

WHAT'S HAPPENING? – Sunday, February 11, 2024 – Transfiguration Sunday

Hello Westminster people:

I am beginning this issue of “What’s Happening?” with the sad news that Bruce Jamieson, who attended Westminster, passed away at 11PM yesterday. Please hold Scott and the other members of Bruce’s family in your hearts, thoughts and prayers. Details with respect to a Celebration of Bruce’s Life will be forthcoming.

As noted above, this coming Sunday, February 11 is Transfiguration Sunday. And to be blunt about it, this is an awkward Sunday for most modern church attendees.

One of the reasons for its awkwardness is the strange word “transfigured”. What in heaven’s name does it mean?

If it helps, “transfigured” is a churchy word that simply means transformed, altered, reshaped or changed into something beautiful or elevated.

Another reason it’s awkward is because the assigned gospel reading from Mark 9:2-9 portrays events that are troublesome to our modern minds – indeed, it’s simply unbelievable for people of the 21st century. After all, the mountaintop scene the storyteller Mark has described could never have been video-recorded. So why bother?

Before dismissing Mark’s transfiguration story I urge you to remember that the story of Jesus’ transfiguration is to be taken seriously, but not literally. Or to come at this from a slightly different angle, if you claim that the Bible is inspired and inerrant you’re making claims for the Bible that the Bible does not make for itself. In other words, the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus is a parable, not a parable told by Jesus but a parable about Jesus.

Most important, it’s a parable that speaks to us individually as persons of faith, and corporately as a congregation. In my sermon titled “Light and Life” I more fully develop these themes.

I look forward to being with you all again this coming Sunday.

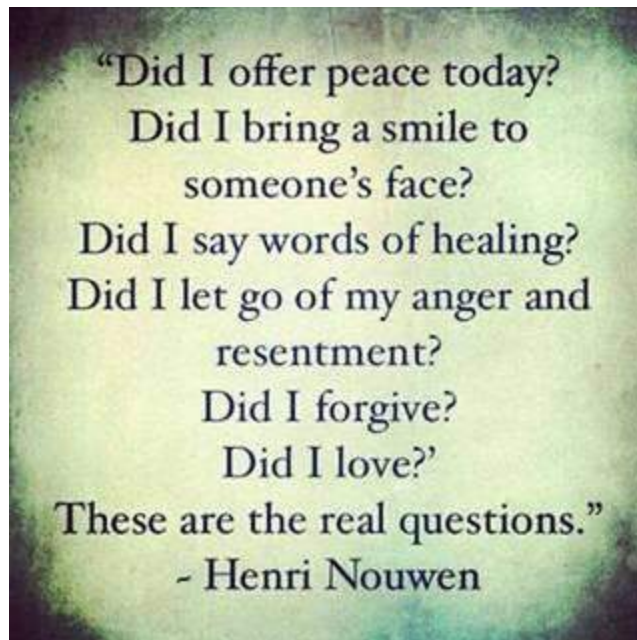
Shalom,

Rev. Del

P.S. 'Announcements' for Sunday, February 11 are attached.

INSIGHTS

With everything going on in the world today, somehow this just seemed appropriate (see below or attachment). What are your thoughts?



END