

BLESSINGS ALWAYS

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Association Minister Message

Rev. Daniel L. Busch

KNITTING. “...joined and *KNIT* together...” (*Ephesians 4:16*). The Artistry of *KNITTERS* is amazing! There are different ways to *KNIT* either by hand or machine. The type of stitch produces an array of designs and can even produce designs like a picture. It is interesting to watch a *KNITTER* “un-*KNIT*” a portion of the item because a flaw was noticed and then redone from that point on. My mother would talk on the telephone, watch TV, carry on a conversation with the family, and *KNIT* all at the same time without missing a stitch, and usually had several projects in progress at the same time.

The Apostle Paul was not one of the original followers of Jesus or knew Him in person. He was a convert to the Resurrection Faith and was the one who brought orderliness to Christianity. In the letter to the congregation at Ephesus, there was a question of who could or could not be part of the Christian faith. It is Paul who describes the community of faith as a collaboration and that each person brought their own talents and blessings to the community of faith to glorify God. Paul uses the image of *KNITTING* together “*every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.*” (*vs. 16*).

The diversity of the church is a blessing and not a curse. Just like *KNITTERS* have unique ways of creating an item, we are reminded that each one of us offers something unique to the faith community that allows the community “*in building itself up in love.*” Like a *KNITTER*, when a flaw happens there is correction, the ability to start over (*many, many times*) and be new again (*many, many times*), “...until all of us come to the unity of the faith the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity to the measure of the full stature of Christ.” (*vs. 13*). In God’s *KNITTING* community, all are prize winners who offer love with unlimited possibilities. It takes all of us together to be God’s tapestry of faith, hope and love as witnesses to the transformational message that “*joins and KNITS us together.*” **BLESSINGS ALWAYS.**