

February 2019

Earlier this week I was in Spokane, WA, and had opportunity to go to one of my favorite places - Auntie's Bookstore, for new and used books. It is a treasure trove and I highly recommend it to anyone traveling to Spokane.

This trip I found a used gem entitled *Celtic Prayers from Iona*, by J. Philip Newell, published in 1997. Personal morning and evening prayers are given for Monday through Saturday that focus on Iona Community's six principle concerns: justice and peace (Monday), healing (Tuesday), the goodness of creation and care of the earth (Wednesday), commitment to Christ (Thursday), communion of heaven and earth (Friday), and welcome and hospitality (Saturday). Sunday is a time to pray, study and worship as a community. Reading the prayers and flow, it struck me that it can easily be adapted to use Community of Christ's nine enduring principles. By doing double-duty three days, each core value can be a central focus during the week.

This practice appeals to me right now because as I travel people are expressing a sense that change is near on the horizon for congregations, mission centers, campgrounds, etc. Or, they express frustration in not seeing change ahead, sensing it needs to happen without knowing what it means or would look like. No one seems to have the treasure map with X marking the spot we should aim to find. Instead, we are finding our way and exploring ways to be more connected and relevant to today's opportunities.

So, my challenge for myself is... for the upcoming weeks of February, I will take time Monday through Saturday to focus on the principles that consistently matter most to my faith in God, and incorporate those principles more fully in my daily life. By doing this I hope to remain grounded during the exploration, and better able to recognize the Spirit's beckoning. In case you wish to join along:

Monday: Grace and Generosity

Tuesday: Sacredness of Creation; Continuing Revelation

Wednesday: Worth of All Persons; All Are Called

Thursday: Responsible Choices

Friday: Pursuit of Peace

Saturday: Unity in Diversity; Blessings of Community

I will touch base with you in March with a recap of my experience. Blessings to each of you on your own discipleship journeys!

Yours,
Diana