

September 30 2019 Huntley UMC weekly email

Dear friends,

What a joy it was for me to be back in worship with you at Huntley United Methodist Church yesterday after my recent mission trip to St. Croix Virgin Islands doing hurricane recovery work. But it wasn't just me, it was a team effort to make it possible for me to go and represent all of you doing this important work. So thank you Huntley congregation for allowing me to go and miss three Sundays in the process, thank you to Ruth McKenzie and Becky Messman for leading worship in my absence, and thank you for your commitment to the importance of mission work through our congregation.

In worship yesterday we talked about Jesus' parable of the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man lived in luxury all his life and never wanted for anything. The poor man Lazarus lay at the rich man's gate and wanted for everything, but received nothing. The rich man never gave Lazarus the time of day. Both men died. Lazarus went to be with Father Abraham in Heaven, while the rich man went to hell. What is the point of this parable?

I believe Jesus calls us to see people in our world. Not just those we like or those who are successful, but also needy people, hurting people, people who need our attention. As followers of Christ, we are called to be those who recognize and respond to people in need. If people have a need and we can meet that need, then as followers of Christ, we should offer to help.

We are called by Christ to be people of love who put our love in action. Love sees the need that is all around us. And love acts. We all have some kind of blessing we can give to others. And love heals. When we reach out to someone in need and offer what we have, when we make that personal connection with another child of God, that is a healing act. Jesus asks us to take who we are and what we have and be a blessing to others.

Companions in Christ group meets on Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

WCI team will meet Tuesday, October 1st at 7:00 p.m.

Huntley Administrative Board will meet on Thursday, October 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Roberts United Methodist Church will hold their annual Harvest Dinner on Sunday, October 6th with dinner served from 2 – 6 p.m.

See you in worship,
Pastor Gary Geiman