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Hello church family!

So, 5 minutes ago, I was sitting here in the church office, working on a variety of things for us, and wondering what I should write for our letter today. I was reading some wonderfulness that folks wrote on Facebook when I asked for stories of good news (you'll find those on the next page or so), when lo! a young man walked in and handed me an envelope, with a \$100 check inside and this note:

“Dear Ministry at Epworth UMC,

I am one of your neighbors who heard about the good work your ministry is doing in terms of helping the homeless and hungry in our community. In these difficult times when so many things are closed, that is more important than ever.

As I am fortunate enough to be working and we're all still on payroll, I wanted to help in what way I can, even though I am not religious myself and cannot volunteer right now due to my wife's health concerns. I ask that this money go toward the Fallon Daily Bread, HeLP Ministries, Food Pantry, or the Golden Threads Ministry, whichever one could use the money the most.

May you all get through the epidemic as safe and healthy as you can be.”

It just warmed my heart and brought tears to my eyes. When we serve the Lord by serving one another, it spreads the gospel WAY beyond where we expect. This young man may not think he is religious – and frankly, sometimes I think I am not very religious either! – but WE know that it is Jesus Christ that inspires the good in us all. We know that it is the divine spark inside us that recognizes when God is near, and is drawn to it.

Which makes me think of Simon Peter and his brothers, working hard as fishermen to make money for their families. They are minding their own business, doing what needs to be done, in Luke's version exhausted from a night's frustrating work, when Jesus comes by and invites them to follow. And they do, right then. I've often wondered what our Gospel writers left out, to explain what made them do that...but maybe they just knew. Just recognized God in their midst, and felt something come alive inside them, and couldn't say no.

We will talk about it together on Sunday. In the meantime, have a wonderful, hope-filled week, because the tomb is empty and Christ is risen!

In the endless love of God,

*Pastor Dawn*

# Kitchen Table Worship

## The Call of Simon the Fisherman

Stuck at home as we are (mostly), it is more important than ever to remember that we are people of the Resurrection! This week, as we prepare our hearts for worship, let's look for signs of resurrection around us. Buds of new life, people doing good things, old wounds healed and forgiven, kids growing in their understanding of life and love and God. Take a photo, and/or write a little bit about it, and send it to Pastor Dawn at [pastor@eumcfallon.org](mailto:pastor@eumcfallon.org), or call her at 775-671-5553.

When you get ready for worship, you might like to bring the object with you, or a photo, or anything that helps bring your sign of resurrection to mind. Bring your Bible, too...our scripture passage this week is Jesus calling the fishermen in Luke 5. You might like to light a candle, too, just like we do in church, to remind you of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

We will be talking together about Jesus using whatever we have to offer, to spread his gospel of love, forgiveness, and soul-healing in the world. One of Pastor Dawn's favorite songs is in a supplement to our Methodist hymnal, called *The Faith We Sing*. The song is called "The Summons" written by John Bell in the 1980s for the Iona Community in Scotland, to a traditional Scottish melody. The words are below. You might like to look it up on your computer, and listen to the melody...it's sweet and lilting and wonderful.

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

**My beloved speaks  
and says to me:  
"Arise, my love, my  
beautiful one,  
and come away,  
for behold,  
the winter is past;  
the rain is over  
and gone.  
The flowers appear  
on the earth,  
the time of singing  
has come,  
and the voice  
of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.  
The fig tree ripens  
its figs, and the vines  
are in blossom; they  
give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my  
beautiful one,  
and come away."**

*Song of Solomon 2:10-13*

# News and Fun Stuff!

## Epworth Tshirts, Sweatshirts, and Hats

We forgot to include the order form last week! Sorry about that. So here is the announcement again, this time WITH the order form. 😊

Back in the late summer, many of us ordered tshirts and whatnot from Buttsup Duck, who gave us a great deal on them. When they arrived, a few sizes were wrong, and a few more people wanted to order who hadn't...and somehow, that second order went astray. Pastor Dawn remembers Angelina calling it in, but they have no record of it. So sorry it has been so long! Here's what we will do: included in this packet is a brand new order form. Please mark what you would like, mark whether or not you have already paid for it (like, if your size was wrong and you already gave it back to the office), and either call the church office with your order, email us with it at [communications@eumcfallon.org](mailto:communications@eumcfallon.org), or mail us the paper copy along with your check for however much it all comes to. We need a minimum order of 24 items. We apologize for the mixup, and thank you!!

## Good News from Right Here in Fallon!

We asked local folks about good news happening around them, and got lots of great responses! Here are a few of them to cheer and inspire you, copied and pasted word for word:

- I'm still amazed by the teachers. Just last week, our daughter's teacher drove all over the valley and left a gift on every doorstep of her students.
- The weather is beautiful!!! Enjoy the desert away from people, be careful.
- People helping each other.
- Beautiful Fallon sky's, I love the moon at night and I like the small town we have!!! I want to give a shoutout to all you teachers out there doing a fantastic job!! My daughter is a teacher and I know that this has been a challenge teaching her class from home and her kids too. I am so happy and proud of the grocery store workers because I know it's hard to work in normal conditions let alone in a crisis!!! I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy!!
- I think our school district is doing a phenomenal job with keeping engaged with our kids! The middle school is doing the Gurka Greens every week. The school district now has the Top 10 awards. And I have to give a shout out to one of my son's teachers at CCMS, Torri Conley. She is doing a great job staying engaged with her students. By sending encouraging emails, etc.
- I am thankful that even though I am not able to see my students at school and give them hugs and spend all day with them, I am able to talk to them online through Classdojo. I am able to see their smiling faces through pictures of assignments that their parents send me. I am able to drive by and seeing them every once in awhile. I am

## April and May Birthdays!

**Meghan Hockenberry, 4/24**

**Ashlee McGarity, 4/24**

**Nadine Miller, 4/24**

**Michele Berney, 4/27**

**Deanna Brown, 4/49**

**Wilva Blue, 4/30**

♥ **Shasta Kelley, 5/2**

**Bailey Stritenberger, 5/13**

**Ailene Brown, 5/18**

♥ **Bob Johnston, 5/19**

**Jeanie Fahl, 5/20**

**Kate Pinder, 5/23**

**Ernie DeCoux, 5/24**

**Cathy McKean, 5/28**

**Margaret Knox, 5/30**

**Maggie Neidigh, 5/31**

♥ *Shasta Kelley, daughter of Kelli Kelley, passed away some years ago. Bob Johnston, Gaye Johnston's beloved husband, passed away in 2017. They were deeply loved, and are sorely missed.*

**There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.**

*1 Corinthians 12:4-6*

happy to know that they are safe and loved at home with their parents.

- Thank you to all the folks in our town that are essential markets, gas station, restaurants, home delivery, Doctors , Nurses, our local farmers, EMT. Police let's remember to be kind and thank them, they are in this too.

## **99 Year Old Veteran Raises Millions to Support UK Healthcare Workers**

It has been a little over a week since Captain Tom Moore set out to raise £1,000 for healthcare workers by walking 100 lengths of his 82ft garden before his 100th birthday on April 30th. The World War II veteran has since raised a jaw-dropping £27 million (\$33.7 million)—and counting—for NHS Charities Together through his Just Giving crowdfunding page. Over the course of just six days, more than 866,000 people have also signed a petition calling for Captain Tom to be knighted. When 9 News reporters asked Captain Tom about the initiative, he simply chuckled and said: “Sir Thomas Moore—that sounds good, but I wouldn’t hold your breath.” Regardless of Moore’s hesitations, a team of aircraft restorers are reportedly planning a Spitfire flyby for the senior’s 100th birthday.



## **Feeling Sad, or Stressed? Take a Nature Pill**

If you find yourself feeling anxious or depressed as the quarantine continues, a University of Michigan study from 2019 says that taking at least twenty minutes out of your day to stroll or sit in a place that makes you feel in contact with nature will significantly lower your stress hormone levels. The data revealed that just a 20-minute “nature pill” experience was enough to significantly reduce cortisol levels—but if you spent a little more time immersed in a nature experience, 20 to 30 minutes sitting or walking, cortisol levels dropped at their greatest rate. After that, additional de-stressing benefits continued to add up but at a slower rate. This isn’t about exercise (though even minimal exercise is also known to lower stress and anxiety): just sitting outside, without using the phone or computer, or even reading or talking with anyone, does your body and soul enormous good. This week, make a special effort to do this and see how it affects you...drive to the park and sit awhile, or in your own yard, or stroll around the neighborhood, or find a place where you can hear or see water running. The study didn’t point it out, but we suspect that the ways God reveals himself in the beauty of His world plays a big part!

## **Safe Ways to Volunteer at Your Church**

As the weather warms up and we move closer to the time when we can meet together again, let’s take this opportunity for a little cleaning and sprucing up! We would love some help pulling weeds, mowing the church lawn, doing some light painting indoors and outside. Please email [office@eumcfallon.org](mailto:office@eumcfallon.org) or call the church at 423-4714 if you think you could spare some time, and we will make sure to schedule folks separately. Might feel good to do something different, too!