

## WEEKDAY WORDS

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Last night my phone \*pinged\* with a message. I had been tagged by a dear friend from my college days. And there on my phone were photos from the past – some 45 years ago! There's one with me hugging Chaplain Brown – a giant of a man in size and faith. Several photos recalled our choir's trip to England, Belgium and France at Christmas in 1978. And then there was the one that made me weep. Taken in a hotel in Coventry, England, I was immediately back with Aunt Dorrie (my paternal great-aunt) and Cousin Connie. It was the first (and only) time I met Aunt Dorrie. I haven't thought about that trip in a long time; however, one photo took me right back, even to the sound of a squeaky brace on Aunt Dorrie's leg.

When I saw the picture with Chaplain Brown, I smiled to think that all those years ago, I had no idea where God would take me. I was prepared to be a music teacher. I'd already had inklings of ministry but back then I didn't think God called women to such work. One of our hymns says it: *...from the past will come the future; what it holds a mystery, unrevealed until it's season, something God alone can see.*

This Sunday, we will look back at one year of ministry. We will remember the moments of music, of Outreach, of worship and of Faith Formation. We'll think about the people who forged such relationships that they will forever be *giants in faith* to the youth who were confirmed. We will consider the moments we shared laughter or tears. And then, we will turn our heads to the future and all the possibilities we have, to be God's people in Homer, NY. We have inklings about our ministry. I hope you will join us as we lay plans for that which *...God, alone, can see.*

### **THIS SUNDAY IS OUR ANNUAL MEETING**

At 9:30, our Faith Formation classes will meet. Then join us for worshipful work at 10:30. In the context of a regular worship service, we will review this past year and set our ministry plans for 2023.

Writing to ancient people, the prophet Isaiah recognized God's hand in the life of God's people. Quoting the passage from Isaiah 12:2-6, the composer Jack Noble White offers:

*Surely it is God who saves me. I will trust in him and not be afraid.*

*For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my savior.*

We will sing the lyric as we remember all the ways that God was the foundation of our ministry this past year. Stick around for Coffee Hour, hosted by our Trustees.

### **SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE!**

If you are in grades 4 – 11, you are invited to Games Night next Saturday (**Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>**) from 6:30 – 8:30. It might be winter, but we plan to enjoy ice cream sundaes, too.

### **NEXT SUNDAY**

Faith Formation classes begin at 9:30 AM.

At 10:30, we will recognize and dedicate our new leaders during the regular worship service. Afterward, coffee hour will be hosted by Kathleen Dentes and Ingrid Fox.