

November 21, 2018



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Greetings,

I hope you find this devotional helpful in your daily journey. Let me know what you think.

Blessings, Pastor Dan

A Reflection

Greetings!

As I have listen to some of our members, I have gotten the sense that anxiety about the future is growing. Not only for themselves, but for their children and grandchildren. It has made me pause and wonder what God might say at this juncture. Interesting enough, I have found that the first century church, in spite of its persecution, was amazingly optimistic. How could this be? Friends were being put to death for their faith! Seemingly, it was a sense of God's closeness that allowed them to face what appeared to be insurmountable odds. So it would seem that today we must find ways to develop a renewed sense of God's presence in our lives. I have found as Francis Asbury, one of the first bishops in Methodism, states, "the most profitable exercise of any is the

free inquiry into the state of the heart."

Translating this into today's language, look back at those

touchstones of one's life where one has seen the footsteps of God. Like the early Christians, we too have a story to tell.

So as you have your fill of Thanksgiving turkey, I would suggest that you contemplate that which satisfies an even deeper longing. Think of some times during this past year where it was evident that God sojourned with you, and if the timing is right, share your stories around the table. May you truly give thanks!

Blessings, Pastor Dan

Upcoming Dates

Gobble till You Wobble – Super Job everyone!

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

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

Next Sunday: Choir Practice 10:00

Worship Service 11:00

Next Sunday, November 25th: Hanging of the Greens Preparation after worship and coffee. Volunteers welcome, no experience needed! Getting the items down.

"The Blanket Brigade!" continues through November 30th. Please bring new or clean, gently used Blankets and Tarps to the church. This year we are also collecting new or clean, gently used Sleeping Bags, Coats, Gloves/Mittens, Stocking Hats and Scarves. Collection box and shelves are in the Friendship Room.

Saturday, December 1st:

-10:15 A.M. Bethany Garden Club's Christmas Gathering and White Elephant (Steal A Gift) Gift Exchange. Eats also!

-12 P. M. Hanging of the Greens. Please join us as we prepare Bethany UMC for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

-1 to 3 P. M. Free Pictures With Santa in the Bethany Fireside Room. You supply the camera/camera phone and we supply Santa.