

Staying Connected Through Prayer

"for we walk by faith, not by sight" - 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NRSV)

One of the many ways to pray is by taking a prayer walk. For centuries Christians have walked and prayed. The labyrinth is an ancient form of prayer walk which reminds us that there is but one way to the heart of God. Those of us who seek God make an inward journey to find God's heart and, then we make an outward journey to take God's love into the world.

There are several labyrinths in our area however in these days of social distancing you may find it difficult to walk that path. For that matter, after spending so many days indoors you may be ready to enjoy an outward path. Have you considered a prayer walk in your neighborhood?

A prayer walk through our own neighborhoods will help us stay connected to our community and give us an avenue to share the love of Christ with our neighbors.

As the weather permits, consider a walk around the block, keeping that safe, six foot distance between us and the people we encounter. As we walk and pray, we can stop in front of each home and pray for those who dwell there. If we see a newspaper on the driveway, perhaps we can take it to the doorway for someone who is unable to come outside.

My friend Marilyn lives in Atlanta and she is tele-working from home. Feeling a little stiff from being at her desk too long, she decided to take her dog, Trickett, for a walk. Both Marilyn and Trickett were enjoying their walk. Both of them had been cooped up too long and they were happy to be outside. Their spirits were lifted by the fresh air and sunshine. As they made the turn for home they found a surprise in the middle of the street, and the surprise filled Marilyn's heart. Someone had taken colored chalk and written in large, bold letters "SHARE JOY".

The answers to prayers come in so many different ways. I've been praying for methods to stay connected to one another - to be the body that knows Christ and makes Him known. I could not have imagined that the answer to my prayer would be written in colored chalk on a street in a neighborhood that is 375 miles away. I couldn't imagine it, but God certainly could. God found a wondrous way to remind us that when we remain faithful, our walk with God will bring many answers and joyful surprises that share God's love with a hurting world.

Prayer: *Oh God of joyful surprises, bless our walk with you. Make us faithful to pray and bold to seek new ways that connect your love and joy to an isolated world. Amen.*

In Christ,

Rev. Dell King

Interim Associate Pastor

