

Reflections on Faith and Life for April 11, 2021

There's an old joke in Christian circles: "O God," prays the woman, "it's been a good day. I've tried to be a good person today. I haven't said an ill word to anyone or had an unkind thought, or even a selfish impulse. It's really been a good day! But in a minute I'm going to get out of bed."

True confessions: I'm writing this on April 8, one week after Maundy Thursday. Holy Week has always been an exhausting time for me, despite the unspeakable joy of the Resurrection. It amazes me that even four days after Easter, I slept 13-1/2 hours last night! Thank you, people of God at St. John and St. Stephen, for being gentle with your Pastor!

My mother, Elaine Peterson, will be 100 years old on May 2nd. At our Council meeting last night, it was suggested that I print her address and invite members of both congregations to send her greetings. She's been a spiritual mentor in my life—without her I likely wouldn't even be a Christian, let alone a pastor! If you would care to wish her a blessed birthday, her address is:

801 Parcher St #G110
Wausau WI 54403

I would love it if you would all join me in singing "Happy Birthday" to her during worship that day, since May 2nd is a Sunday. I'm very fortunate that my birth family and my family in Christ are one!

A couple of reminders:

- St. John has a quarterly meeting on April 18th; no Sunday School that day
- Confirmation will be celebrated at both congregations on April 25th; no Sunday School at St. John that day.

Schedule notification: Our virtual Northwest Synod Assembly is next week, and I will be unavailable during the 2 sessions:

- Thursday, 4/15, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, 4/17, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.