

The Divine Comedy:

Notes from Pastor Darryl

May 2019

There is a Jewish proverb that says, “If you save the life of one person, you save the world.” You might remember this proverb from the movie, *Schindler’s List*. They are the words that Ben Kingsley’s character speaks to Oscar Schindler (played by Liam Neeson) to assure Mr. Schindler that his efforts were enough and indeed blessed by God. Oscar Schindler is overwhelmed that though he saved hundreds of lives by his courageous actions, he felt like he could have done more. But Kingsley assures him that his race was not run in vain, as Schindler saw the suffering of the people around him and did what he could to alleviate as much suffering as he could. His brave efforts, and the daring efforts of people like him, according to the Jewish Talmud, are indeed the things that save the world.

I have always been inspired by such people - the Oscar Schindlers of the world - who see a need and being so moved by Love (aka God) do what they can for as long as they can to help.

Heather Askew is one of these people who saw a need and was moved by Love to respond. And I am so excited that we will have Heather with us on Sunday, May 5. Her story is that of Jojo’s Sanctuary – a place with a special and powerful ministry and mission: ***protect and empower vulnerable children, families and communities in Northern Thailand.*** She was invited by the Ministry of Mission and Outreach to share her story and the story of the valiant children, women, and men working to end human trafficking in East Asia and how our mission at KCC can help make a difference to these beautiful children of God. She will be at both the 8:30 AM and 10 AM services and will be available following each service in Lander Hall to talk to any of you in more length.

Maybe you will be moved to be like Oscar Schindler or Heather Askew to live into this profound proverb?

I have changed my Benediction as of January 2019. Some of you have commented on it. If you don't recall the new Benediction, I now send us out into the world following worship each Sunday with these words that have a distinct Trinitarian formula to them:

“By God’s amazing grace, may we each have all that we need this day to live abundantly.

By Christ’s extravagant love, may we share all that we can with those who are in need.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we all be healed and have peace in our lives and in our world today and all of our tomorrows.

Amen and amen.”

I believe Heather is one of those astounding people in the world who strive to live out these Trinitarian words each and every day. Hers is a ministry in image of the Risen Christ. I hope you will join me and come to KCC on May 5 to hear her story and then take our mission of Love, grace, and sharing out into the world so that all may find peace.

Peace. Love. Understand.

Pastor Darryl