



September 27, 2017

GOOD REMINDERS

This Sunday, there will be two worship services. In the morning, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday and recognize children in second and third grade who have been learning about this sacrament. Then, at 4:00 p.m., Rev. Judy Swahnberg and Sally Tomasetti will welcome all God's creatures to the Blessing of the Animals service on the front lawn. Our pets often become our teachers, reminding us to live in the moment.

Last Sunday, I began the sermon series *Called to Community* with the idea that we are called to community because life is difficult, and church is the community that moves toward trouble to bear the light of God's love.

This Sunday, we'll look at the other side of the coin: we are called to community because life is good. In 1983, the priest/theologian Matthew Fox published a book with the title *Original Blessing*. He argued that the church had become too focused on the idea of original sin, and had forgotten that the story of God's creation begins with a blessing.

Life is good, and we have much to be grateful for today. This is not to deny that life is also difficult, and it is certainly not to diminish the tragedy of recent devastation in Texas, Puerto Rico, Florida, and swaths of the Caribbean, nor the earthquake in Mexico, the floods in South Asia, or the threats of war.

But neither should we diminish the truth that life is good! The first thing that God said about the world is that it is good, and all who live in it. Life is good, but we might actually need to remind each other of the goodness that each day holds. Animals and a shared meal are good places to start.

I'll see you in church.

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister