IN MEMORIAM-A TRIBUTE



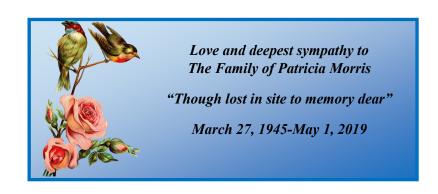


When the great English poet, Alfred Lord Tennyson, penned, what is widely considered one of the greatest poems of the 19th century – In Memoriam – it was no doubt part requiem and part catharsis. Written over a period of many years, it owes its inspiration to the event of Tennyson's great Cambridge University friend, Arthur Hallam, passing suddenly from a cerebral hemorrhage. Stricken at a very young age, just as he was finding his way in life, Hallam's death left a mark on the poet that would never be totally erased.

I also feel compelled to write this brief tribute as part requiem and part catharsis, honoring the passing of Patty Morris, from our fellowship. Additionally, I would like to call attention to what another immortal English poet, John Donne, wrote regarding how diminished the world is by the passing of any individual. 'No man is an island, Entire of itself, Every man is a piece of the continent, A part of the main'.

With the loss of Patty, I personally lost a friend, a confidant, someone I could trust to accomplish any task I asked her to do and most important, someone who would watch my back. While there many folks at Groome Upon whom I would gladly bestow the above accolades, Patty is the first one whom I have to mourn. She was both an "original", as I stated at her funeral, and a "natural", someone without disguises and airs who often confuse and deceive. When I really wanted to know what was going on, I would pick up the phone and have a candid conversation. Patty and I suffered through a long parade of psychotics, braggarts and folks of dubious talent, before achieving success in landing our new Director of Music. The Laurel Wreath of Accomplishment belongs to Patty, who never gave up, and spent timeless hours and relentless energy in the pursuit of her goal. Patty was emblematic of what I consider the greatest personal gift I have received from this congregation: A willingness to accept me for what I am and not try to re-create me into some comfortable image of a stereotypical minister. It is a priceless gift to be able to accept others as they are and grow from the experience. We could talk on the phone, share a few saucy expletives, commiserate over the state of affairs and both feel the better for it. In the ministry, that is a rare thing indeed. In short, I am diminished by her passing; we are all diminished by her passing.

We have lost part of who we are yet we remain who we are, and as the pragmatic intelligence of Parry Morris would be quick to point out: We have work to do and things to accomplish so let's be up and doing. She desperately wanted to be part of our future – she told me so – yet in an act of supreme resolve, she knew it was time to let go. In letting go, she passed the baton to us – which is one of the most difficult things to do in life – and she did it with a faith that everything in her moving on to a new realm will be "just fine". So, I close with Tennyson's most famous line in tribute to our friend: "It is better to have loved and lost, than to have never loved at all".





GROOME UMC WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MEET AND GREET

MONTHLY MEETING W/ SHERRY MASSEY

DATE: MEET THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED, INVITE A FRIEND

IN THE BEGINNING

In the beginning, there was nothing at all. No earth, no sun, no mountains tall.

No oceans with fish, no clear blue sea, no cool grass, no you, no me.

Just raging water deep, dark and vast, Nothing to see but a formless mass.

Only God and His angels lived back then. It was long ago we don't even know when.

We can only imagine His plan to create, a heaven and earth for man and his mate.

So, a new world creation would now come to be, the beginning of life for both you and me.

God's Spirit was moving over waters green. Enveloped in darkness, no land could be seen.

God then commanded "Let there be light" and immediately, it became very bright.

The water gleamed as the light shone down. It glistened and shimmered shining all around.

God loved the light but darkness as well. So peaceful and quiet, serene and tranquil.

So, He kept them both, the dark and the light. The one He called day, and the other one night.

It was the beginning of our very first day, Deep darkness at night, bright light in the day.

But more was needed, and God went on. The second day He started a heaven to form.

He parted the water, kept space in between. It became our sky, and heaven was seen.

As the water divided, all became clear, suddenly there our land now appeared.

He named the land "Earth" and the water "Sea" fruitful plants grew, along tall stately trees.

Earth was adorned with colors so bold; beautifully displayed in green, red and gold.

But then as God looked at his sky above, it couldn't compare to the earth He now loved.

It was just very drab and looked rather dull. A huge expanse with no color at all.

So, God made a moon to shine at night, then mad a sun for bright day light.

He sprinkled stars all over the sky, they sparkled as starlight now twinkling on high.

They were so bright, and God was pleased. It was different from earth, but lovely indeed.

Each day God created something else new. He chose to add life and evolution too.

He made many creatures, each of a kind, And told them to multiply in their own line.

The creatures in water following His wish, gave life to great whales and all kinds of fish.

Then winged birds flew over land and sea. Flying high in the sky, in the wind they were free.

Soon cattle appeared and creeping things too; Many beasts of the earth came into view.

All now existed except for man. To make a human being was God's next plan.

So, in His own image He created a man, Then provided a mate and called her woman.

He gave them a garden with plenty to eat. All fruits and trees were a wonderful treat!

Man had dominion to rule over all Birds, animals, fish some large and some small.

The garden called Eden was beautiful to see. The man and the woman could live happily.

Only one tree forbidden they were not to eat But the snake tempted woman and it changed their fate.

As the seventh day came, God decide to rest. He was happy with creation, and all of it he blessed.

So now you and I have our time for living. And this is how it happened in the Beginning.





GROOME ANCHOR COFFEE HOUSE

The Anchor Coffee House began producing monthly performances in September 2017 in the Groome UMC sanctuary. Performers have been universally

complimentary of the quality of the sound space, and the programs would not be possible without the service and dedication of volunteers, both members and non-members of Groome UMC.

Anchor Coffee House performances are normally scheduled on Saturday evenings from 7-9 p.m. with a 15-minute intermission. Admission is \$10 cash at the door unless otherwise advertised. The Anchor House opens at 6 p.m. prior to scheduled concerts and offers a variety of hot and cold non-alcohol beverages, pastries and snacks.

Remaining concert schedule for 2019: May-No concert; June 15-Shore Jazz; July 13-Acoustic, Americana and Old School Country with Rich Johnson/Rob Bolan and Bruce Edge; August 17-Second Annual Local Folk Festival with Bob McNamara, Bob Crabb, Kathy Jane; September 14-Delmarva Ramblers Bluegrass Band; October 19-David Reed's Caribbean Vibe; November 9-Fifth Avenue Jazz; December 21 (Admission \$12)-Third Annual Celtic Christmas Show with Charlie Zahm. Net proceeds from the concert productions are contributed to Groome UMC to help support the ministries of the church. We invite you to take a few of our new Anchor Coffee House business cards at the sanctuary entrance to share with friends. Thanks for helping us broaden our audience, spreading the word and supporting the ministries of the church.

www.facebook.com/theanchorcoffeehouse www.facebook.com/groomechurchlewes www.groomechurchlewes.org

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE from The Finance Committee



May-June

Bob Loetzer	05/23
Eadie Loetzer	05/29
Peg Hudson	06/26
Betty Kessler	05/04
Betsy Alwood	05/21
Jack Welsh	06/10
Dick Todd	06/10
Maxine Ungerbuehler	05/16
Bill Graves	06/20
Sherry Mitchell	06/07
Sandi Phillips	06/06
Darlene Chasteen	05/08
Scott Martz	06/28



May-June

Bob & Eadie Loetzer	06/05 (71)
Wally & Nancy Catanach	06/10 (66)
John & Betsy Alwood	06/30 (63)
Jack & Bernie Welsh	06/08 (61)
Tom & Ceil Pierson	06/09 (61)
Joan & Charles Kolarik	06/20 (56)
Bill & Ellen Graves	05/22 (48)
Mike & Lorraine Messitt	05/20 (07)
Mike & Bev Cunningham	06/25 (55)

John Wesley is known for two things: co-founding Methodism and his tremendous work ethic. He was born at Epworth, Lincolnshire, England on June 17, 1703. Wesley was ordained deacon in 1725 and ordained as a priest in 1728. He arrived in America in 1736 until 1737. He gave his first open-air sermon in 1739 and formed the first Methodist Society in England in 1740. Between 1747 and 1751 he visited Ireland and Scotland. In the 1700s, when land travel was by walking, horseback or carriage, Wesley logged more than 4,000 miles a year. During his lifetime he preached about 40,000 sermons.

Wesley published Explanatory Notes on the New Testament in 1758 and wrote "Thoughts Upon Slavery" in 1774. He published a collection of hymns for people called Methodist in 1780, and in 1784 the Methodist Episcopal Church in America was organized.

John Wesley's rules for living were to do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the places you can, at all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can. He relieved the helpless, the powerless, collected clothes, distributed food and provided housing for those in need. To improve the lives of children he established schools as across England. For the sick he opened free medical clinics in his preaching house.

In the mid 1780s, Wesley was concerned about the growing wealth of "the people called Methodist." To Wesley, sharing material goods was a cornerstone of the Christian faith. His sermon, "The Use of Money", says, "Earn all you can". For Wesley, work was a means of participating in God's creative healing activity. "Save all you can". Wesley endorsed a simplified lifestyle. "Give all you can". By cutting off every expense which serves only to indulge foolish desire. "Waste nothing". When Wesley was young, he earned 30 pounds (about \$42 a year) but found he needed only 28 pounds on which to live. So he gave always two pounds. As his earing increased, he continued to live on 28 pounds. His theology of giving was rooted in God's very being and is indispensable to Christian discipleship. Giving includes more than the products of our labor. Simplifying our life styles and preserving the earth's resources are forms of giving. Giving involves friendship with the poor and involves building communities of justice and advocating on the behalf of the voiceless. He also spoke out against child labor, the inhumane treatment of prisoners, the slave trade and excessive interest charged to the poor.

John Wesley met death singing hymns, quoting the Bible and saying farewell to his family and friends. Some of his last words were, "The best of all is, God is with us." Brother John Wesley died at the age of 87 in London on March 2, 1791.

May-June 2019





Groome United Methodist Church Pastor: Reverend Dr. Will Crossan

Sunday Worship Service—Sunday 10:00 a.m. Children's Church & Nursery

Mid-Week Gathering—Thursday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Soup & Sandwiches/Bible Study
(September-May)

"Our Vision is to enhance people's belief in Jesus Christ so they live a life of holiness and service to others."

Anchor Coffee House & Concerts-Monthly

Groome United Methodist Church P.O. Box 299 Savannah Road & Dewey Avenue Lewes, DE 19958

> Phone: 302-645-6256 Fax: 302-645-6256

Email: gumc I @hotmail.com

Webpage: www.groomechurchlewes.org