

September 9, 2014

Dear Grace Church Family and Friends,

I woke up yesterday morning feeling very grateful. Sunday was such a marvelous day. Ministry Sunday is always special, but this one was particularly so, with a captivating Adult Forum led by the Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas, the start of Sunday School, the return of the choir, and most of all, so many people enjoying the newly renovated Undercroft.

I think it's important to acknowledge our gratefulness. Gratitude helps us to realize what we have rather than what we don't have. It puts life in perspective. And, gratitude connects us to God, by enabling us to experience a power greater than ourselves.

Yet, too often, the moments for which I should be grateful just pass me by. Not the big moments, of course. Not days like Ministry Sunday. But, the little, every day moments sometimes slip past. I don't mean for it to be this way. I just can't help it. I get all wrapped up in accomplishing some task that I don't take the time for its specialness to soak in.

That is why, this week, I am trying to practice gratitude. I hope to savor the small, ordinary things, like walking the dog, watching a game, talking to a friend. It is these, seemingly unimportant moments that make up a life and can offer great joy, if only we grab a hold of them and take the time to relish them. So, that's what I want to do. That is my goal for the week.

See you in church,
Andrew