

Week of March 19, 2023



From Woody: . Today I have been thinking a bit about an act of life that Jesus exemplified....Kindness. The Good Samaritan is a parable of kindness. He is the good neighbor who comes to the aid of a man he doesn't know from another race. Kindness is quite often underrated these days as the angry divide in our country persists.

I noted in this morning's newspaper that today is Bobby Orr's 75th birthday. He is certainly one of the great hockey players to ever put on the skates. I share this story with you to show an example of the type of man he is. When I was doing interviews for the monthly magazine, *Network Publications of Nashua*, back in the early 1990's, a friend of mine from a local Nashua Bank called and asked if I would be interested in interviewing Bobby Orr who was a celebrity spokesman for the bank. As a sports fan I said that it would be great and he arranged it. I went down to Boston accompanied by our photographer and a lady who worked in the office and really wanted to meet Bobby Orr. He had an office on the pier where the Boston Tea Party ship is docked.. We got there and were greeted by the receptionist and a minute later by Bobby Orr. He asked after greeting us if we would like some coffee. We said that would be great and he asked whether we like cream and sugar in it. I expected that his receptionist would bring it, but Bobby Orr went and prepared it and brought the cups to us. We then did the interview. which was lots of fun because he really is a very nice man. Getting the coffee, a simple act of kindness, was something many "important" people would have left to the receptionist. Probably the most memorable comment he made during my interview was when I asked about his children. He said he had two boys and I commented that they must be good athletes. He said they were but that they don't play hockey. My mouth dropped open and I asked, "Does that make you feel bad?" His answer was, "No, if they played hockey I would have to get up at 4am to take them to the rink for practice." He really made a great impression on the three of us with his wonderful and gracious manner. I have been privileged to talk with various famous people over the years and the ones I was most impressed with were those who exhibited basic kindness. We often wonder how we can make the world a better place. The Great #4 reminded me that by practicing kindness in life we are doing something very basic to Jesus' teaching. Happy Birthday to Bobby Orr and thanks to all who read this for your kindness to Barbi and me for the past 40 years.



The Woodlands' Summer Trip and Oberammergau: After church on Sunday, March 26, Woody and Barb will share slides of their trip last summer, focusing mostly on the Passion Play that is performed every 10 years in Oberammergau, Germany. Everyone is welcome.



Holy Week Schedule:

Sunday, April 2, 10 am—Palm Sunday Worship

Thursday, April 6, 7 pm—Maundy Thursday Communion

Easter Sunday, April 9

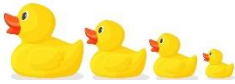
7 am Early service at Blue Heron Farm, 266 Saunders Hill Road, New Boston

8-9 am Breakfast in the Dignard Room

10 am Easter Worship Service



Outside Cleanup Day is Saturday, April 15th from 9:00-11:00 am. Please bring rakes,, brooms, leaf blowers, or any other tools you think might be helpful.



Duck Race: We have received notice that Carly Hippert and her team, who have been running the Clifford Nyquist Duck Race in recent years, can't do this year's race. It is a great community event and also raises money for both our church and the Clifford Nyquist Fund. The fund has been revamped so it can be used for college scholarships and other appropriate needs. If you can help with this year's event, please let session members know.



Church Directory: Is now available. For friends and members of the Community Church. Its purpose is to enable and enhance communication within the congregation. If you would like one, would like to be included or excluded, contact Barbara Woodland at barbarawoodland@comcast.net or 603-487-3643 and she will make sure it is taken care of.



Peace Quote: . The real constructive force in this world comes not from tanks and not from bombs, but from the imaginative ideas, the warmth and the faith and the generous spirit of a people. *Robert F. Kennedy*