

## May Pastors Corner

### Many Gifts, One Spirit

#### 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

“There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; and there are different ministries and the same Lord; and there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good.”

#### 1 Peter 3:8-11

“Finally, all of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, lovers of your fellow believers, compassionate, and modest in your opinion of yourselves. Don’t pay back evil for evil or insult for insult. Instead, give blessing in return. You were called to do this so that you might inherit a blessing. For those who want to love life and see good days should keep their tongue from evil speaking and their lips from speaking lies.

They should shun evil and do good; seek peace and chase after it.”

No this is not deja vu. It might seem like I am rehashing my “Chimes” article but I am taking a different tack for my Pastors Corner. The title and the scriptures are for our 2021 Annual Conference.

I just wanted to emphasize these basic Christian concepts. It has been my observation over the years it is rare that any community of faith (i.e. church) seems to be of one mind or in unity. Many come close but not all.

As we hear the words of the 1 Peter Scripture we remember that that to remain in unity we follow the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This does not always mean we will agree on every single point of Church government or church fellowship, but as those who pay attention to our founder John Wesley, we remember that we can “agree to disagree” and “although we may not all think alike we can all love alike.”

These two scriptures compliment each other. If we are of one Spirit with different gifts, 1 Peter reminds us that this great diversity of gifts are bound by the principles of unity.

Grace and Peace to all,  
Pastor Bob