

Sunday, November 12, 2023

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

> Welcome and Good Morning!

Art by Sue Carroll



Back in the Saddle Again! Wednesday Nov 22 Join us for Bible study on Wednesdays at 10 am, in person or by Zoom.



Genesis 1:26-27 (NRSV)

And God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.... and let them rule over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of heaven, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every moving thing that moves upon the earth."



Art by Sue Carroll



So God created humankind in His image.

In the image of God He created them, male and female He created them.



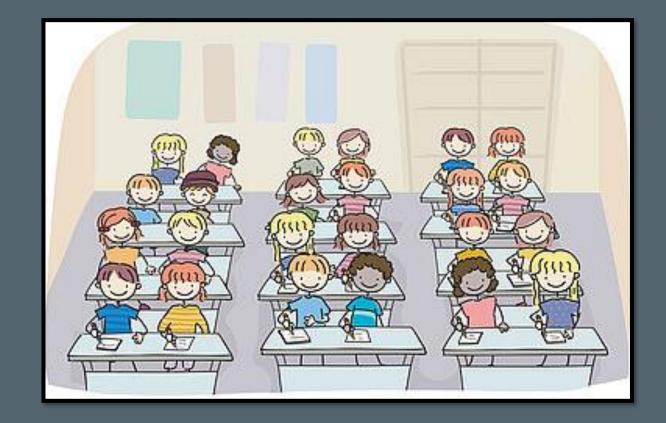


We are created in God's image. From birth, we are created

to be compassionate.



Lessons for the Young and Young at Heart



Acts 20: 35

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "



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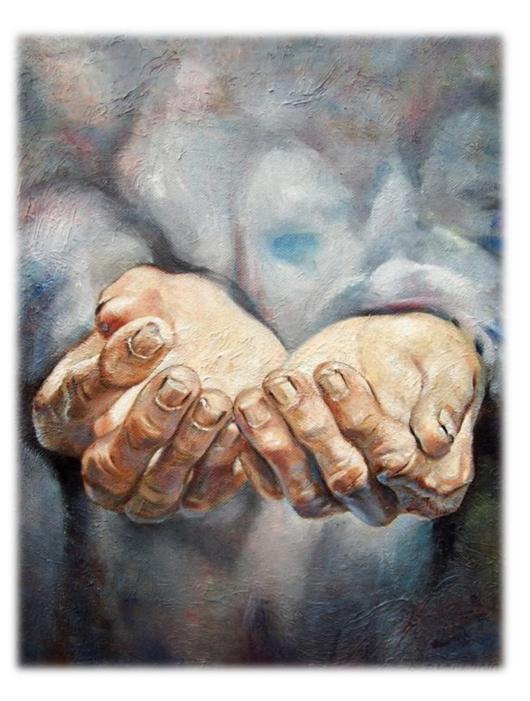
It is more blessed to give than to receive. — Acts 20: 35



God doesn't mean for us to keep His grace —his loving kindness to ourselves.

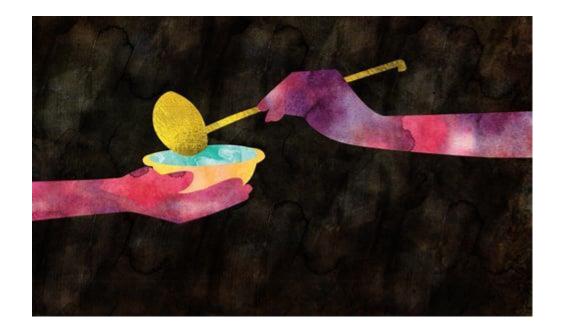
He expects us to pass it on.





Matthew 25: 35-40 (NIV)

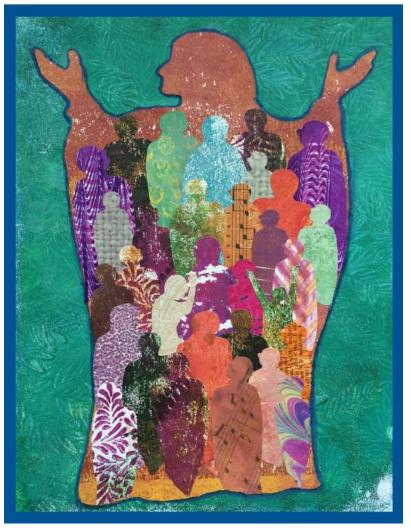
... I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'



Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?"



When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."



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- Good
- Loving
- Forgiving
- Generous

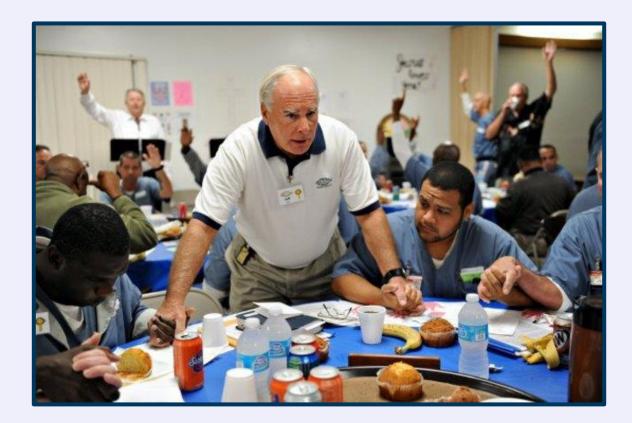
- Ever Present
- Merciful and Just
- Compassionate
- Powerful

"I was in prison, and you came to visit me."

(Matthew 25:36b)



Sussex I State Prison, Waverly, VA



The King said: "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25: 40)

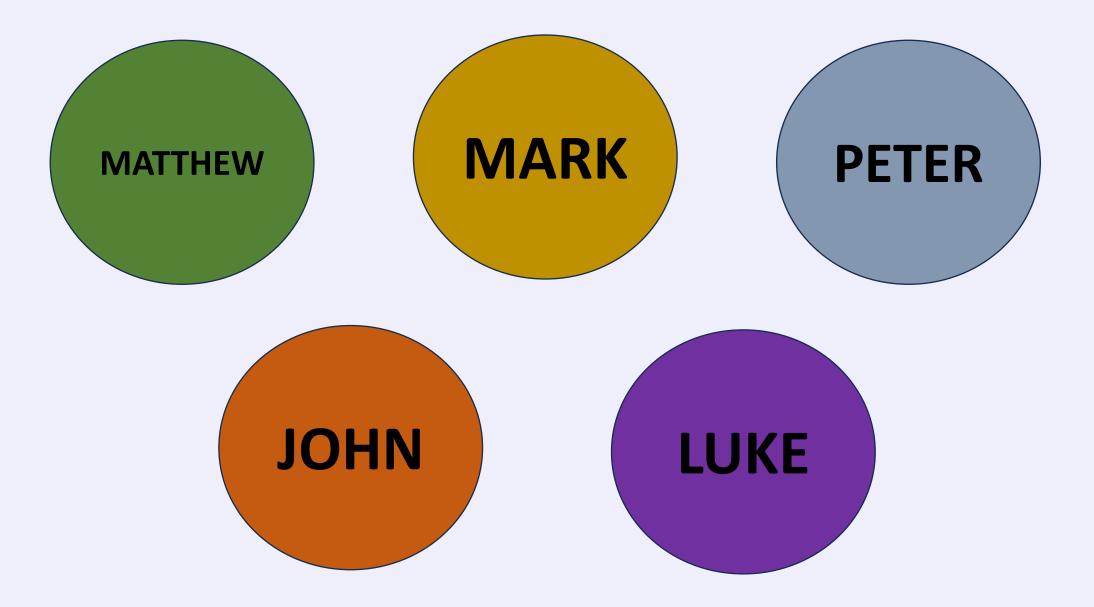


Changing Hearts Transforming Lives Impacting the World

Key Themes of 4 Day Mission

- Know Yourself
 - Know God
- Forgiveness and Grace
- Go Back Into the World

KAIROS TABLE FAMILIES



4th Day Closing Ceremony Questions

1. How would you describe your spiritual condition when you came here?

- 2. What did you find here?
- 3. What are you taking with you when you leave?



Spiritual condition?

- lost
- Scared
- Unsure of what to expect.

What did you find here?

- Leadership
- Trust
- Lots of cookies

- New opportunities
- Belief of establishing new wholesome, supporting relationships.



Spiritual condition?

- Negativity
- Longing for something new

What did you find here?

Kindness

- Strength
- Friendship
- Sense of community
- Spiritual awareness



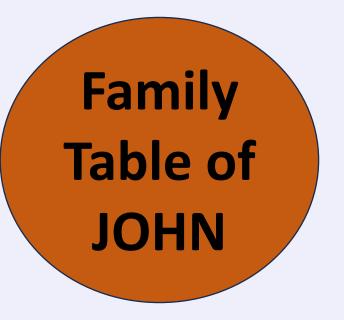
Spiritual condition?

- Desire to find a new experience
- Hope that their spirits would be revived

What did you find here?

- Brotherhood
- Cookies

- Awareness
- Positivity
- Joy
- Love



Spiritual condition?

- Dark
- Murky
- Fearful

What did you find here?

- Love
- There were gardeners at the table

What are you taking with you?

• God used the Kairos team as gardeners who pruned and groomed the residents.



Spiritual condition?

- A little suspicious
- In search of a positive experience
- Wanting to learn something.

What did you find here?

- Trust
- Kindness
- Information

- A sense of forgiveness
- Love
- Respect for others

SOME INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES

- "I learned how to love one another."
- "I learned to forgive myself- I have a future."
- "I have a "brand new bag" (quoting musician James Brown), referring to the bag of letters we wrote.
- "I have the sight to look for greater things in life and to pursue them."
- "The weekend provided a positivity and unconditional love."
- "We are not alone."

Do Kairos missions affect or transform everyone who participates?

The answer is—not at all.

So then, why do we do it?

Jesus answers that question for us....

Jesus said: "I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninetynine righteous persons who do not need to repent." (Luke 15:7)



Benediction

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