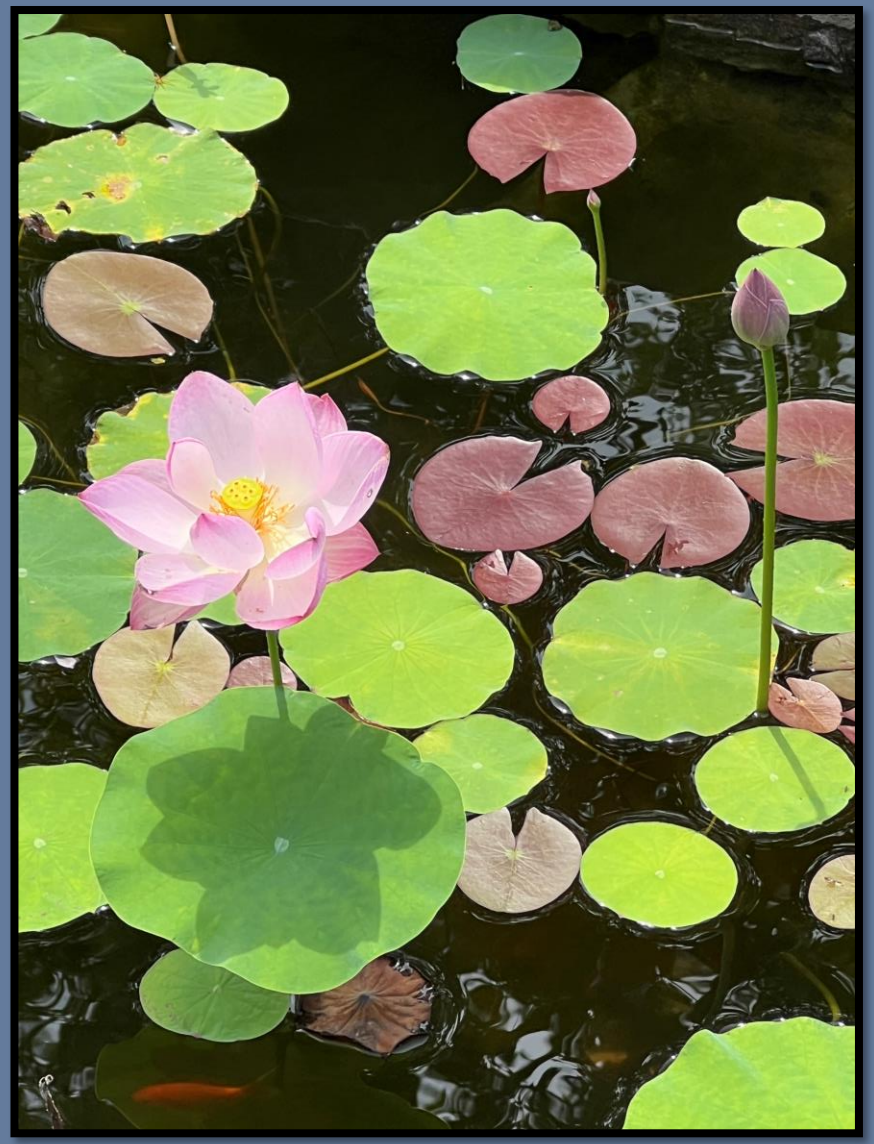


Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Culmore United Methodist Church

Welcome and Good Morning!

Welcome and Announcements

Art by Sue Carroll

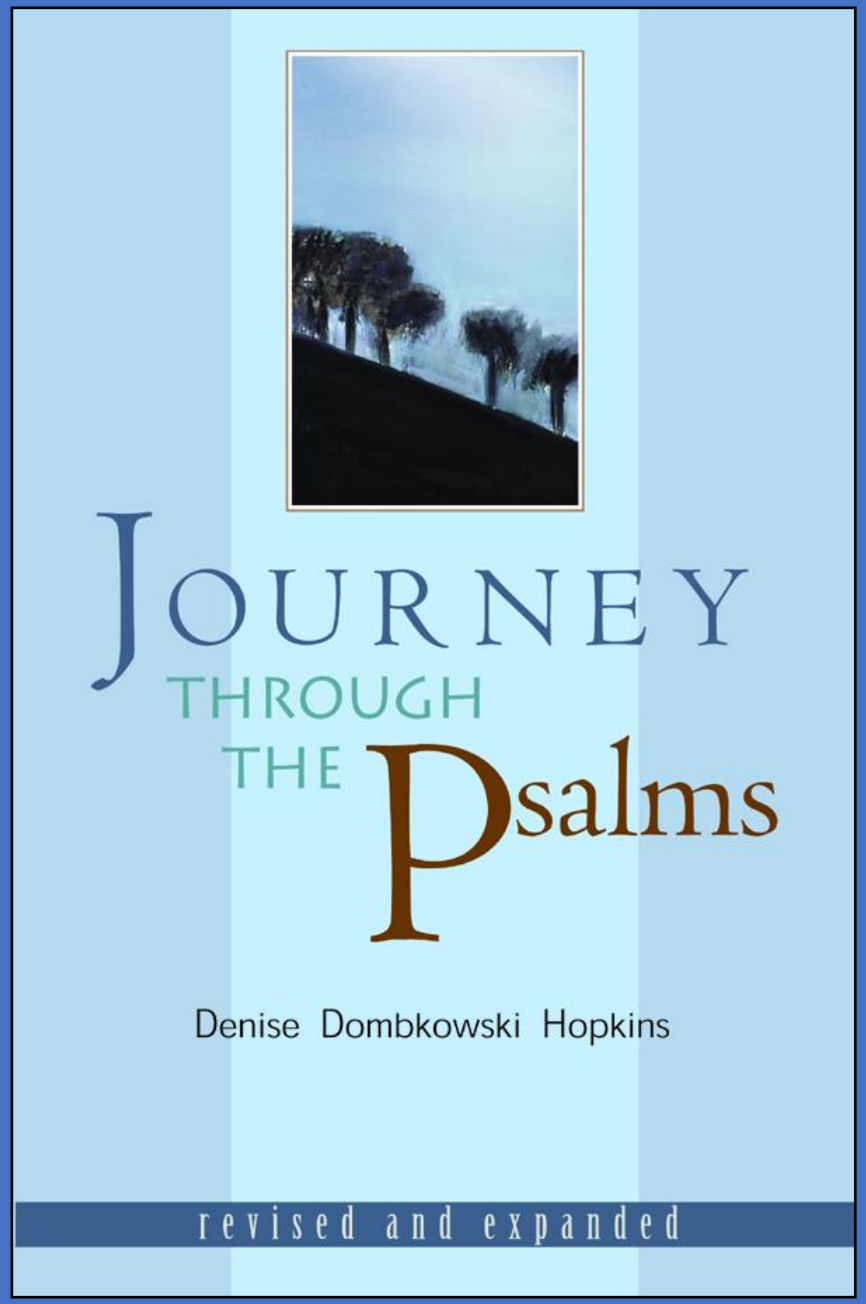
Me want cookies!

Happy Birthday Party!

Happy Birthday!

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.

Dr. Denise Dombkowsi Hopkins



Opening Prayer

Dear God,

You know how angry and outraged we can get. Sometimes things are just plain WRONG, and it's not fair. We cry out, *WHY? Why is this happening?*

Lord, You know how helpless, powerless, and confused we can feel. In our frustration, we want to lash out. Remind us that we can *safely* bring all these ugly feelings to You. **AMEN**

Come and Find the Quiet Center – TFWS 2128

Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed.
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

WALLS

Some of our greatest pain
comes from the wounds that don't show.
Our Lord desires to make us whole,
inside and out, and the first step is to
TELL God what we are going through.

Psalm 107: 1-5

My God, whom I praise, do not remain silent,

for people who are wicked and deceitful

have opened their mouths against me.

They have spoken against me with lying tongues.

With words of hatred they surround me;

They attack me without cause.

In return for my friendship they accuse me,

but I am a man of prayer.

They repay me evil for good,and hatred for my friendship.

Psalm 107: 6-7

Appoint someone evil to oppose my enemy;

let an accuser stand at his right hand.

When he is tried, let him be found guilty,

and may his prayers condemn him.

Psalm 107: selected verses (continued)

May his days be few;

may another take his place of leadership.

May a creditor seize all he has;

may strangers plunder the fruits of his labor.

May no one extend kindness to him

or take pity on his fatherless children..

Psalm 107: 11

For he never thought of doing a kindness,

but hounded to death the poor and the needy

and the brokenhearted….

May this be the Lord's payment to my accusers,

to those who speak evil of me.

Letting off steam

May this be the Lord's payment to my accusers,

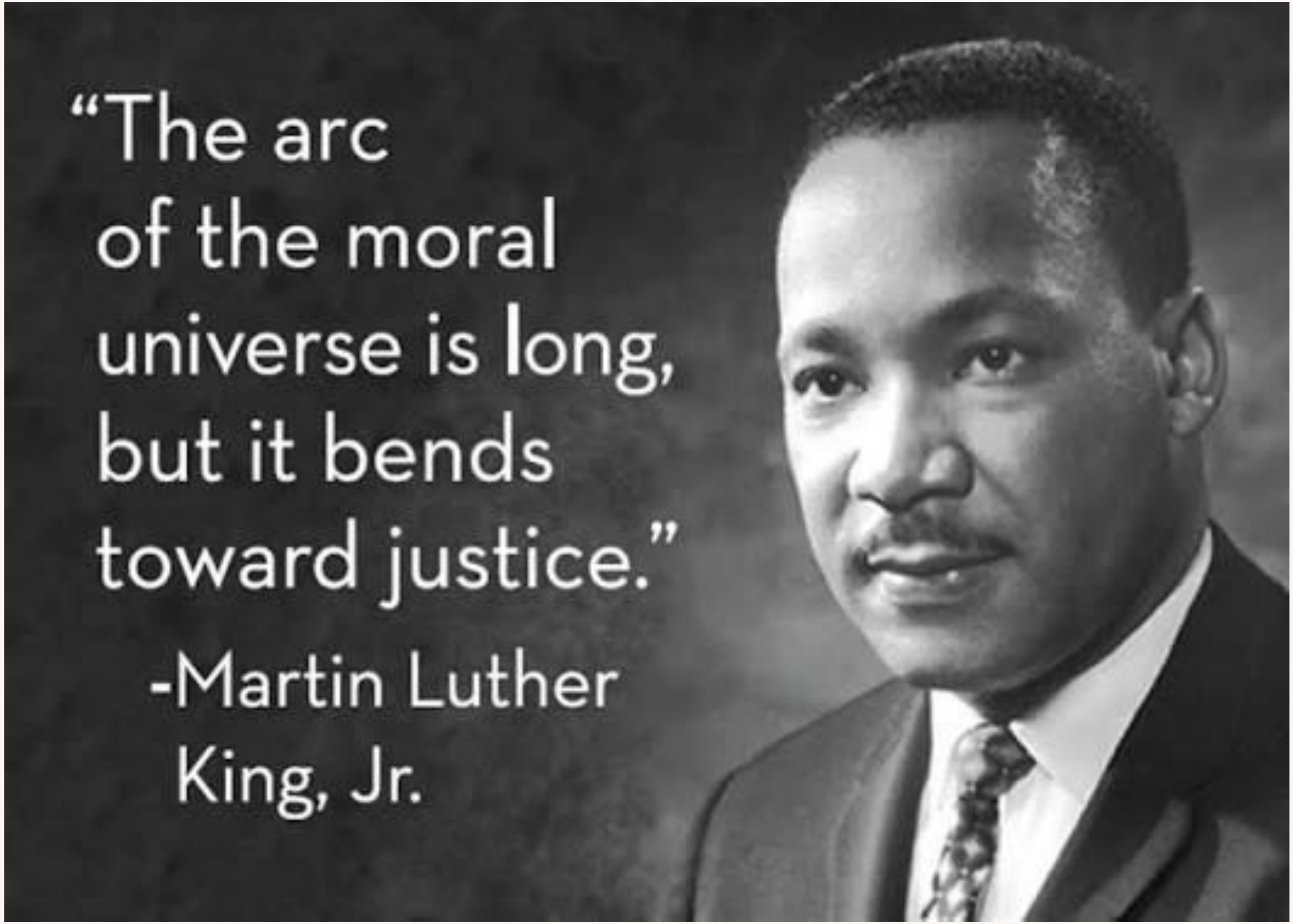
to those who speak evil of me.

Anger is one of the most natural feelings in the world

God's anger is a burning zeal for the right, coupled with a perfect hatred for evil.

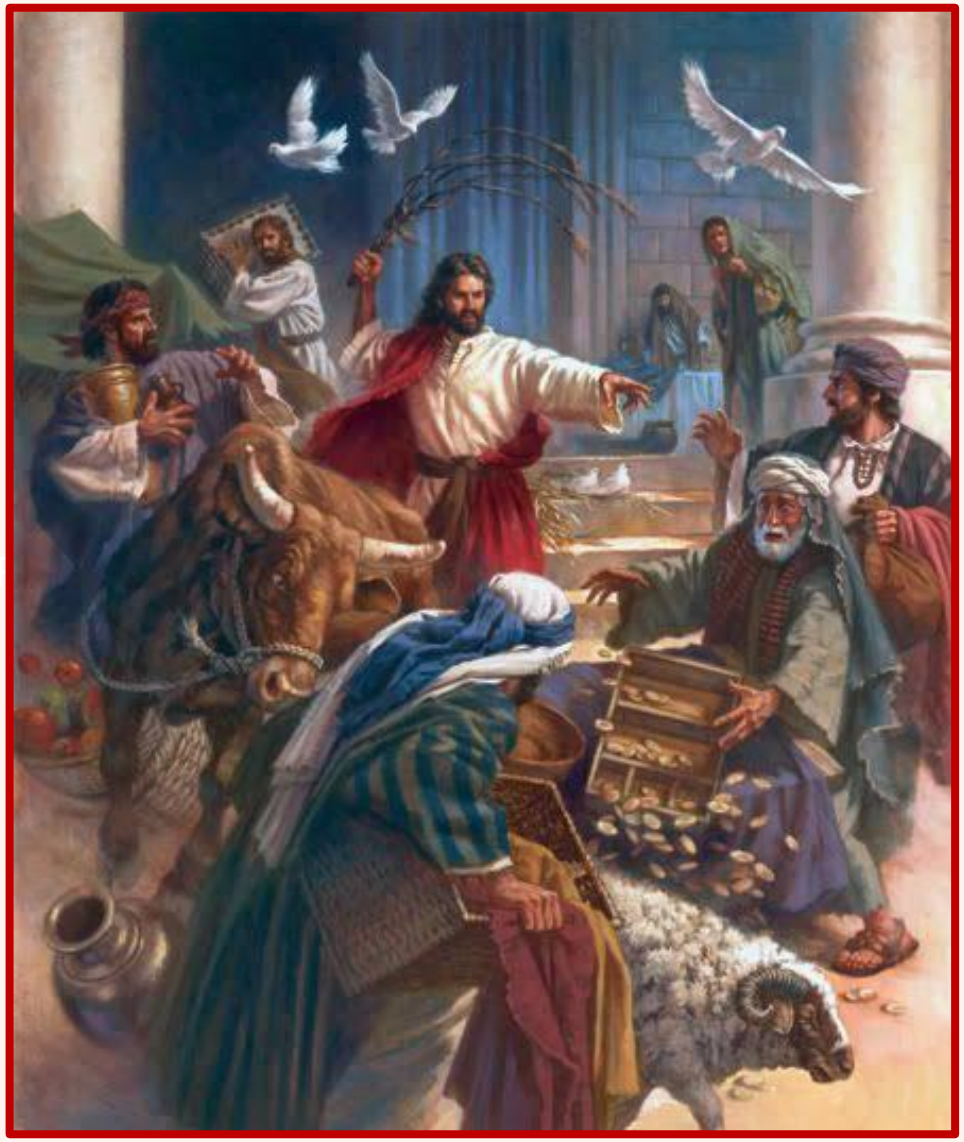
But here is what God's anger is not:

- It is not irrational.
- It is not capricious.
- It is not unjust.
- It is not cruel.


"The arc
of the moral
universe is long,
but it bends
toward justice."
-Martin Luther
King, Jr.

"Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!"

(Jn 2:16),



Feelings of anger are not unnatural, and neither are they evil.

It's what we DO with those feelings that matters.

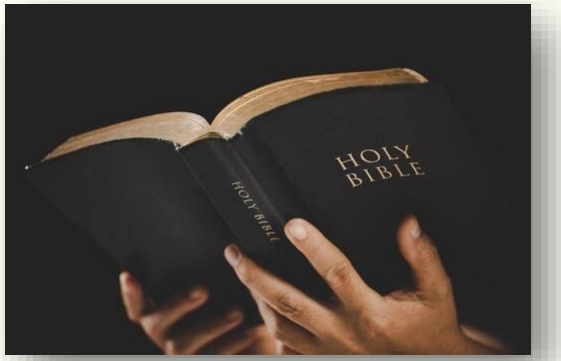
MANITARIAN AID
CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA

Be Thou My Vision - UMH 451

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art–
thou my best thought, by day or by night;
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, you are my treasure.
Great God of heaven, my victory won.
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Community Prayer



Abba Father, thank You for the honesty of the Psalmists!

We can look there and find the entire range of human emotions,

both good and bad, for guidance on how to handle them. It would be nice if

we only ever had the positive ones—like love, joy and peace that make us

happy and can be shared enthusiastically with others in our environments.

But we also have to contend with the harsher emotions, such as when we are angry or outraged. We really need Your guidance in responding the RIGHT way. The emotions themselves are not wrong, but our responses may be, if we don't remember to "love the sinner, but hate the sin" when dealing with those who are around us.

As You have told us, You provide the vengeance we would like to hand out ourselves. You threw over the moneychangers' tables, but did nothing to harm them physically, when You were outraged by their desecration of God's temple as a place of worship.

Help us always remember how You want us to treat others,

not indulging in giving free rein to our emotions. ***AMEN***

Offering and Doxology
UM Hymnal 95

We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

Doxology - UM Hymnal 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Art by Sue Carroll

Benediction