

But How Will We Get Through Thanksgiving?



I've heard a topic bandied around quite a bit lately. Thanksgiving is coming and we're getting together with family over the turkey and the vegan turkey and the mashed potatoes and the kale. The differences on the table are the least of this annual family bowl. How do we talk to each other? Some of us are far right, some far left. Most of us are sprinkled all along that line, and if we were completely honest most of us have opinions that are shaded. People may think they know what we think and believe and who we may vote for, but our opinions, and theirs, are probably more nuanced.

If you are dining with a very comfortable group who wants to explore the issues and is unlikely to begin throwing vegetable trays, consider yourself blessed. If we name 5 main issues, most of us have different considerations and histories with those issues. So our opinions aren't as rigid as we or "they" may think. A family or group with a long history of getting deeply into hot topics without resorting to blame is rare indeed, but it could be an awakening about how much people actually have in common.

If you are not eating dinner with a family on such an even keel, you might want to consider a few topics to bring up, or avoid, to get through the meal. We'll get to that. But nothing fills up conversation time like NFL football.

- Chicago Bears vs. Detroit Lions 12:30 pm
- NY Giants vs. Dallas Cowboys at 4:30 pm
- Miami Dolphins vs. the Green Bay Packers at 8:20 pm

Football stops conversations for 10 hours!! Those stadiums are a religious experience for folks: flags are waving in the air, smoke rises like incense, there's a graceful, liturgical-like dance around the margarita maker. But it's probably safer to talk about this religion than any of the

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other ones.

Should there be a dead zone, where folks find themselves looking at one another like deer in the headlights, perhaps a range of boardgames might be available, or, if you in fact want to make contact with your family, you might feel comfortable with one of these topics:

1. Family stories. Remember when Aunt Byrd fell in the flower urn at Grandpa’s funeral, and no one noticed for fifteen minutes? Did you know my grandfather’s brother Sven won an Olympic Gold for Luge in 1936? The man never did watch where he was driving.
2. So I hear you’ve been traveling. Tell me all about it. What was your favorite spot? What will you remember forever. Any problems? (Problems are good. They’ll talk for 40 minutes on riding city buses in Prague.)
3. Similarly, I hear you are planning to do some traveling. What are you most looking forward to? What are you packing to take with you?
4. Have you seen the plan for the tallest skyscraper ever that is going to be built in Oklahoma City? (Show artist’s rendering for impact. This is an easy search target.) What do you think of that? Do you suppose they’ll be able to see Dallas?
5. What movies (TV shows or books) have you seen (read) lately? Should I try to catch that? Is it clean enough for your mother?
6. Speaking of catching, what’s fishing been like for you this year? Do you think you might pursue ice fishing? I remember your mentioning that last year.
7. Should kids under 18 be able to have transgender surgery without their parents’ position? (Just kidding. Don’t.)
8. If you had three years to do what you want without any money worries, how would you spend the time?
9. What’s happening at work? Any juicy water-cooler gossip?
10. C. Lee, go out and chop some of that dry wood for the fireplace.

You probably have better topics for conversation and things to do, drink, or eat. Share them. You’re Hoosiers. Some of you have already gotten the farm fresh sweet corn ready for Thanksgiving and tucked it into the freezer until needed. And if you are ready for them to leave, get out your guitar.

Happy Fall!
Pastor Kate+

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There are no coincidences! God moves in mysterious ways!

I had this on my mind this morning and hope I didn't send this in years ago, but here's a story:

In my job I often come across homes where people have moved out and new owners or realtors are trying to get the house up to code prior to sale. This often involves dumpsters of remaining house products out on the street and up for grabs. This particular time we were at a cottage on Sweetwater and one of the dumpsters full of household goods had just been filled up. There was a very old family bible sitting on top, one of those with big leather-padded covers and inked writing on pages with family highlights and events. There were even some letters folded inside. The etchings that illustrated some of the bible passages were very beautiful, and I rescued the bible from the dumpster, thinking that at some time I'd get it over to the History Center in Nashville.

Well, time passed and the bible stayed on my file cabinet for years. I'd occasionally look thru and noted that there was a family name written in there that appeared again and again. I assumed the bible was at one time owned by one of the relatives of that family, but had been discarded when that owner passed on.

Speed forward about 10 years, and my Goddaughter from Atlanta, Georgia comes to visit. At the time I was divorced and living in an RV but that didn't deter her. She slept happily on the overhead bed up front and we had a great four day visit, even seeing a sideways shooting star over Indian Hill.

She came into my office to see where I worked and the old bible caught her eye. Once she started looking through it, her expression changed to wonder, as she realized that the family name was the same as her husband's last name. (She had kept her maiden name, so I never connected the names). Of course, the bible went home with her, and it turned out that the family **was** a relation to her husband!

There are no coincidences! God moves in mysterious ways!

—Jennifer Heller

Deacon's Corner

by Rev. William Morris, Jr., Deacon

A Look at Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles

Over the last several months, the Friday Morning Bible Study has followed Paul (and others) in his three missionary journeys. It has been a fascinating and inspiring journey.

By boat and cart and foot, Paul traveled over 9,000 miles in planting the seeds of the Universal Christian Church. While we don't have a *lot* of biographical information about Paul, we can create a basic sketch of the Apostle to the Gentiles.



Tentmakers

Paul was born in Tarsus, a city on the northeastern rim of the Mediterranean Sea, approximately 250 miles north of Damascus, Syria, and about 360 miles north of Jerusalem. Paul's exact birthdate is unknown, but it is thought he was close in age to Jesus. Paul died in Rome in 64-65 AD.

We know little about Paul's family, except that: he had a nephew, the son of Paul's sister; Paul had at least two relatives, Andronicus and Junia, who became Christians before him; that he was "born of Pharisees"; and that Paul was educated by Gamaliel, a renowned teacher of Jewish law and a senior member of the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem. We know that Paul wrote Koine Greek. In short, he was well-educated. He spoke at least two languages. He was pretty smart too.

Paul's teachings constitute a major part of the teachings and foundations of our faith. And apart from their profound value to Christianity, Paul's writings -- such as his description of love in Corinthians 13 -- are among the great works of world literature. He was a very good writer.

We also know that Paul was an artisan who worked with leather goods and made tents. Paul used this solitary occupation to talk with folks passing by, such as Priscilla and Aquila who became disciples and worked, lived and traveled with Paul. Paul was outgoing -- and people were drawn to him too.

What are your views about Paul? Please share them with Brother William at wimorris.attorney@gmail.com. More about Paul in our *next* newsletter.

Bro. Wm.+

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News from the Choir Corner

from Vicki King, Music Director

I continue to be grateful to the St. David's Choir for their loyalty each Sunday in leading the music at the worship service and providing special music each Sunday. I spend time each week trying to find music that reflects the day's readings, knowing that "He who sings prays twice." Beginning September 8th we will again be returning to the congregational chanting of the Psalm. I hope you will join us in singing lustily! Also beginning September 8th, choir will resume their 8:30 a.m. rehearsals, so that we can begin to rehearse more challenging music for the service. If you or someone else is interested in singing with us, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.



Cathedral Choristers at Aug. 25 service

What Is an Ecosystem?

In the last newsletter I wrote about biodiversity; what the word means and when it was first used. Biodiversity is the key indicator to the health of an ecosystem.

An ecosystem is a geographic area with complex, interdependent relationships among plants, animals, birds, micro-organisms, water, soil, rocks, weather, geography, people, and other factors. Everything that lives in an ecosystem is dependent on the other species and elements that are also part of the community. If one part of an ecosystem is damaged or disappears, it has an impact on everything else. In a sustainable ecosystem all the elements live in balance and are capable of reproducing themselves.

Healthy ecosystems are the foundations that sustain us. It's that simple. We could not live without these free "ecosystem services". They are our life-support systems. Healthy ecosystems: clean our water, produce oxygen, purify our air, maintain our soil, regulate the climate, moderate weather extremes, recycle nutrients, provide flood protection, sequester carbon, provide us with food, provide raw materials, provide resources for medicines, maintain biodiversity.

<https://www.i-scoop.eu/social-networks-organizations-ecosystems-organisms>

—Jane Savage

Getting Better Acquainted

With David Savage

I've always known David to be a reserved, perceptive and gracious man and it's a pleasure to sit near him on Sunday and listen to his singing voice. But, getting better acquainted, I learned some things which you might not know:

David was born in Middlesbrough, England. He had a brother four-years younger, now deceased. His father worked as a manager in a petroleum depot and later, when he was 60 years old, became an Anglican Priest. His mother worked as a clerical worker in an aircraft factory but after marriage became a full-time homemaker who took care of her family.

He was a student at Acklam Hall Grammar School until age 18. David was an excellent athlete and while in school, played cricket and tennis. After passing his Advanced Level General Certificate of Education, he attended the University of Leeds in Yorkshire, earning a degree in Chemical Engineering.

At Leeds, David met Jack Myers, a Purdue professor on sabbatical. Because of his influence, David came to Purdue University on a Fulbright Scholarship, earning a PhD in Chemical Engineering.

At Purdue, he met Jane who was working on a master's degree. In 1961, they were married at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Indianapolis and returned to England where David worked for the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for three years.

After those three years, David was offered a job with Esso Research and Engineering Company. He and Jane moved with their three sons to Summit, New Jersey, where David worked with Esso (later renamed Exxon, then ExxonMobil) for 36 years. During this time, David was author of between 50 and 60 patents. He became a U.S. citizen in 1996.

Although their home was in Summit, David spent considerable time on location in Western Canada, Libya (during Gaddafi's time), Thessaloniki, Greece, (where Jane was able to join him for two weeks), and a year in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. David smiled while saying that once he came home to find Jane painting the outside of their house.

Even though his job kept him on the go, he was able for a while to play Cricket with the Staten Island Cricket Club and became a competitive tennis player.

Retiring from ExxonMobil, David and Jane moved to Zionsville in 2002. It was a good place to put down retirement roots because their three sons were in the general area and they still had Purdue and high school friends close by.

David sang in community choruses for many years including the choir at St. Francis's, Zionsville. He says he lost his singing voice as a result of his stroke in 2017, but don't believe it. Just sit near him on Sunday morning.

In retirement, David enjoys reading biographies and history and has become a Master Naturalist. When asked if he likes to garden, he said that his gardening consists of keeping the tires pumped up on Jane's wheelbarrow.

As I listened to David talk about the scope of his life, of his career and his interests, I realize how glad I am that I got better acquainted and that he's a part of our St. David's community.

-Phyllis Sindlinger



Pix from Pastor Kate's Celebration of New Ministry on July 14, 2024



Fun

Things we don't need to worry about at St. David's:



—From Pastor Kate

Birthdays and Anniversaries

August

1 Maggie Linscott
 1 Gail Fields
 1 Sharon Kitchens
 4 Vincent Darlage
 7 Lauren Woodworth
 17 Angie & John Aumage - (Anniversary)
 17 Steve & Theresa Sims
 18 Adie Smith
 22 Sandy Ridenour
 23 Verne & Phyllis Sindlinger - (Anniversary)
 30 Richard Halladay
 31 Tom King

September

3 Ralph Linscott
 4 Len Glosque
 7 Ed McCabe
 11 Jennifer Heller
 11 Ben Herr
 13 Margie Hill
 13 Juniper McCabe (Ed & Cori's daughter)
 13 Sally Walker Simpson
 14 Jonathan & Deborah Hutchison -
 (Anniversary)
 16 Jan Benham
 24 Louis and Laura Wenzler - (Anniversary)
 27 Mary Studley

October

4 Marylin Day
 7 Bob Oliger
 7 Jonathan & Linda Lee Gosser-(Anniversary)
 9 Christian Yarbough
 10 Marge Steiner
 11 Westley Smith (son of Ben & Adie Smith)
 11 Jim Drum
 18 Adie & Ben Smith - (Anniversary)
 25 Gene Niednagel
 26 Jonathan Hutchison
 26 Yvonne Oliger
 26 Laura Wenzler
 31 Jonathan Gosser

November

9 Joan Amati
 9 Tim & Laurie Stant - (Anniversary)
 10 Ed & Cori McCabe - (Anniversary)
 11 David Sindlinger
 12 Jan Holloway
 12 Jane Herr
 13 Andrea Barber
 15 Ben & Lauren Woodworth - (Anniversary)
 20 Ralph & Maggie Linscott -(Anniversary)
 23 Kate Nolan
 25 Skip Wood
 28 Carol Ruffin

*Don't see your birthday or anniversary - drop me
 a line at jane@rjherr.com*



Newsletter Submissions?

Please send your news items, stories of spiritual growth, book reviews, jokes, cartoons, recipes, etc. to Jane Herr (812)320-2340 or 4923 Stevens Rd., Nashville, 47448 or (the preferred method!): jane@rjherr.com

Next deadline for submissions:
 Advent: November 17, 2024

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SERVICES

Sunday 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 5:00 PM Communion

In-person services may be temporarily suspended when Covid cases increase in Brown County. You can attend our worship services via zoom and/or Facebook. Please contact the church office for more information.

Schedule of Special Services and Parish Events

Wednesday	Aug 28	Pub Theology Topic: "Music that Lifts My Soul" <i>(Pub Theology continues on the 4th Wednesday of the month)</i>	6:30 pm	Out of Ordinary
Friday	Aug 30	Zoom Bible study <i>(bible study continues Friday mornings)</i>	7:30-9 am	
Friday	Sept 6	Euchre <i>(Euchre continues on the 1st Friday of the month)</i>	7 pm	St. David's
Wednesday	Sept 11	Greeting Card Class	10 am-12 noon	St. David's
Wednesday	Sept 11	Dinner Church <i>(Dinner Church continues on 2nd Wednesday of the month)</i>	5 pm	St. David's
Sunday	Sept 15	Vestry Meeting	after service	
Sunday	Nov 17	Advent newsletter info deadline		
Sunday	Dec 1	First Sunday in Advent		