

## **INTERIM THOUGHTS** *After the Resurrection*

What do we do after we have celebrated Easter? The short answer is that we live as persons and community infused with Resurrection Life. We learn through “Doubting Thomas” (John 20:19-29) that belief in resurrection involves more than just agreeing to the concept that Jesus was raised from the dead. Jesus was resurrected, and he came speaking “Peace to you,” and he “breathed” the Holy Spirit into his disciples, and he released his disciples through forgiveness from the soul-scars of their abandonment of him, and he “sent” them and sends us to inject all these qualities of Resurrection Life into the world.

To live the Resurrection Life means, in part, to engage self and other with respect for the full dignity of self and other in the hope and expectation that the living Christ will manifest himself within us and among us as we so engage.

This has never been more important than it is now during this interim transition period. Friedens (Peace) United Church of Christ has a lot on her plate: Preparation for minister search, program planning, stewardship development, outreach, Christian education, worship, the ministries of various committees, personal care for one another, support of the wider church’s ministries.

Frustrations come easy in such a busy time, and they die hard. Let each of us examine ourselves and our situation for opportunities to inject the dynamics of Resurrection Life – Presence, peace, Spirit, forgiveness, with an eye on God’s mission – into the life of Friedens (Peace) United Church of Christ and beyond. This is a great place to learn and practice these gifts, sort of a lab for testing new ways of being.

*Let this mind be in us, which was also in Christ Jesus . . . .*

*Pastor Jerry*