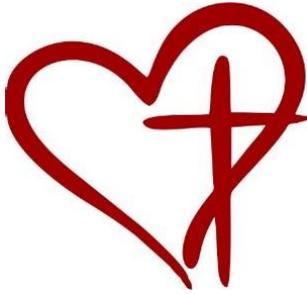


July 25, 2021



I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. [Ephesians 3:16-17]

Dear Friends,

This passage from Ephesians that we read this Sunday expresses my heartfelt prayer for you as I leave. Indeed, Paul's prayer for the Christians at Ephesus was answered in the experience we shared at Trinity this year.

We were strengthened in our inner being with power through the Holy Spirit in our Zoom chats, Bible Studies, and meditations, on our Zoom Family Game Nights and Bingo; and in our willingness to continually change how we worshipped and studied together.

We affirmed that *Christ dwells in our hearts through faith* when we renewed our relationship with our community neighbors by adapting Laundry Love, the Community Meals, and the Christmas Fair; when we initiated the Good News Gardens and when our youth participated in the 30-hour Famine and prepared lunches on the federal holidays when the school lunch programs were closed.

We were assured that we are *rooted and grounded in love* on Christmas Eve and in our willingness to laugh--or at least to smile gently—at the weekly Zoom glitches; when our children and youth led worship and when we honored our graduates.

I myself never felt isolated even on the loneliest days of the past year because there was always someone to call or a group was willing to show up on Zoom. I never felt stuck because even on the darkest days someone had a new idea and someone was ready to ask "Why not?"

I shall look forward to watching from a distance as you continue to be empowered by the Spirit, dwell in Christ, and deepen the roots of your love. And I know that my life will be rooted and grounded in the love that we have shared in Christ through the Spirit.

In thanksgiving,
Judith

A Prayer for the Journey

by Becca Stevens

God, set me on the path again.

Turn me to the rising sun when I need to be inspired.

Turn me to wilderness when I need to be lost.

Turn me toward the business of the world when I need to work.

Turn me toward the mountain when I need to be refreshed.

Then turn me toward the sunset when I need rest.

Amen