



PASTOR KATHY'S WEEKLY DEVOTION

Jan. 9-15: Living in the Ordinary Time
Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

In just a few hours, we will be “dehanging” the greens at the church. There’s always a spirit of joy and fellowship in putting up the special decorations for Christmas. Not so for taking them down. For at least a couple of weeks, each person will feel shock when he or she walks into what feels like a very empty sanctuary.

But while Advent and Christmas should be tinsel and lights to mark it as a special time of year, that doesn’t mean we can’t enjoy what is known as “ordinary time” on the church calendar. Ordinary time means exactly that – it is a season in which there is no special church anniversary or celebration. This season of Epiphany begins with the visit of the Wise Men and ends with the Transfiguration of Christ. And the season in between is designed for our education – to consider ways that God reveals God’s self to us.

If you didn’t get a devotional book for Christmas, it’s not too late to find one to being the process of your education, not just in this season but throughout the year. Here are a few suggestions I’d offer as you look:

- Would you like to read the Bible in a year? There are quite a few study guides on line that set up a number of scripture to read each day. It’s easier to do that than to try and read the Bible cover to cover. (Trust me – somewhere in Leviticus, that New Year’s resolution will flounder!)
- Who is your favorite Christian author? Chances are, that person has a devotional book that will best speak to you. I have always enjoyed Max Lucado, so Dave and I have been going through his devotional book *Grace for the Moment*. Whoever inspires you with books they have written are likely to also touch your soul with a daily devotion.
- Check on line – a number of websites have devotions they will send you daily. If you’re one who reads your emails regularly, this might be the most helpful way to ensure you don’t miss a day’s devotion.

God bless you in whatever season you are in, and bring peace and grace in the coming year.

Pastor Kathy