we encounter. Can we do better? I know that in certain segments of the Jewish community, they take this very seriously by annually reflecting on the entire preceding year, and if something comes to mind, they send out a card or visit the person whom they felt they wronged. This, I believe, is particularly germane in our cultural climate that increasingly values saying offensive things to others. We need to be demonstrating a different spirit. In regards to prayer, this process does not guarantee our prayers will be answered in the way we may want, but we can be more confident that our actions are not blocking the communication.

Blessings, 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

Monthly

1st Saturday: Bethany Garden Club - 11:30 a.m.

2nd Thursday: Finance/Trustees - 6 p.m./7 p.m.

2nd Saturday: Food Bank Board Meeting - 10:30 a.m.

Food Bank Open - 1:00 p.m. ~ 3:00p.m.

Bounty Food Bank Item of The Week: Canned Fruit

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...

Danielle - and family

Dee Baker

Laura Tippie

Liz Best

Gail Rocheleau

Mary Egeland

James & Jenifer Angus

Rev. Barbara Brown

Elaine & Jerry Ramsey

Anderson-Gammel family

Spring & her family

Judy Egan & her family

Please keep our U. Methodist church in your prayers as we reflect on what occurred at the Conference in St. Louis.