

Generosity in Motion ~ April 2021



'On this Good Friday, I would like to thank everyone for proclaiming the gospel and serving together during this difficult year.'

-Rev. Giselle Coutinho, Bridge of Peace Community Church

Unbeknownst to me, but probably because I've worshipped (virtually) and made offerings there before, I was on the Bridge of Peace email distribution list. And so out of the blue, this message arrived in my email inbox on Good Friday. It could not have shown up at a more opportune time.

Here it was: the day of the cross. At that moment and on this day, I was mindful of all the worship that would be taking place or was taking place. And while I was thinking about and preparing for that, *a word of thanks and thanksgiving showed up!*

In fact, it was not only a word of thanks, but along with it was a video highlighting the mission and ministry this community church had accomplished or was currently engaged in. I have to share with you that I experienced this message of thanks to be moving, inspiring and spiritually-centering. It also reinforced the interrelationship between financial offerings and faith, that is, how financial offerings are one of the ways we make service, proclamation and transformation possible; or put better, it reinforced those ways that God is serving, proclaiming and transforming while inviting us to do the same...to join into that mission and ministry which belongs to God but is for us and for God's world. **It was also a great example and reminder that as we seek to cultivate generosity throughout the church and within one another, one of the principal ways we do this is by sharing heartfelt and genuine words of thanks; words of thanks that coincide not only with our annual stewardship drives, but throughout the entire year.**

Eastertide blessings be with you as you worship, give generously, serve and proclaim Christ crucified and raised from the dead for you and for God's world.

In Christ,
Rev. Dean R. Brown
Assistant to the Bishop