



From the Pastor

Some ground rules for living together as God’s people

I (Pastor Jennie) used these habits in my previous congregations with great success.

- Differences of opinion are acceptable in our congregations/parish; the only unacceptable behavior is unwillingness to discuss the underlying causes.
• Do not attempt to rescue individuals who try to exert power and control by threatening to withhold financial giving or leave the church.
• Stop fight-and-flight behaviors. We can't resolve problems that damage fellowship and ministries by either skunk or rabbit behavior. Skunk people stand and fight in odorous ways that cause rabbit people to run away. Stop the flow of negative comments about people with whom they disagree (skunk people). Stay instead of getting so far away that no one can hear their concerns (rabbit people).
• Talk with one another and not about one another.
• Keep disagreements on the table. Discuss matters openly and honestly. Discussing issues don't make them worse.
• Speak only for yourself, not for others. The phrase "people are saying" isn't tolerated.
• Care enough for one another to listen as someone gives their opinion. Listening doesn't mean you agree; it means you care enough to let the person finish speaking before responding.
• After listening to a viewpoint with which you don't agree, paraphrase what you heard so that the person knows you understand their opinion. This is before you respond with an opposing opinion.
• Disagree with people while showing courtesy and respect for them.
• Complaints are acceptable only if they are accompanied by a possible solution.

councils, committees, task forces ... and you

We are being called by the Spirit to share God’s Love, the Altar at Holy Communion being center mass of our Christian identity. How we share God’s love individually and collectively slides left and right, speeds up and slows down. It depends on the which way the wind blows, theologically speaking.

As a Parish of a half dozen congregations, we are united in purpose and called to care for and encourage one another. Administratively speaking, the ACT Parish Council is the big umbrella under which the Church Councils do their work: We can't easily share God's love if the doors aren't open, or the bills aren't paid, or information isn't shared into and through the people who ARE the church.

Note: A Church is not a building. The church is the people of God.

I (Pastor Daryl) have effectively used 'task forces' to complete some of the ministry we are called to do, inviting individuals who don't have the time, inclination, or patience to occupy a two- or three-year term in a constitutionally required role. Be prepared for a call someday, me or Jennie on the other side of the line saying, 'Hey, I was wondering if you might be interested in (fill in the blank).' cont'd page 2

Happy Birthday

Pastor Daryl– 1st
Paige Clark– 3rd
Butch Haug– 3rd
Tag Ruter– 4th
Mary Lindquist– 19th
Melody Clark– 22nd
Tiffanie Krieger– 30th

Happy Anniversary



Loree & Robert Moller
on the 14th

Council Meeting on the 11th

Usher :
Rick Torkelson
Reader :
Kathy Torkelson

Sunday School starts on the 11th



Autumn Bazaar
October 1st

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

If you are going to be able to be at the bazaar to work please let Nancy know.

Need everyone to:

-  make items for bake sale
-  one pan of bars for our bar bar, 24-30 bars in a container already cut.
-  promote event! Fliers will be available next week.

(pastor's letter cont'd)

We must concentrate on over-informing one another of activities, events and news within the churches and the parish. Transparency is vital in helping to truly welcome strangers to join us in the work we are doing in the building of the Kingdom of God.

Not knowing means you are on the outside looking in. There will be some changes and certainly some new activities in the coming months. Hold on to your hats, the Wind is starting to pick up!

And Jennifer and I are excited to be a part of this.

In September we are switching to the Narrative Lectionary. It connects with the Sunday school lessons and helps people learn the biblical story better.

September 11 - Flood and Promise Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17

September 18 – Call of Abraham Genesis 12:1-9

September 25 – Joseph in Prison Genesis 39:1-23

September

Golden in the garden,
Golden in the glen,
Golden, golden, golden
September's here again!
Golden in the tree tops,
Golden in the sky—
Golden, golden, golden
September's going by!