

Acts 2: 1-11

When the day of Pentecost had come,

they were all together in one place.

And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind,

and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them,

and a tongue rested on each of them.

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages,

as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation

under heaven living in Jerusalem.

And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered,

because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

amazed and astonished, they asked,

are not all these who are speaking Galileans?

And how is it that we hear, each of us,

in our own native language: Parthians, Medes, Elamites,

and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,

Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphlia,

Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene,

and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes.

Cretans, and Arabs?

In our languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.

Meditation:

I believe it was in late fall of 2009 when I said yes to the invitation to succeed Frank Sanders as Pastoral Director of the Center.

In order to do this, I needed to be an ordained minister and since the tradition that I was raised and educated in did not ordain women, I searched out other options.

I decided, after many conversations and much prayer, that I would be ordained here at The Center

My ordination would be affirmed by the International Council Community Churches.

The organization that we have belonged to since *the 1950's*.

So Dave Sanders and I tried coordinate our calendars.

We needed to find a date that a representative from the ICCC could be here, a date when the Center wasn't too busy and a date that would fit my families' schedule...

As you can imagine...this was not an easy task.

We could only find one day in the spring of 2010 when all 3 calendars were open: Sunday, May 20.

Bingo!

We have a date...now we could move forward...

When I went home that day after deciding when the ordination could take place

I noticed the calendar on my desk at home...

and it was then that I realized....

May 20, 2010 was Pentecost!

I would actually be ordained on Pentecost!

This was very reassuring, it was really I sign for me that I was moving in the right direction....because moving in this direction was pretty edgy for me...

so this synchronicity was no small thing!

For me, this was, as my husband often says, a "God whink!"

and a big one at that...

Today, we once again celebrate the feast of Pentecost...

According to the Christian Tradition,

**this is the day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the followers
of Jesus and enabled them to speak in many different languages...**

**The Spirit also seemed to open the hearts and ears of all the many people who were
listening to them preach that day.**

**Do you think, from your own personal experience,
that the Spirit still works in this 21st century?**

**Many people look around, see the travesties of modern life
and come to the conclusion that Spirit still exists...
it/he/she certainly isn't very busy...**

**Those people would probably dismiss the God Wink that I told you about
concerning my ordination simply as a coincidence...
nothing meaningful,
nothing important...**

What do you think?

Does the Spirit still work in our world today?

Do you see the work of the Holy One in your life?

Are you open & willing to see Spirit at work?

**Do you look at a rose and think: oh gee...isn't that pretty?
or do you look at it and see the whole Cosmos?**

**See the rain and the sun and the soil that nurtured it's growth
and the hand of the Divine who brought it into it existence...**

**Do you receive the nudge to call a friend and
then find out how much the phone call meant
and simply believe YOU were brilliant?
or do you hear the whispering of the Spirit in the invitation
that you to reach out to your friend?**

Someone once said:

“There are only two ways to live your life.

One is as though nothing is a miracle.

The other is as though everything is.”

**There is a remarkable phenomenon that once you start seeing the presence of the Divine in
your life...you see it everywhere...even in the tough times.**

But you have to be open...you must willing...

When you are open and willing....

**You notice not only the large, knock you on the side of the head
experiences of the Divine,**

but you begin to notice

the little traces of God’s presence everywhere...

You see Spirit in small and large acts of kindness....

You see the Divine at work when someone holds the door open for you

and when someone’s holds you up when you are stricken down in despair...

You notice the beauty of the dandelion

growing through the crack in the sidewalk...

as well as the magnificence of the Grand Canyon

When you are open and willing you look at the night sky and feel sense of both wonder and humility...

**When you are open and willing
in the difficult times of life you find glimmers of hope
constantly tapping you on the shoulder:**

**You notice the helpers who show up everywhere,
You pay attention to the kindness, the compassion
the generosity, the love that they offer....**

**You will find miracles happening...
perhaps not the ones that you had hoped for,
but ones that continue to offer life when we thought
all was lost...**

When you are open and willing you catch a glimpse life poking up everywhere....

**This is the work of the Spirit and we must be willing and open to see it...
or we won't...**

**And so this day, as we break bread together...
as remember what he did so long ago...
let us be willing to be open to
the very same spirit of God that inspired Jesus and
all the other great ones throughout time
at work in our lives...**

**Let us be willing to say Yes so that we may see Spirit working in our lives...
always moving us towards Life...
always working in us and through us and around with Love...**

**Let us be willing to always to remember to say “Thank you!”
amen**