

IN TOUCH

WEDNESDAY EDITION: AN EYE OPENING EXPERIENCE

Greetings Friends:

I know...I know... I did not get In Touch “out” last week so... this week you get two, Wednesday AND Thursday. The In Touch below is just a few days past Easter and still applies.

Do you enjoy taking walks? I do, assuming the location is not on a crowded city street or in a shopping mall. I really enjoy taking a walk in Rock Fork Metro Park. My street (Albanyview Drive) literally dead-ends into the back entrance of the park – no cars allowed. It is not unusual for me to take a walk and see 6-8 deer, turkeys, or even a couple horses (there’s a bridal trail).

Luke concludes his gospel with two men taking a walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a distance of about seven miles. We will never know their names but we do know they were followers of Jesus. Read Luke 24:13-39 and you will see that their walk took place on the same day as the resurrection; likely, it was an afternoon walk and the text says they walked until it became dark. Along the walk somewhere an unexpected visitor joined them. The visitor asked what they were talking about and they told him the whole story of the crucifixion and resurrection. They were quite surprised because it seemed like the visitor did not know about the two events.

The text also tells us their visitor was Jesus but they were kept from recognizing him until he sat down to eat with them. They recognized him and then he literally disappeared. I love what Luke 24:31-32 says: “Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.” They asked themselves “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us...” While they walked with Jesus their hearts told them something was different and when Jesus opened their eyes their joy was immense.

This Easter I hope your eyes were opened anew. Let’s see all that Jesus has done for us. He died so that we can live eternally in heaven. Look around at our church, our family, our home, our free country, look around at unlimited blessings. I hope his joy filled us all this Easter.

In Christ’s Love, Pastor Mike

Prayer: Jessica Pittenger, Aline Bhat, Ava Northrop, Rose Farber, Pastor Michael Muwonge, and Pastor Aaron Lim