

June 3, 2019 Huntley UMC weekly email

Dear friends,

In worship yesterday at Huntley United Methodist Church we talked about Jesus' last major recorded prayer in John chapter 17. Listen as Jesus begins his final prayer: "My prayer is not for them alone [speaking of his disciples]. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message." Do you hear that? Jesus is praying first of all for his disciples, and then he's praying "for those who will believe in [him] through their message . . ." That's us! He is praying for us!

Surely one reason Jesus is praying for us is that there is more work to be done to satisfy Jesus' mission, and you and I are an integral part of that undertaking. As followers of Christ, we must constantly be stepping into the shoes of those who have gone before us to make sure that Christ's work continues to be accomplished in our world. Coaches on sports team have a saying for that: "Next man (or woman) up!" It means if one player goes down, someone else is to step up and take their place. We all need to be ready to head into the fray in order to get the job done. When sports teams work like this, they often continue to win even after major injuries to star athletes.

That very situation was just bore out in the recent National Basketball Association playoffs between the Golden State Warriors and the Houston Rockets. Kevin Durant is a star player for the Warriors. Many people consider him to be the best professional basketball player in the game today. But he suffered a leg injury and was unable to play during the final games of that series. Many sportscasters declared confidently that because of that injury, the Rockets would easily win the series. But not so fast! Other Warrior players stepped up and powered the Warriors to victory. No matter what, the work goes on.

Christ's work, the bringing of the Kingdom of God upon earth, depends in part on our readiness to do our part when needed. That is true of being part of a team. It is also true in terms of our individual acts of discipleship. As a follower of Christ, we all have a part to play. Will we be committed to being the next man or woman up, when a need arises? That is our call, not only on the field of athletic contest, but in the area of faith , as well. And I trust that we all know which is the more critical need.

Companions in Christ will meet on Monday, June 3rd at 10:00 a.m. to make sandwiches for area ministries.

WCI Team will meet on Tuesday, June 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Summer worship schedule is now in place. Worship during June, July, and August is at 9:30 a.m.

See you in worship,
Pastor Gary Geiman