

May 31, 2019

### Along the Way: Wisdom, Wit & Wonder

Earlier this spring, the clergy were brainstorming a summer worship theme. Realizing that summertime encourages a different pace, more time for relaxation and restoration, and invites travel, family reunions, picnics and a plethora of ways to enjoy the outdoors, we thought about how that might enter into our framework for worship and shape our sermons.

We talked a lot about the need to "lighten up" and we discussed the ways in which worship can encourage joy, laughter and a lightness of spirit. Life presents difficulties, and living in community together can become very serious as we determine together the path forward towards justice and peace. And still, laughter is essential. Joy needs an outlet. Worship can enhance feelings of goodwill and entice us through song, message and prayer into a "peaceful, easy feeling" (as the Eagles sang). We need to feel light in heart in order to garner strength for the hard work to which God calls us.

**Wisdom, Wit and Wonder** is the theme for worship this summer. Using the wisdom books of the Bible (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs) to guide our way, join us as we explore ways together to laugh and pursue joy, as well as make meaning of the ways that the world can be harsh and consuming.

May your summer bring moments of deep reflection, days of restoration during our warm, sunny season and a multitude of opportunities to smile and laugh. Let's plan to share some laughter together this summer and in all the days of our common journey. It really is good for the soul.

—Beth Hoffman Faeth