

Jan. 29, 2018

From the Desk of the Acting Associate Executive Presbyter...

I've Noticed: All over the presbytery there are many instances of the organic bubbling of the Holy Spirit. From my vantage point, here are just a few: the Exploring Missional Leaders Event in December 2017 had 30 people from all over the presbytery attend. 125 people attended G.R.O.W. and heard Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson present an incredibly powerful keynote. And, I have received invitations from various congregations to engage in meaningful and hard discussions about God's movement.

One Goal: You may remember from one of my earliest reports that I would like to engage with each and every congregation of Heartland Presbytery. I have made it around to many and have others on my calendar. If you have an open pulpit, I can fill it. If you need a presenter to fill some time, I can fill it. If you are having a run-of-the-mill worship service or event, I'd like to come. In short, let me know what is happening in your world. I'd love to be a part. assocep@heartlandpby.org

One Gratitude: To name only one gratitude- that so many of you have invited me into your congregations. Seeing how God is at work in your midst fills me. To hear you tell about your challenges causes me to pray harder. To share a cup of coffee, reminds me that the mercy of the Lord never, ever ceases. It is such an honor to serve you, Heartland Presbytery.

One Quote:

"Your family was there that holy day,
They heard the good Baptizer say,
*In the name of the Father and the son
And of the Spirit, Three in One,
I baptize you, dear child.*
I am the water that fell on you
Three times with the Word that made
you new
While everyone smiled and smiled.
Upon your forehead, the cross of Christ;
And in your hand, the light of His light!
O child of earth and skies:
Burning as bright as the angels at night,

You are God's love and God's loveliest
sight
On the day you were baptized.
All of us, now, on earth and in heaven,
One mouth, ten mouths, ten million and
seven,
Greet you, friend. We're glad you came—
So glad we stand and applaud.
And we call you by your brand-new
name;
Beautiful, beautiful child of flame, You
are the Child of God."

- from Water, Come Down! The Day You Were Baptized by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sally S. Wright