

The Caravan

on the journey together

JULY 2023

Proclaiming the Good News

A letter from Pastor Charlie

Last fall, Dubuque Seminary offered a preaching class here in Madison. Among the 25 students were seminary students along with several church members, exploring God's call in a new way. Among them were four from Covenant: Marilyn Krichko, Brenda Moten, Carrie Sanders, and Melissa Schmidt.

This summer, all four of them (along with Tom Blewett, Doug Poland, Jenn Sauer, and Guatemala trip participants) will be offering sermons and proclaiming the good news in our eight week series called "Good News From the Pews."

I'm really excited to see and hear God speak through them. I'm delighted that some of them are already preaching sermons at some of the regional Presbyterian churches—some of which do not have installed full-time pastors.

In our Book of Order, there is a section called "The Ministry of Members." The first item on the list is:

proclaiming the good news in word and deed

While we appropriately remind each other that "talk is cheap" and that "actions speak louder than words", it is also true that words matter.

The Bible tells us that Jesus is the Word made flesh, and we are his followers, so we take the word of God seriously. We sometimes call ourselves as people of the Word. So it's important for all of us to remember that we are called to proclaim God's love with our words and our deeds.

I'm grateful for this series to help us hear (and thus be inspired to live) the good news that God shared in Jesus Christ. If you're travelling this summer, please take advantage of technology to hear these sermons, from July 9 through August 27.

We are one body with many parts—many wonderfully gifted parts.

On the journey together,
Charlie

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