

## Pastor's Point

“If we want to be a full partner in the unfolding Realm of God around us, we cannot come to the moment of commitment with out best without being grounded in an understanding of stewardship.”

*Community of Prayer*

Bruce Barkhauer

The “unfolding Realm of God around us,” is absolutely where we want to be and Mr. Barkhauer’s devotional is one way we as a faith community will be taking a deep dive into the many meanings of stewardship. During the month of August, CCC will be providing each household with a copy of this devotional and as a congregation we will be working our way through it together.

We will not only talk a bit about what the word “stewardship” actually means, but also explore how to be a Community of Creation, Sabbath, Abundance, and Joy. To live as whole people of God, we are called to the fullness of Christian practice, both as individuals and as a Body. Learning, (or being reminded) that our lives should encompass at least these 4 values, not only helps us grow in our faith together, but also helps us articulate our identity as a people of faith. Creation, Sabbath, Abundance, and Joy can be tools for discernment as we move toward a process of discovering who Centennial is at this moment and who we want to be in the future.

I know that many of you have wondered aloud about when CCC will get around to calling a “real minister.” And of course, your leaders do not take this question lightly. However, it is vital that this congregation do the hard work of finding a future story that fits not only with the current times, but also with our unique gifts as a people. Dedicating ourselves to prayer and spiritual practice is the first step toward identifying what the Holy Spirit is bubbling up inside of us.

*Community of Prayer* will be available beginning this Sunday and we encourage you to pick one up as you enter or leave worship. If you cannot be in worship or need a booklet mailed to you, please call the office and let us know. We will be happy to get one out to you asap. As well, I will be offering a weekly meditation on Wednesdays at 10 on our FBLive page. I encourage you also to consider gathering in small groups to pray and study together as you feel comfortable. Sharing in study pushes all of us to grow in ways we might never have imagined otherwise.

I look forward to walking this path with you through the month of August and hope you find the journey to be creative, restful, abundant, and joyful!

Blessings, Pastor Heather