

Pastor's Ponderings – July 2022

"Summertime and the livin' is easy...."

It's a slow and easy song that conjures images of a slow and gentle pace...

"Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high...."

A song of comfort and assurance, meant as a lullaby...

*"Your daddy's rich, and your mamma's good lookin'
So, hush, little baby, don't cry...."*



It's been a while since the living was easy. Maybe it never was. But there is no denying that the living has been hard the past 2 - 3 years. This summer feels different to me, and hopefully for you too. This summer the living feels at least easier than the past couple of summers (not to mention winters).

We had a beautiful new bench installed the other day at the playground here behind the church, a place for parents to sit and enjoy their children enjoying playing. We are grateful to Justin Buczek for the gift of this bench. Justin is the son of Chris Buczek who has been our church sexton for many years. Justin and some helpers from his boy scout troop installed this bench as his final Eagle Scout project. Next month he will go into the Navy. Thank you, Justin, and may God bless and protect you!

Coming up on July 10 and August 14 we plan to hold worship outside, adjacent to the playground. We hope for fine summer weather to enjoy and revel in the glory of God's creation. The services will be fun and casual, and children will have a chance to play—maybe adults too if anyone wants to stay for croquet. It's summertime, and the living is easy(er). Bring your own chair as well as your own morning beverage of you want.

It is good to allow ourselves to breathe easy and enjoy the gifts and the beauty of life—the gifts and beauty of the life we have been given, and the gifts and beauty of the church and the grounds entrusted to us by those who have gone before us. The horrors and hardships of life never really go away, and we certainly pray for those who currently live within those various horrors and hardships. But the joys and the blessings never really go away either. The promise of joy re-emerges again and again everyday within this glorious world and this glorious life that God created and called good.

*"...one of these mornin's you're gonna to rise up singin'....
Then you'll spread your wings and you'll take to the sky...."*

We are meant to soar and ride on the wind, and a clear summer day is the perfect time to do it. May it be so. Amen.

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