Welcome and Announcements

Art by Sue Carroll

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.

THE BOOK of
REVELATION

Choose!
Quit being lukewarm.

Revelations 3: 15-22

To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

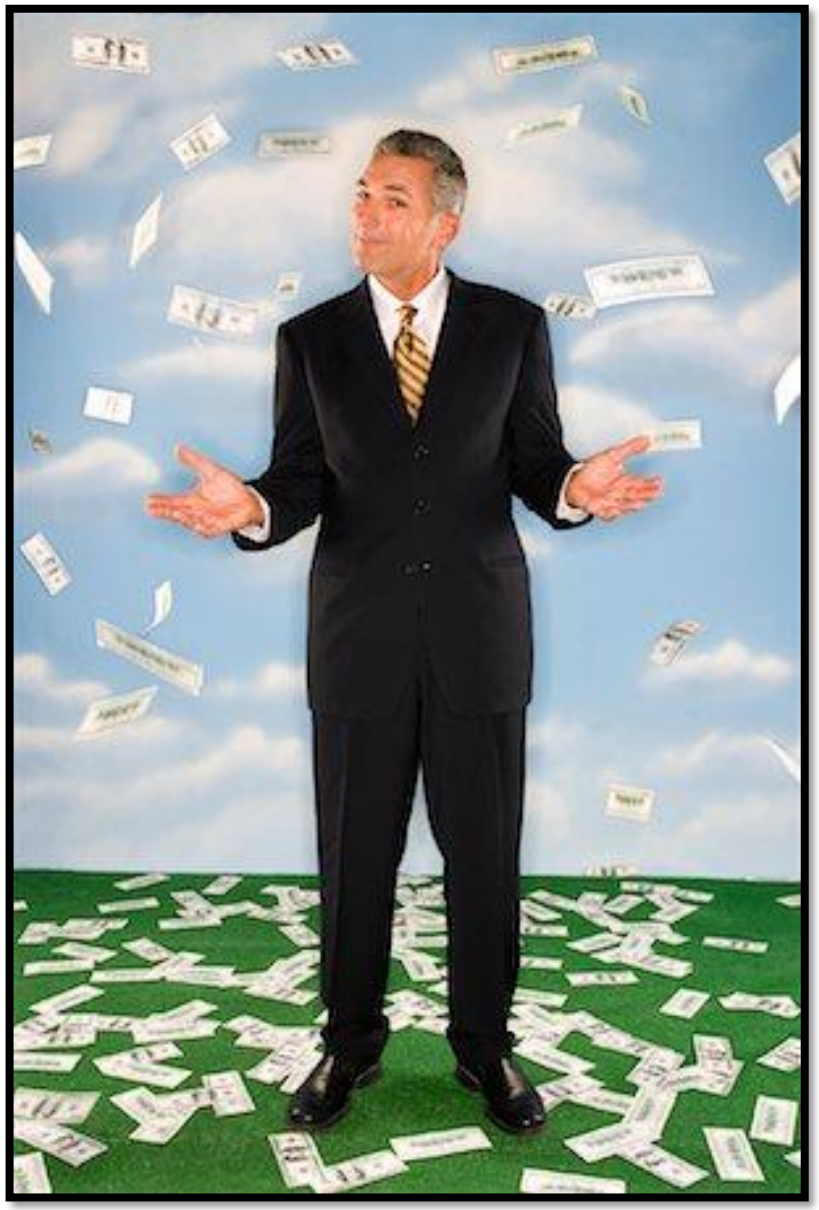
These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation.

I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot.

I wish that you were either cold or hot.

So, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

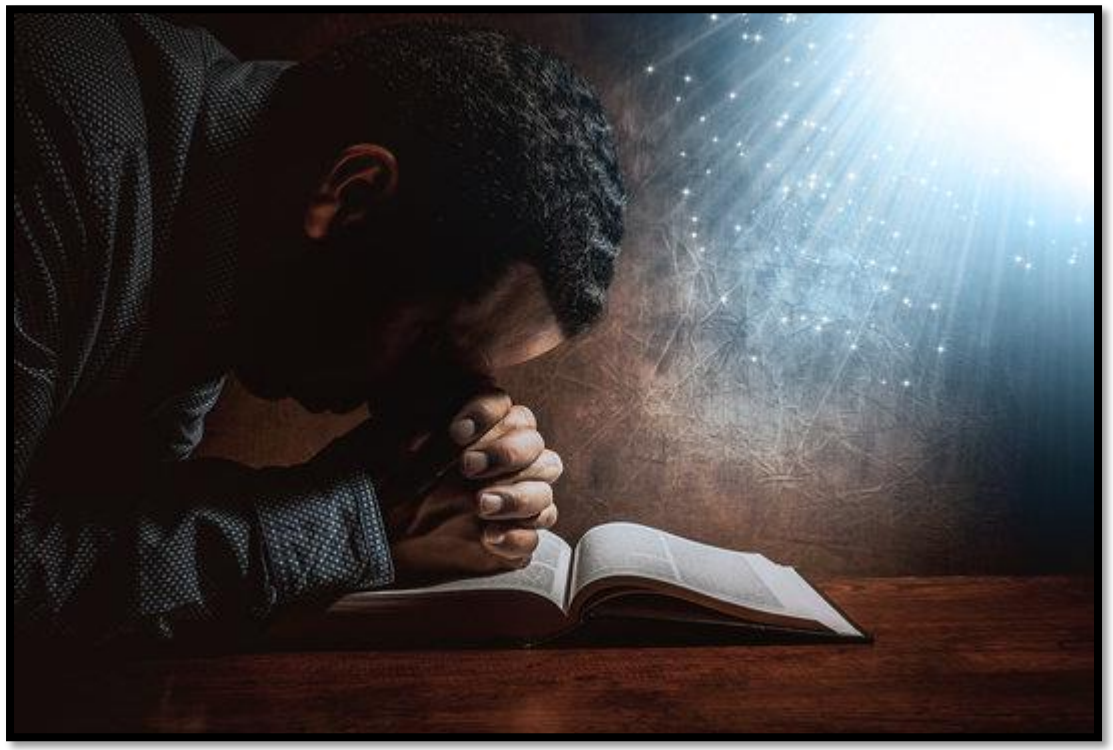
For you say, ‘I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing.’ You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.



Therefore I advise you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich, and white clothes to wear so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes so that you can see.

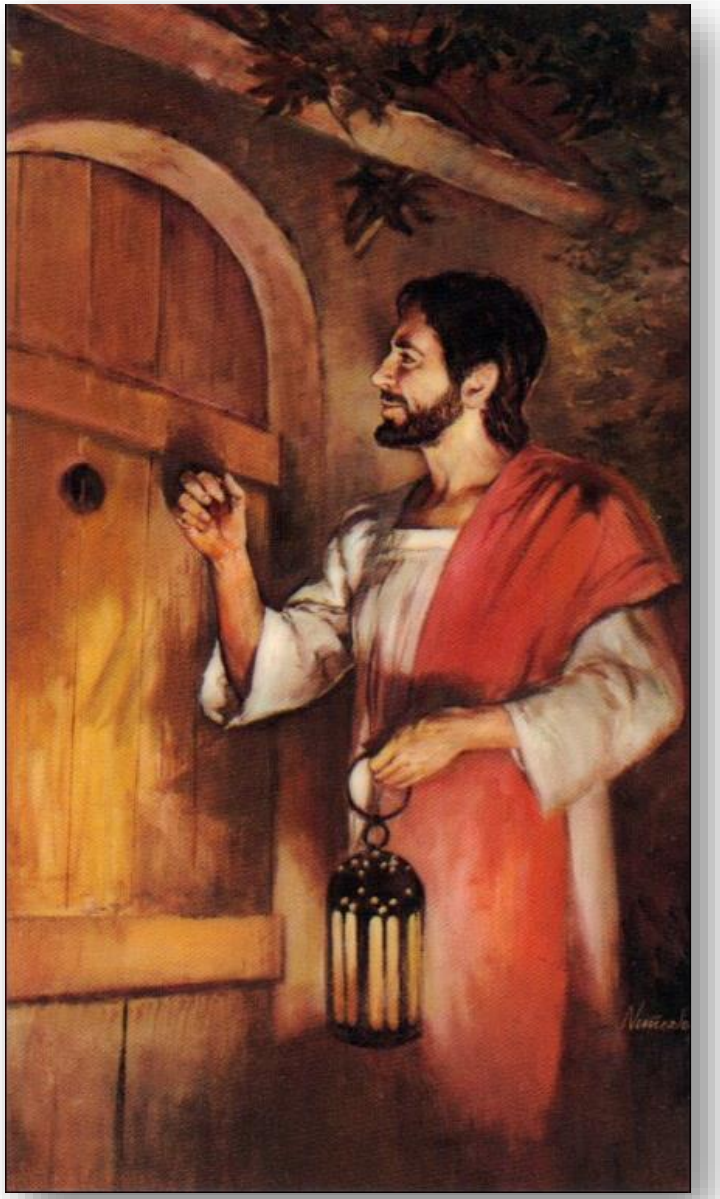
I reprove and discipline those whom I love.

Be earnest, therefore, and repent.



Listen! **I am standing at the door,** knocking.
If you hear my voice and open the door,
I will come in and eat with you, and you with me.

To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne.



Whoever has ears, let them hear

what the Spirit says to the churches.

Laodicea:

The uncommitted church

I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot.

I wish that you were either cold or hot. So,

because you are lukewarm and neither cold

nor hot, **I am about to spit you out of my mouth**.

Opening Prayer

Loving God,

Forgive us for being lukewarm. We pull away from fully committing, one way or the other, for many different reasons. Sometimes we fear we may choose the "*wrong*" side, so we try to hedge our bets. (You know how much we want to KNOW the outcome before we commit to an action.)

Sometimes we pull back when things are going well for us, because we don't want to upset the apple cart. We're too comfortable to bother changing.

Sometimes we avoid commitment because the cost looks too high. So we keep our head down and hope things settle down without us having to take action.

Sometimes we assume You won't mind if we stay lukewarm. Nothing could be further from the truth. You expect whole-hearted commitment, with actions in sync with our words.

Forgive our lukewarm indifference and the compromises we make that keep us on the fence. Make us serious and honest believers who value fellowship with you more than the glitter of the world. ***Amen***

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God

and renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God

and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord

and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me, the joy of Thy salvation

and renew a right spirit within me.

DON'T UPSET

THE APPLE CART!

Be on your guard; **stand firm in the faith**.

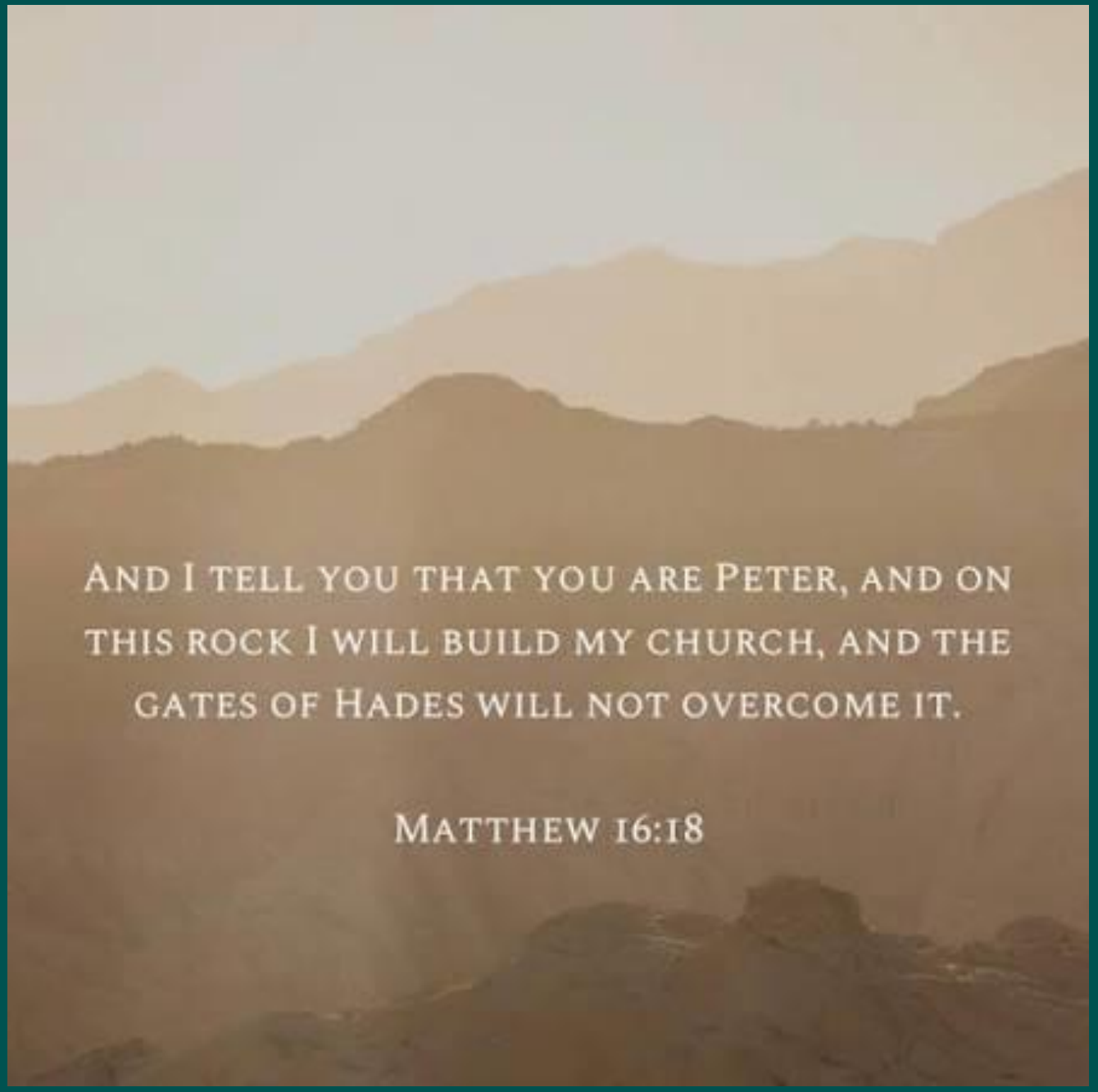
Be courageous, be strong.

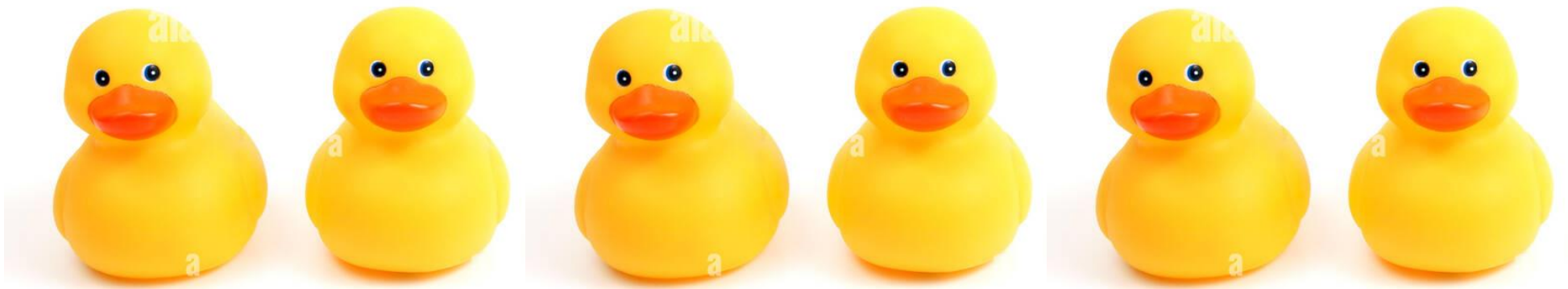
Let all that you do be done in love.

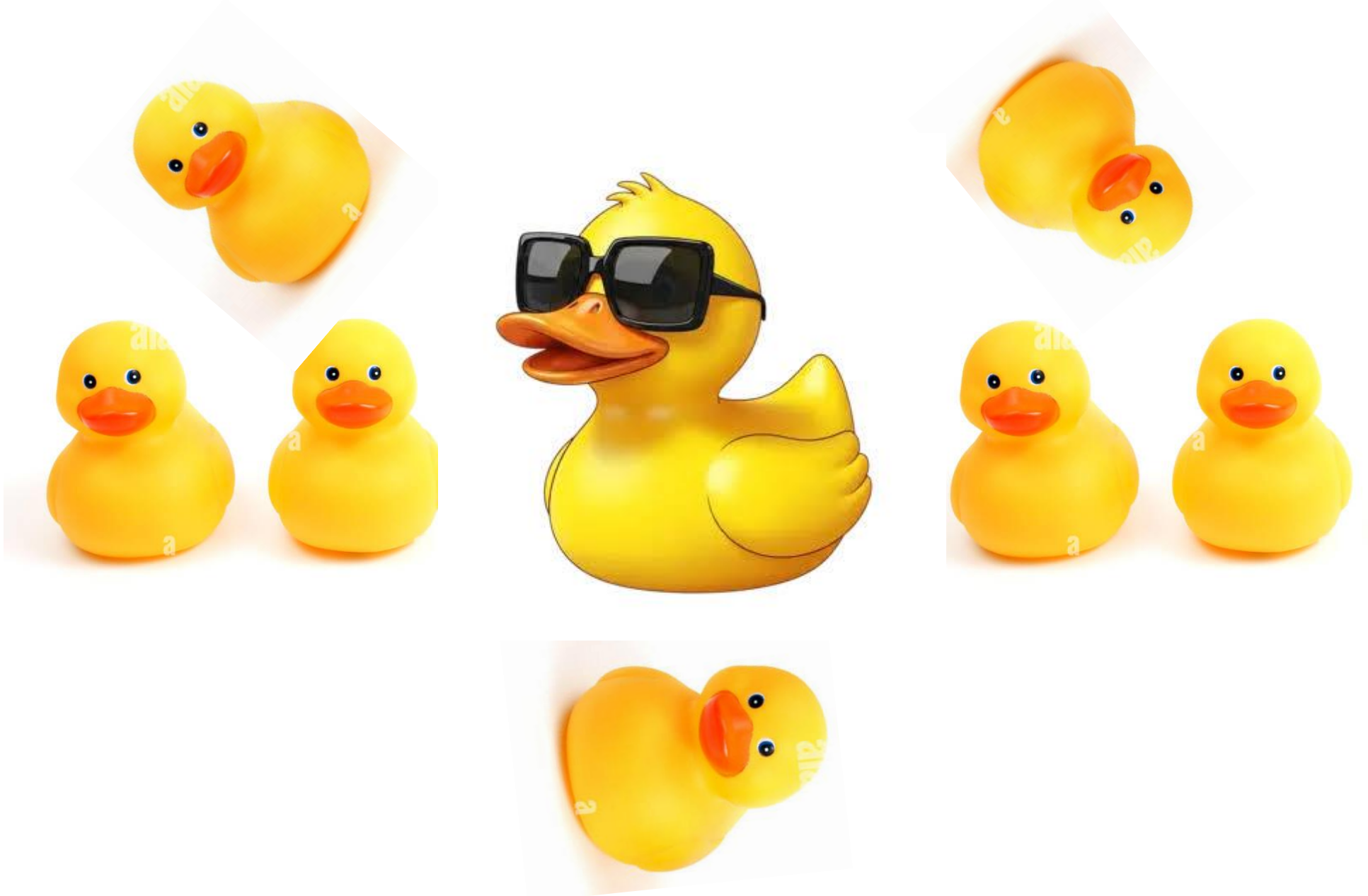
1 Corinthians 16: 13-14

Stand Firm

EVERYTHING IS FINE. YOU JUST NEED TO LOOK IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
HEDGEYE


And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.
Matthew 16:18





God
doesn't
fit!

Social Club

MISSION

JUDGE
NOT

Laodicea was both a prosperous and busy church.

HOLY: SET APART FOR GOD

D·O·M·SYB·INVOC·S·M·MAGDALENAE

dreamstime

A Place of Great Need?

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

This is what we believe:

- In going along to get along.
- In staying silent is better than speaking out.
- In never say anything controversial.
- That Jesus would never want us offended anyone's sensibilities.
- In never getting in the way of greed or creating wealth.
- That what happens in church—stays in church.
- That outside the church, we should tell people what they want to hear.

“What good is a fence if you can’t sit on both sides of it?”

For where your treasure is,
HEAVEN
there your heart will be also.
Matthew 6:21

We Are Called – TFWS 2172

Come! live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so all hatred and blindness will be no more!

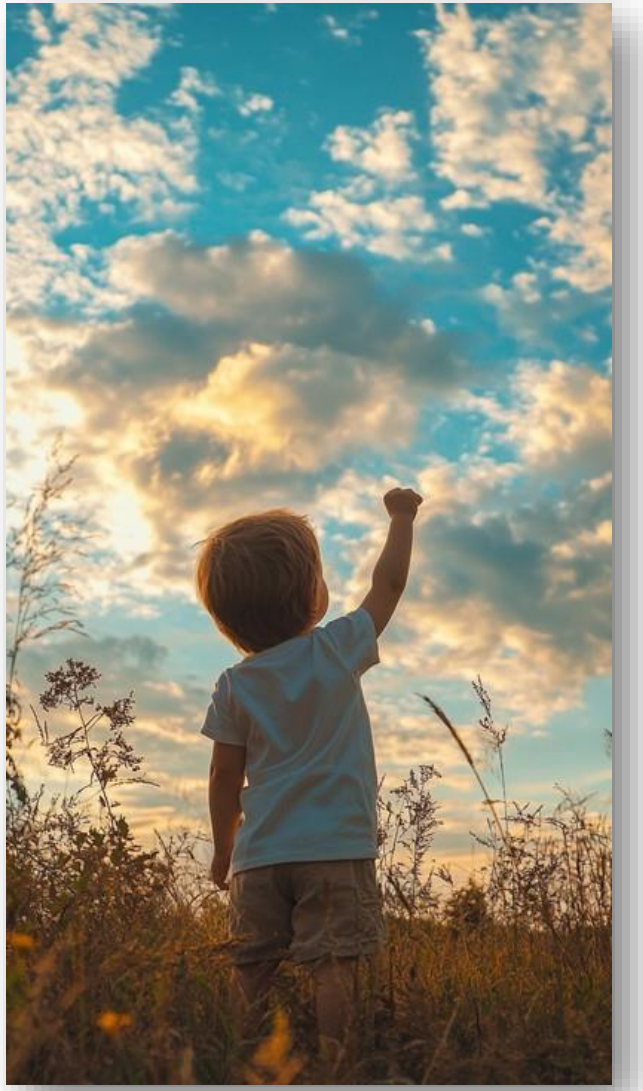
Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love!

We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Community Prayer

Lord,

We keep sitting on the fence, trying to figure out what to do. Some days we want to jump left, some days we want to jump right, and some days, we just want to stay on the fence.



Help us decide to choose You and not give up, even when the way gets hard. Keep us committed, keep us loving, keep us *all in* and follow You. ***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!

Benediction

Photo by James Gardner