

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Sisters and Bothers in Christ,

What a wonderful worship service we had last Sunday! Not only did we bring some of our best friends along (of the four legged variety), but we had some folks who vacationed at Smugglers Notch stop by with their special pooch. The children saw our invitation for the Blessing of Animals by the roadside and told their parents that they wanted to attend.

Our service was informal, our liturgy was uplifting - a paean to God our Creator - and our songs reflected our joy and thanksgiving.

There was a special moment when a parade of dogs came forward for the blessing and each received along with the blessing a little heart-shaped treat that was happily consumed on the spot.

While we love our animals and have the means to care for them, it is also important that we remember the people who struggle to make a living from the soil; those who live in places around the globe where resources are scarce and subsistence farmers are doomed to live in an unending cycle of poverty.

What a blessing farm animals are to such farmers. On their own, they would never be able to afford these animals. With a little help from us, and instructions on good animal husbandry by workers from Lutheran World Hunger outreach, their entire life takes on a new and more joyful dimension.

“God’s math doesn’t just add up – it multiplies”, is the banner printed around each of the little boxes we gave to all those who attended. The goal is to fill these boxes up with change, or paper money, or a check, and then count to see what farm animal we can buy for a subsistence farmer. We will have a general ingathering on October 19, but in the meantime, feel free to bring in your boxes (and take home another) so that we can see how our virtual global farmyard is growing. (We’ll have a display in the narthex).

Check our website for more information on this.

Blessings and Peace to you,

Pastor Dagmar