

Pastor Corner February

“I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other.” John 13:34-35. CEB

Ahhh! The Book of John, the “Book of Love.” Lots of stuff goes on in the Book of John, but more often or not Jesus keeps preaching us this “strange music” as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. would tell us. This is expressed as a loving grace to each other and even to those we tend not to feel to kind about. I personally love this scripture. Jesus breaks down the whole concept of the Christian lifestyle to one simple concept. “Love each other.” He distills the Ten Commandments, all of his conversations we read about throughout the scriptures, and gives us one soul piercing commandment. “Love one another.” “Love each other.” It doesn’t matter what translation you use in your personal devotions it all comes out the same. One simple commandment, one expansive theology implied to a point we may easily overlook. We are conditioned to respond to almost all of our human relations as quid pro quo. In our Christian walk the playing field is leveled. We are to forgive endlessly and to love expansively!

In the explosive culture we live in today it extremely important to take this Gospel lesson to heart. As the “body of Christ” we are to be the light carriers of Christ. Have we not heard that we are the hands and feet and eyes and heart of Christ to not get what Jesus is commanding us to do?

None of us is perfect! As United Methodist we strive for the journey to perfection John Wesley talks about. As the O’Jays reminded us a few years back we need to “Get on aboard that Love Train.” All aboard!

Blessings to All,
Pastor Bob