

Week of June 4, 2023



From Woody: . As we now are in between two important holidays in our country, it would seem appropriate to share some thoughts on the subject that has always been a part of our national discussion of faith and its' role in political discussion. I think it is fair to say that the Christian faith has been used by quite different perspectives in national discussions. It would seem that the treatment of Native American people who were here when the first folks arrived in Jamestown, and the treatment of African people who

arrived in Jamestown as slaves, were often defended by Christians. The excuse used was that these folks were somehow inferior to white people and also needed to be made Christian in order to be admitted into heaven. That was one side of the argument while within the Christian community there arose a great surge of people for the abolition of slavery and then later opposition to a new form of racial enslavement known as segregation. We now have something called Christian nationalism. The minister emeritus of the Unitarian Church in Nashua, Stephen Edington, had a wonderful column in yesterday's SUNDAY NEWS with the title, "Christian Nationalism: Yet another perversion of the faith". He argues that there are opposing streams in our faith: one basically life affirming and the other perverse. He says,

The life-affirming stream has given us the wisdom and devotion of great Christian humanitarians from St. Francis of Assisi to Mother Theresa. It has given us in this country alone, such social justice champions as Frederick Douglas, Susan B. Anthony, Cesar Chavez and Martin Luther King. We now hear of Christian Nationalism, the idea that America was founded as a Christian nation (it usually includes the word WHITE before Christian Nation). He ends with this thought: "Christian Nationalism....is nothing more than a centuries old practice of attaching the term 'Christian': to numerous betrayals of the life and teachings of the one we know as Jesus of Nazareth. One terrible and disgusting irony here is those who, at the 'Unite the Right' rally in Charlottesville chanted, as Christian nationals, 'the Jews will not replace us' and supposedly doing so in the name of a Jewish prophet and teacher."

Some food for thought between Memorial Day and July 4th.



Graduating Seniors: We will honor our graduating seniors on Sunday, June 11 (for a great Commencement Address take 20 minutes and view Tom Hanks Harvard Commencement Address on YouTube)



Jay Marden Funeral: Jay Marden's funeral will be at the church on June 17 at 1 pm.



JOIN US IN SAVING LIVES Through a special program offered by the State of New Hampshire, we have the opportunity to purchase an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) at a significantly reduced rate. Having this life saving device in our building will improve the chance of survival for anyone experiencing cardiac arrest. While the purchase of an AED was not included in our budget for this year the Session and Trustees of Expenditures fully support its acquisition. We are asking you, our members and friends, to assist us in purchasing this life saving device. The total cost is \$2,150 which includes the Philips Model FRx AED, an extra set of adult pads, an extra battery, training pads, a Child/Pediatric programming key, and training for 10 people by a certified instructor. If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of an AED for the church you can do so in the following ways: A check made out to CCNB with AED donation written on the memo line Through our website communitychurchnewboston.org. Click on the donation button, select one time gift, and write AED donation under Comments If you have any questions. please contact Bruce Tostevin or Lynda French. Thank You!



Church Library: The Church Library up and running in the church parlor. We are just getting started but if anyone wants to borrow a book it will be on the honor system. Borrow whatever book you want to read and return it when you're done. Also, if you have a book that you'd like to donate to the church library just leave it on the shelf. We want only books by Christian authors.



Peace Quote If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.....*Mother Theresa*