

## Reflections on Faith and Life for June 20, 2021

Sabbath: a day off from work. A day to for body, mind, and spirit to recover from the past week's efforts and stresses. A day to remember that God, too, is at work in the world today, and that God also both enjoyed and commanded the Sabbath!

You know from the past years how my *Wanderlust* (desire for travel) has taken me literally to all parts of the world, usually for weeks at a time. Since the beginning of the pandemic Rose and I have had 3 vacations canceled (1 of them after being "postponed" 3 times). Other than 4 days in Duluth last year, I haven't had a chance to get away. We have another cruise scheduled for next June, but I need to "escape" now.

So I'll be spending next week (June 21-26) in Mississippi (not my first choice of climate!) with my friend Tuula (Finnish), the only friend I have left from my years in Miami. I'll drive to Milwaukee right after worship on Sunday (for an early Monday morning 8-hour flight, to Houston then to Jackson), and return Saturday night. Everything will be set up at both congregations, so if there's an unexpected delay, someone—anyone!—can read the service, the readings, the sermon, and the prayers. God willing, Southwest will get me home without complications! (The last time I visited Tuula was in 2008, when my ex-husband's second wife (Cissie) and I were driving up to Green Bay. As we entered Arkansas we found my dearest dog Bosco, almost dead on the median strip. I'm not planning to bring home any more pups this time!)

Then in August I'll have the same schedule (8/16-8/21), leaving right after worship to drive to Minneapolis/St Paul, flying very early Monday morning to Oregon to visit Lynda and Rick, my mom's best friends who drove out here for her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party. Again, I should arrive home on Saturday afternoon and not miss any worship time.

If there's an emergency you're welcome to call me; I should have cell phone reception in Clinton. Otherwise, please leave a message with Rose (who's back to regular morning hours, 9:00-1:00 week-days!) at St. John, (715) 352-2492.

In next week's Reflections I'll lay out my plan for Thursday evening worship in July!

May God bless you all this next week!