## Covenant Life

- Our next in-person Gathering is **TODAY** at **3pm** continuing the pattern of meeting on the  $2^{nd}$  and  $4^{th}$  Sundays.
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting, you can listen to the audio <a href="here">here</a>, and read the Word Gift summary <a href="here">here</a> and the transcript <a href=here</a>.
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online <a href="here">here</a> or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

The striking verse for me in the readings today is Isaiah 9:1 from the <u>First</u>

<u>Reading</u>: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone."

Every time I read the daily paper or listen to the nightly news is just seems our world is getting darker and darker. This may be the same perspective that folks though the ages have felt but the pace of change seems to be accelerating. The well-discerned Responsorial Psalm verse provides the obvious timeless answer: "The Lord is my light and my salvation." This reminds me of the catchphrase "Jesus is the answer, what is the question?" This is so true and has been born out personally and throughout our Community history!

How many in our day and know this, live this, profess this? Is this not one of the reasons that God called us to be His People? Is He not asking us to live this way and make Him know in word and deed? God called us into covenant to be His People, that He could use for His purposes, and accomplish things we could not accomplish individually. He asked us to love one another and let our love for one another be a witness that God could use for what He was about. This year, our Jubilee year, is about reminding ourselves of this call and asking how we are to respond today.

In our Jubilee year we are making a special effort to prepare for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and then continue for a year with special attention to hearing our Lord and responding. Accordingly, this week we are starting a **nine-week novena** 

to pray, meditate, discern what He is asking of us going forward. The coordinators are asking that we spend quality time each week praying and meditating attentive to prophetic words. We are begging the Lord to reveal His plan for us in this time. We all know that we are in very different times than in 1973 when He first called us. Our response (individually and collectively) needs to be in line with what He is about today and not just continue on. In what way is God asking the Community to respond? How is He asking me to respond and support the Community's Yes?

To focus our prayer and guide it we are providing a specific topic each of the next nine weeks. This week the word we are focused on is **Delight**.

The attached meditation provides information on the context of the meditation and the word delight. It provides specific questions, scriptures, and prayers to review, reflect, pray, and meditate upon. Please take time today and every day this week to join with your covenant sisters and brothers in coming before the Lord and asking Him to reveal Himself to us, to speak to us, and to make His Will known to us.

We know that this electronic age is more challenging to some of us and you may be aware of covenant sisters or brothers who do not have a printer at home or may not be receiving these email letters on a timely basis. My request is that you consider printing a few extra copies and taking them on a quick visit so that we can be united in coming before the Lord in this critical time of hearing and responding to our Lord.

One final note is a request to pray for the intention of our Jubilee celebration, preparations, and the team that is serving us in the planning and preparation phase. A lot of folks are investing a lot of time and effort, so we are all asked to pray for God's wisdom and protection on them.

"Heavenly Father, reveal Yourself to us today. Show us how we can follow Your will. Bless our efforts to respond. We truly have come to do Your will. Shine the light of Your favor upon us. You are the answer to every question and we recommit to making You know in our words and deeds. We love You Lord!"

God Bless, David