

Don't Forget!

Our joint Bluegrass Service of Worship with Good Shepherd Presbyterian and Matthews Presbyterian takes place this coming Sunday May 5th, at 10:30am at Matthews Presbyterian. Dinner on the grounds follows. MSPC attendees are to bring a dessert. Communion will be served. Join us! A great time to join as Presbyterian disciples of Jesus Christ!



Don't forget to bring in your donations for PW's "12 Months of Giving" appeal. The item to bring to MSPC in May is boxed pasta. At the close of the month these donations will be packed up and delivered to Matthews Help Center. Thanks for your help.

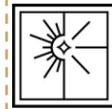


12 Months of Giving

**JULY 29 - AUGUST 1
9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON**



Begun making plans for the MSPC Annual Picnic over at Idlewild Park in early September? We will be worshipping together in one of the shelters (more info to come). Then we will enjoy burgers and dogs on the grills, with all the necessary condiments and tasty covered dishes that you can bring. Start making your plans now for that Sunday morning, and start asking your friends outside the congregation to join us! Make that call now. Date to be determined.



Lectionary Texts

May 5, 2019

Third Sunday of Easter
Bluegrass Service of Worship
@ Matthews Presbyterian -
10:30am
ASP Team returns

May 12, 2019

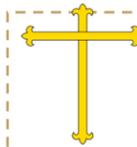
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Psalm 23; John 10:22-30
Mother's Day

May 19, 2019

Fifth Sunday of Easter
John 13:31-35; Acts 11:1-18
Communion Celebrated

May 26, 2019

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18; John 13:31-35



Pastor's Corner

For me it was a sight gag. Waiting for a prescription to be filled I noticed a display for a product advertised as: Organic Bug Repellant. It caught my eye because it was one of those combinations of words that could be read a couple of different ways, depending on how one chose to interpret the word order. That is, which part of the name did the word "Bug" refer to?

Read one way, it claimed that the repellant chemical composition would be organic, as in a spray for bugs that would be natural (no additives, etc...like grits on an ant-hill), and thus be kind to the environment. Alright. The other way was more interesting to me, in that maybe it was being advertised as a repellant spray that was targeted at "organic bugs." That begs the question what would an inorganic bug look like? A mechanical cockroach? OK, I know that bugs by their very nature are organic. Nevertheless, it occupied my challenged intellect until the store finally filled my prescription several minutes later, and I moved on to more productive thinking.

This time of musing led me, eventually to recall a well-traveled theological phrase, and what it can mean, depending on how one interprets it. Specifically, consider the well-used acclamation: Jesus is Lord. It can be thought of in two different ways, as a theologian or two has noted, depending on the religious focus of the one who is saying it. Thus, is the focus on the authority of Christ, in that the Christian doctrine is supreme, and all other faiths bow down to it. There is that sense. Or is it the kind of Lordship that we proclaim which focuses on the servant role of Jesus. The One who humbled Himself to the point of dying on the Cross, and then calling His followers to a servant focused life as well? Is it the sense that we are called to trumpet to the world the triumphant implication that "We are number One," or that Christ calls us to be those who present themselves as living sacrifices for the community of saints as well as the last, least and lost. Where does the emphasis fall for you? Or is it somewhere in the dynamic middle?

Faithfully,
Steve Mitchell



