



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, OWENSBORO

(Disciples of Christ)

March 16, 2021

From the Preacherman....

A few weeks ago I got new windows in my house. No, it isn't true that I got new windows because the old ones were dirty and I was too lazy to clean them. It may well be true that I'm bad with cleaning supplies, but it isn't the reason for the purchase. It was time. Time to replace what didn't work well anymore. Time to update and change to something better. Time to see the world differently. It was time.

Do you ever get to that place when you just know it's time? I get it. It is far easier to wait, to sit, not to change a thing. Sometimes the fields need to lie fallow, to rest. Busyness is the drug of our culture. To be busy is to be assured of our worth, until we realize we are too busy and our busyness is an excuse for ignoring what needs to change. Sometimes rest needs to happen and sometimes change needs to happen. What to do, or not do?

Lent is that wonderful season leading up to Easter that offers the opportunity to pay attention to what needs change and what needs rest in our lives. It is my wonderful calling as a preacher to say to you "Pay attention to your lives, to the risen Christ at work there." If you are too busy to notice the One who walks among us, then you are too busy. Perhaps the loss of faith by many in our culture has much to do with being too busy to pay attention.

Lent offers permission to pay attention and change. Cleaning out what no longer needs to be there, renewing relationships, reestablishing holy habits, all matter deeply to our spiritual lives. But often our lives are full of such deeply established patterns that we cannot seem to find a way to do anything new or different. We are carried along by momentum that helps us to simply exist. However, God offers more, life and life abundant. Is mere existence enough? No, not really.

Which brings me back to my windows. Simply put, I can see better, see the world where God is at work, mysteriously, often quietly, around corners, in the shadows, but still at work. For some people their faith is a wall, a thick, impregnable fortress against the world. They use it for protection and shelter. I like windows, a way to see the world and Christ at work in it. It is life through the looking glass, a world of wonder and divine presence. Take time to look. Pay attention. Listen more closely. Change some things. Rest. These things are what Lent is for. Get busy. Or not.

Peace....Chris

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Owensboro, Kentucky Mission Statement

*"Our mission is to manifest
Christ's love by empowering all to
compassionate service."*

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Mission Statement

*"We are Disciples of Christ,
a movement for wholeness in a
fragmented world. As part of the
one body of Christ we welcome all
to the Lord's Table as God
has welcomed us."*

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Church Office Hours
Mon–Thurs 8 am–noon and 1 – 5 pm

You may listen to our worship service via your computer or smartphone by accessing www.MIXLR.com/FirstChristianChurch at 9 am CT Sunday, or by using a speakerphone dialing 1-214-699-5100. The access code is 6939237#

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