

Greetings Merging Waters,

February 2nd, 2022

Today is Groundhog Day which has me thinking about the movie of the same name. Unlike that film, we do not have a day to repeat over and over, nor a life to try and do differently from scratch, but we do have a life filled with opportunities. Opportunities to learn, and try, to fail and learn and try again. We can't do everything from scratch like the movie Groundhog Day, we can take some time to reflect on how we live up to and live out our opportunities to learn from our experiences of being called, inspired or drawn, into lives of faith and service by God's Spirit in the world. When things don't work out as we envision we can always try something new, together.

This week in our worship we will be reflecting in worship upon Jeremiah 1:4-10, wherein Jeremiah is shown as being called to by the Divine to a voice of prophecy and a life of service and suffering. Much like Jeremiah, we too are inspired, motivated, and moved by our relationship with the Holy One-In-All to live and act faithfully even in hard times. This is not an easy calling, speaking truth to power, putting ourselves second to the needs of those who are less privileged even than we, forming community with strangers and friends alike. The two questions I encourage us to ask ourselves and one another during this week are:

- What are we asked to give to this life of faith, only what we believe, or also our actions, resources, and service in sharing our skills?
- What keeps us coming back over and over to this life of faith that asks so much of us?

I look forward to continuing our exploration together of the ways and the whys of sharing our gifts with one another and the world this week as our Epiphany celebrations continue.

Peace and hope,

Rev. Ryan Fea

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