

Letter from the Pastor – May 2010

My Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Okay, so I know you have probably heard this question before, Q. “If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? A. “Pilgrims.” Yikes. I know, I should keep my day job. ☺

But there really is a point to this bit of, well, humor. Often in life, one thing **will** lead to another, and not always something which we would expect!

For instance, what might happen if the Detroit Tigers actually had a team that could hit the ball in a consistent manner, catch the ball in a consistent manner, throw the ball well when making outs, and yes, could pitch the ball in such a way as to get many strike outs or ground outs or fly balls? YES!! The team might, whoa, hang onto this thought; the team might not only go to the World Series, but might even win it!! WHAT??? WHAT??? ☺

And what if all of our elected officials, you know, those folks who are supposed to represent the view points of the majority of the electorate, actually, well, *asked* for that input and then, and then, truly sought to *represent* the input of the people more so than the party? Wow, what a wonderful world this would be. What would happen if our representative democracy actually ran as such?

Imagine what could happen if the Church in this nation, the National Body of Christ, prayed daily for each other and for our leaders? We could change the nation and the world! By the way, how are **we** coming on our Prayers for Three? Remember on April 18 when we asked God to bring three names to mind, two that were not involved with church and then one who lived a committed life in Christ and just needed our prayer support and protection? Keep praying for those folks, keep lifting their names to our Lord God and see what wonderful things will happen. Remember, you might be the only person on this earth who is praying for one of those individuals. And who knows? Maybe those two non-church people will drop by *our* church to *experience* how things happen in an atmosphere of unconditional love.

And wouldn't that be the great answer to the question, “What might happen if we constantly, prayerfully seek to uplift the lost and lonely in this community?” Answer, “They might just end up sitting in the pew next to us on Sundays!” Oh, that we might be so blessed! Blessed to have that searching person sitting next to a Brother or Sister in Christ here at Grant Reformed Church. Blessed to have someone whose heart has been broken, or chilled, or damaged in some way – blessed to have them with us in worship, prayer, and Word.

But you know what? An even greater answer to that question would be this, “That we would be led to greater prayer for each of those folks, led to even greater commitment by *including* them in the love of Christ that exists within our hearts.”

Please keep in mind that we are not called to merely *offer* church services to the lost of this world. We are not called to simply *offer* a specific program held every Sunday morning or Wednesday evening to the lost of this world. If we just make those things available, it takes the responsibility to witness off our shoulders. Not good! We need to do more! We are called, indeed, **commanded**, to **go** into the world

and **take** that love of Christ *to the people* who so desperately need His grace, mercy, gentleness, and love. We are to carry that flame of faith **into** the darkness.

So let us keep praying for those three specific people whom God has led us to via our prayer on April 18. Let us also be willing to be led to prayerfully loving another three, and another three, and another three, until that time God might say to our hearts, "There, you have been given enough people to love." Hmm, that brings to mind another possible question, "When will God say we have been given enough people to love?" Answer, "When pigs fly." ☺ WE CAN NEVER LOVE ENOUGH PEOPLE IN THE NAME OF JESUS; what a blessing!

So, may we forever rejoice in the beauty and majesty of sharing the precious love of Christ with countless people from this day on and forever! May the flames of faith in our hearts be seen and *experienced* as we walk with the Risen Lord in worship, holiness, and reverence. Amen!

Captured by His holy calling,

Pastor Mik