

## **Coop's Scoops # 202, Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**



Peter and Tracy's granddaughters Isla and Aubree had a great experience last week. And learned absolutely definitely that a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush!

They were at Henry Marsh off Beaumont Drive with birdseed. The little chickadees were so "tame" and sweet that they actually landed on their hands and ate. In fact, once while a chickadee was chomping away at some seed, Aubree was able to reach up with her other hand and pat the back of it's head. So obviously, I'm off to get some birdseed somewhere and go there too.

I've often had chipmunks that would come up and eat from my hand, but not birds out in nature. And just to put a priestly spin on things, I have always believed that the Holy Spirit within me was worth more than any and every other spirit hiding in the bushes....by that I mean possessions, and glory and fancy jewels and all manner of other things that tempt people but can not ever compare to the Holy Spirit with me, guiding my hands as well as my feet.

Thanks for sharing this awesome picture!

### **NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES:**

Just a reminder to St. Thomas Parish Council that we will meet by Zoom at 10am this Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have not received the live link that was sent out, please just call the office.

Also there will be an on-line service for Pentecost on April 16<sup>th</sup> posted on the St. Thomas Facebook page and the Deanery of Muskoka website as well as the All Saints' website.

Wardens and Synod Delegates and all interested please mark your calendars now for a ZOOM Deanery Council meeting at 7pm on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Some Fun: ( from Jacquie H)**

Two little boys, Tom and Danny, are excessively mischievous.

They are always getting into trouble and their Mom knows if any mischief occurs in their town, the two boys are probably involved.

The boys' mother heard that a preacher in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys.

The preacher agreed, but he asked to see them individually.

The mother sent Danny in the morning, with the older boy to see the preacher in the afternoon.

The preacher, a huge man with a deep booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly,

"Do you know where God is, son?"

The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there wide-eyed with his mouth hanging open.

So the preacher repeated the question in an even sterner tone,

"Where is God?!"

Again, the boy made no attempt to answer.

The preacher raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed, "WHERE IS GOD?!"

The boy screamed & bolted from the room, ran directly home & dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him.

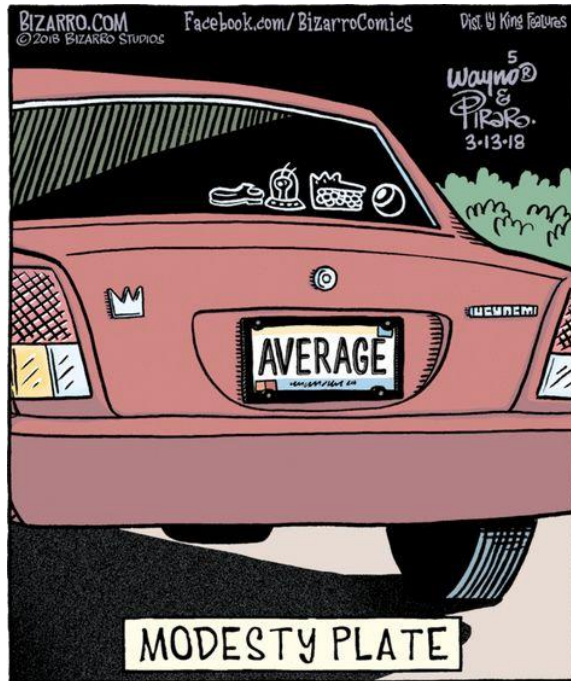
When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked,

"What happened?"

The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied,

"We are in BIG trouble this time!"

"GOD is missing, and they think WE did it!"



**Scripture for Today: Psalm 19: 7-10; Proverbs 16:16**

Psalm:

The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul;

the decrees of the LORD are sure,  
making wise the simple;

<sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;

<sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;



sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.

**Proverbs:** How much better to get wisdom than gold!  
To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

### **Homily:**

Scoops started today with the notion that a bird in the hand is worth more than two in the bush. Our Scriptures are telling us that there is one thing that is better than gold or silver or honey or virtually anything else that a human being desires or needs. That one thing is the Word of God (the Law of the Lord) written for us by sages and prophets and disciples; and placed on the tablets of our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

When we have wisdom, gained from the Law of the Lord, our lives can be immeasurably changed.

Incorporating the teachings of the Old Testament and the New, and most especially the teaching and commandments of Jesus will give us wisdom and it doesn't depend upon our intellect or our experience. It is a gift from God. It is a gift to show us what to do, how to live, how to choose, how to dream, how to be prepared, and ultimately how to die in the hope of eternal life.

Well, if there's a gift to be had, I have two immediate questions:

"Is it for me? Or "Who's birthday is it?" ( I generally lean toward a "yes" to the first question)

Here's the thing about God's gift of wisdom. It is for anyone who wants it! No questions asked.

James 1: 5 tells us so.....<sup>5</sup>If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. **When we pray for wisdom, God will give it.**

How will it come? Maybe through personal pray and recalling of the Beatitudes or other Scripture...maybe through long midnight hours writing down pros and cons....maybe from the lips of another person who unknowingly imparts

wisdom to us...We will come to know the answer to the things we need to be wise about.

No wonder that Wisdom is better in my spirit than gold or silver or jewels or a flashy red convertible or feasts of honey and fine gourmet meals. This one gift in hand is worth thousands in the bushes!

**Prayer:**

**Father God, who promises wisdom to all who ask for it, I seek this day your gift of Wisdom. Open my mind to discern Your will according to Your Word. Open my heart to the Holy Spirit who promises to speak to me only that which is from the Father and the Son. Renew my mind and enhance my faith that I may walk in Your ways - to Your glory and to the betterment of my life, my relationships, and my work in this world. In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.**

**Blessing:**

May the God of the peace which passes all our understanding, grant you wisdom, faith and courage

God, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you all this day and evermore. Amen.

- from Judie+