



October 24, 2018

WHAT CHURCH AND THE RED SOX HAVE IN COMMON

After the Red Sox won the American League Championship Series in Houston, a [piece in the sports section](#) of the New York Times (of all places) described a team that was eager to share praise and gratitude for each other:

“There was Mookie Betts, in the hallway, lauding Jackie Bradley Jr. On one side of the room stood Andrew Benintendi, complimenting Alex Cora, the manager.... J.D. Martinez waxed lyrical about the complementary players in Boston’s lineup. Pitchers applauded defenders, batters commended the pitchers — and everyone raved about starter David Price.”

It reminded me of our church. Our church and the Red Sox have a lot in common. The vibrant ministries of our church are a credit to the complementary gifts of many people, each sharing from their strengths to support the ministries that make God’s love real and tangible. In the New Testament, Paul writes letters that are full of gratitude for the generosity of those early Christian communities, reminding them that there are many different kinds of gifts, and all gifts are united by God’s Spirit.

This Sunday, October 28, is Dedication Sunday, a day to give thanks for the many pledges of financial gifts that will support the church’s ministry in 2019. The celebration won’t be exactly like the Red Sox popping champagne in their locker room, but it will have the same shared spirit of appreciation for each other’s gifts, united by God’s Spirit.

I’ll see you in church.

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister

p.s. Pledging and making secure gifts online are easier than ever at the church website:
www.hillschurch.org/stewardship.