

BLESSINGS ALWAYS

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Association Minister Message

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CHAOS. “Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.” (Acts 2:3). Just before speaking to a group at a meeting or just before worship “officially” begins, there is an attempt by the speaker to get people to conclude all conversations to begin a meeting or worship. Sometimes “it’s like herding cats,” *CHAOS* with speaker being impatient and conversations disrupted. Attending an event can be *CHAOTIC* if you cannot understand the language of the speaker or hear someone speak using words that are not part of your vocabulary.

The very first Pentecost Day was at first very *CHAOTIC*. Fifty days after the resurrection a crowd gathered who still were talking about and discussing the events of Easter morning, the Day of Jesus’ Resurrection. Even to gather together would have been *CHAOTIC*, for fear of both the Roman conquerors and the Jewish religious leaders. Followers of Jesus would be suspected of threatening the “order of the day” and they would be subject to arrest that could lead to death. Luke, the writer of Acts, is witness to the day of the miraculous account of GOOD *CHAOS* that began the birth of the Christian Church.

As followers of Jesus Christ, what *CHAOS* are we suspected of doing that is thought to be disruptive? Yet it is the Spirit leading us to transform evil into resurrection hope. Do we hear the voice of God calling us to be agents of the power of love and resurrection faith that results in welcome, reconciliation, peace, goodwill, and hope? The apostles were thought to be disrespected Galileans or drunk. (Peter said it was too early in the morning for them to be drunk; he should be in our communities.) This Pentecostal message was so powerful that Luke writes “that day about three thousand persons were added” (2:41) to become the foundational community of faith, the church, of Jesus Christ. By their actions, the Christian Church was established to witness to the power of resurrection that make all things new. It is GOOD *CHAOS* that transforms death into life, fear into affirmation, and indifference into purpose. “Christ is risen...Christ is risen *INDEED*.” We are called to be change-agents of love in this movement of God’s Spirit through acts of love so that *CHAOS* is overcome by resurrection confidence. *BLESSINGS ALWAYS*.