Thursday, May 7, 2020

Dear Members, Friends, and Guests of Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

Yesterday was my birthday. I've always been a bit of a grump about birthdays. It isn't the getting old, though when I turned sixty, I behaved a bit like a big baby. My issue comes from calendar memory. As a child my life was flipped upside down days before my seventh birthday. I'm much better than I used to be, but I become out of sorts, until the actual day, then I'm fine. Julie takes the brunt of it. But yesterday was wonderful. I talked with all my children, grandchildren, brother, and friends. I now know what I will ask for next year: just to talk with family.

Calendar memory is a real thing. I think that is why we need to mark events and remember events each year. It is why Jesus said at the Last Supper, "Do this in remembrance of me." It is important that we remember both the good and the bad. So, what do we remember for today? Here are two good verses: In Luke 23:42 the criminal dying next to Jesus says, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." If Jesus will remember a stranger and criminal, He will also remember us. And the second verse is from Philippians 1:3, "I thank my God every time I remember you."

We ask God to remember us and we remember each other and thank God. One last thing, want to guess what I had for lunch on my birthday? I hadn't stopped there for over 50 days. It was a good birthday. I thank God for all of you.

Pastor Martin