

From the Pastor

April 10, 2018



A week or so ago during a staff meeting we engaged in an exercise based on the Book of Ecclesiastes. We began by imagining we were walking into a clock shop with hundreds of clocks all set to different times. We then reflected on how that experience might make us feel. Most of us agreed that it might cause our anxiety level to increase at least slightly. Next, we imagined how we might feel if the alarms on those clocks started going off at different times. I am pretty sure such an experience would raise my anxiety level more than slightly!

We then imagined walking into church on Sunday morning. Every person in our sanctuary on any given Sunday has an “inner- clock.” Each clock is set on a different time. My clock is not set on the same time as anybody else’s clock.

In the third chapter of the Book of Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament, we are told:

There is a time for everything under the sun...a time to be born, a time to die...a time to weep and a time to laugh.....a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together..... a time to keep and a time to throw away.

Your time to be born may have been different from mine. My time to weep may be different from yours. Yet, we are all called to enter into each other’s worlds and to seek to be sensitive to each other’s “inner-clocks.” In his letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul says, “weep with those who weep, rejoice with those who rejoice.” All of us know what it can mean to have someone share our happy times as well as our challenging and sad times. Thank you for all the ways you seek to recognize that while we are all different we were all created to worship and to serve one another and our world in the name of Christ!

Blessings,

Craig