



# The In Touch

Volume 55, Issue 6

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*Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation*

## Ramblings from the Deacon.....

Hugh Haller, President of the Camping and Education Foundation that manages girls Camp Ogichi Da Kwe and boys Camp Coochiching on Rainy Lake recently sent a letter to all involved (500 campers, their families, camp managers and staff) that the camps would not open for this year's first sessions. He wrote, "In what seemed like the blink of an eye, the world was turned upside down by Covid-19 and now we are facing a new reality". He finished with this message, "The call of the loon is as clear and haunting as ever. It is a sound that we cherish, and yearn to hear again soon". And then his farewell really captivated me, "Seek the joy in all things".

What a powerful and uplifting statement from a leader when times and events can be very depressing, fearful and dark. After I read Hugh's farewell, I went outside on my deck and sat in a big reclining chair, leaned back and looked up into the bright, clear, blue sky and at thousands of new green leaves on oaks and aspens. It was joyful and invigorating as I reclined perfectly still.

Three bright yellow goldfinches were only 10 feet from me singing away and a host of chattering chickadees were busily zipping into and away from the close-by feeders. Many other bird species not heard since last spring were singing—the joy and power of migration was happening. I sat there for half an hour being warmed by the sun and began to think of the things that can make us joyful and distract us from the fear and depression of the pandemic, political bickering, and economic indignity and inequality.

Hugh's words helped me remember a Facebook post from indigenous Episcopal Bishop Steven Charleston: "Do not be afraid, not now, not ever, for there is a love in your life that is stronger than any power on earth, stronger than illness, stronger than sorrow, stronger than any hurt any heart has ever known. You understand what I mean, for in the depth of your own experience you have met this power before, been lifted up by it, sheltered by it, made whole by its unwavering presence in your life. Do not be afraid. Not now. Not ever. For the power that set the stars to spin is the power that watches over you, the power that calls your name, the power that makes all things new."

Hugh's farewell and Charleston's post also motivated me to find the root word for joy used in a Bible verse I looked up\*. It means to rejoice or to make glad. Strength was also a Hebrew word used in the same verse meaning "a place or means of safety, protection refuge, or stronghold."

The root word of strength means “to be strong, prevail; to make firm, strengthen.” I think that is what Hugh, part of an Episcopalian family, was saying to all his campers, their families and staff anticipating a summer at camp- “Seek the joy in all things”. The joy of the Lord is a constant gladness and cause to rejoice. It is as Bishop Steven Charleston said, “The power that makes all things new”.

Have you ever sung the chorus, written by George Willis Cook. *I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart?*

Joy, like any other attitude, can come and go. It is not guaranteed simply because we are believers. We must put ourselves in the places where experiencing joy is a possibility. Patti M. Hummel wrote in, *Glorifying God* that: “Joy is setting the soul upon the top of a pinnacle; it is the cream of the sincere milk of the Word. Spiritual joy is a sweet and delightful passion, arising from the apprehension and feeling of some good, whereby the soul is supported under present troubles and fenced against future fear”.

So how can we put ourselves in the place where exceptionally good things happen and our soul is supported under troubles? We can look to the Bible to inform us about joy\*.

Joy is not an emotion that can be forced, fabricated, or faked and is not dependent upon our circumstance. Though joy cannot be forced, it can be experienced in difficult situations. James adds to this thought with, “Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.” – James 1:2-3.

Joy is possible when we feel secure in the Lord. Paul wrote, “Be full of joy in the Lord always. I will say again, be full of joy. Let everyone see that you are gentle and kind.” Philippians 4:4-4.

Joy comes when we have a clear direction (purpose) for our life. Psalm 16:11 illustrates this principle: You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.

Joy comes when we spend our life praising God and we discover true joy when we live an honest Biblical life. Jesus offers his slant on being Biblically obedient. He says, “If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you” – John 15:10-12(NIV).

Joy comes when we continually praise what God has already done. The Psalmist wrote in 92:4-5: For you make me glad by your deeds, Lord; I sing for joy at what your hands have done. How great are your works, Lord, how profound your thoughts! Not only does reflection fill us with joy, it makes us glad.

**There is joy from community. That is why we are a Total Ministry parish.** We were not created to be alone. If we are not involved in a community, we are hurting ourselves. As Christians, we are told to encourage our brothers and sisters. We need to continually remind each other of where our joy comes from. We need to continually remind each other to focus on Christ. Community is essential on our walk with Christ and it is essential for joy.

During my examination of the word joy in the Bible and while deducing what Hugh was saying in his letter farewell, I was enlightened by some Dwight L. Moody quotes I discovered: "Joy is not a season, it's a way of living." "Joy is not necessarily the absence of suffering-it is the presence of God." "The Lord gives his people perpetual joy when they walk in obedience to him." "If you have no joy, there's a leak in your Christianity somewhere."\*

Seek the joy in all things.

Deacon Lee Grim

\*References: Fred Bittner. Bible Verses About Joy: 25 Scriptures on Happiness. August 20, 2013. [www.faithgateway.com/25-bible-verses-about-joy](http://www.faithgateway.com/25-bible-verses-about-joy)



- 6/1 ~ **Caryn Noland**
- 6/2 ~ **Shane Mattsen** (son Melanie & Randy Mattsen)
- 6/3 ~ **Edith Jenkinson**
- 6/6 ~ **Riley Wright** (daughter Alan & Kate, granddaughter of Georgeann & Andy)
- 6/8 ~ **Christine Kent**
- 6/9 ~ **Connor Weir** (son of Tara Rud, grandson Cindy Cassibo)
- 6/11 ~ **Erik Strand**
- 6/21 ~ **Mark Grim** (son Lee & Carol)
- 6/23 ~ **Tara Johnson** (daughter of Byrne & Carole)
- 6/24 ~ **Carly Toder** (granddaughter Olga Reuter)
- 6/25 ~ **John Klatt** (son Brittany & Joe, grandson Jeanne & Bill Corrin)
- 6/27 ~ **Jeannie Strand**
- 6/27 ~ **Jon Reuter** (son Olga Reuter)
- 6/28 ~ **Glenn Walls** (son Bill & Karen, grandson Donna Day)



- 6/11 ~ **Diana Russiff** (Day)
- 6/16 ~ **Laura Smith** (Menefee)
- 6/24 ~ **Clayton Rasmussen**
- 6/24 ~ **Addison Strand**



- 6/10 ~ **Dr. Samantha Crossley & Jim Yount**
- 6/21 ~ **Ladd & Lucy Corrin**
- 6/22 ~ **Cindy & Bruce Cassibo**
- 6/25 ~ **Brent & Lisa Schlieff**
- 6/26 ~ **Sara & Dale Kennedy**

*During our Shelter in Place Order  
Watch Holy Trinity Services Livestream  
Service bulletin is on our website: [www.ifhtec.org](http://www.ifhtec.org)  
On Facebook: Sundays @ 10:00 am*

# June '20 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
<p>7</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  10:00 am  <b>Trinity Sunday</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacons: Lee Grim or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim  Or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or  Linnaea Yount  Lee Grim</p>	
<p>14</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  10:00 am  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacons: Lee Grim or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim  Or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or  Linnaea Yount  Lee Grim</p>	
<p>21</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  10:00 am  <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacon: Lee Grim or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim  Or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or  Linnaea Yount  Lee Grim</p>	
<p>28</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b>  10:00 am  <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley  Deacon: Lee Grim or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim  Or  Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or  Linnaea Yount  Lee Grim</p>	



# June 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Altar Guild  Georgeann
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Altar Guild  Carolyn & Molly
Holy Eucharist 10:00 am	<i>Ruby's Pantry 4:30 - 6:30</i>	Vestry 5:00 pm Team 6:00				
14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20 Altar Guild   Carolyn & Molly First Day of Summer
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Altar Guild  Tricia
 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		Newsletter Deadline				
28	29	30				
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						