

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

If you are like me, you are perhaps a little saddened that we will not be having Wood Turtle Days this coming Saturday. Bud won't be asking us to help at St. Paul's sundae booth. We won't be dishing up ice cream, or perhaps assisting Lori, Nalani, or other persons/organizations with things at the park. In a broader context, there won't be the softball and volleyball games, Sunday worship gathering, arts and crafts fair, Turtle Trot, parade, fireworks, music/dance events, and other activities to attend....at least.... not this year.

Last year, I recall watching the Wood Turtle Days parade, when a truck drove by with these words painted on the side, "Can fix anything but a broken heart." The words stuck with me. They reminded me that God provides for us in many and various ways. God gives each of us our own unique talents, skills and interests that we can use in our vocations and our everyday lives to help others. Those who can help, include the person(s) with the truck who can fix and repair items. But, the message reminds us too that other persons with other skills, such as those who can help to fix a broken heart, are also needed. We need people with many and various vocations throughout the world, because we cannot do everything on our own.

During this time of the Coronavirus pandemic, we are especially aware of God's providing us with medical doctors, nurses, health professionals, first responders, healthcare workers and others who provide the needed expertise to help those affected by the virus. We are also aware of God's providing us with scientists, researchers, and other professionals who give us guidance about how the virus is spreading, the importance of wearing masks, washing our hands, social distancing, and protecting one another. God provides all of these people to help us to effectively deal with this virus. It is our role to listen to their guidance and to follow it, as we express a loving concern for God and for our neighbors.

While the business person with the truck cannot heal a broken heart, God can. Beyond providing the many health, medical and research workers throughout the world, we know that God hears our prayers. We thank God for providing the workers whose talents, skills and abilities assist us each and every day. We thank God for listening to our prayers, as we seek help for those things that human beings cannot do. We thank God for providing us with many persons with various vocations. They are one of the many gifts that God gives to us. Thanks be to God.

Peace,

Pastor Cathy