

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During Wilton Fest, I had the opportunity to see the "From Page to the Stage" production at the Wilton Community Center. The reader's theatre troupe featured children from our local libraries, including Daphne Arndt, and the troupe's youth assistants (See photo). It was directed by Kim Neal Nofsinger, with assistance from Emma Felland and Suzi McLendon.

The reader's theatre troupe recreated several stories for us and did a wonderful job! It was an ideal way to complete the "Tails and Tales" Summer Reading Program sponsored by the N-O-W School District, in cooperation with the Ontario and Wilton Community Libraries (and their directors April Arndt and Rachel Conner), with funding from a Dollar General Literacy Foundation grant (some information taken from *The County Line*, July 28, 2021).

Though the summer reading program has ended for this year, our local libraries continue to provide new learning opportunities throughout the year for people of all ages. I encourage you to take advantage of the many free programs and events available through our libraries. They are a wonderful gift to us and to our communities.

In closing, I would like to remind you of someone who used storytelling as a teaching tool. This person helped community members during his time on earth, to learn about him and about God's kingdom. Jesus, the Word made flesh, taught many persons, and God's word continues to teach us today when we read and hear scripture from the Holy Bible.

By using parables, Jesus helped all who heard them to remember important truths. May we continue, or resume, our reading of the Bible, and Jesus' parables, to increase our understanding of God and God's kingdom. For God's word is a gift offered freely to all, for the education and spiritual development of all. Thanks be to God.

Peace,

Pastor Cathy