

Friday, July 10, 2020

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

On this Friday I'm going to talk about – yes - fried chicken. The other day, our dear congregational President John Martin graciously reminded us about a national day set aside for fried chicken. You may be wondering if I scored some fried chicken on our short trip out of town. I'll tell you but first a little item sent to me yesterday: A story of a boy in school. He says:

“Our teacher asked what my favorite animal was, and I said, “Fried Chicken.” She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't have been right, because everyone else laughed. My parents told me to always tell the truth. I did. Fried chicken is my favorite animal.

I told my dad what happened and he said my teacher was probably a member of PETA. He said they love animals very much. I do too. Especially chicken, pork, and beef. Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office. I told him what happened, and he laughed too. Then he told me not to do it again.

The next day in class my teacher asked me what my favorite live animal was. I told her it was chicken. She asked me why, so I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken.

She sent me back to the principal's office. He laughed, and told me not to do it again. I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like when I am. Today my teacher asked me to tell her what famous military person I admired most. I told her, “Colonel Sanders.”

Guess where I am now?



On the last day of our trip, around lunchtime, we saw a little place in Payson called Pinon Café. We stopped and wouldn't you know they had fried chicken and mashed potatoes and it was delicious.

In Philippians 2: 15-17 Paul again is encouraging his congregation from prison.

16 It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

17 But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you—

18 and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

Paul is saying to his congregation that when he hears good reports on how they are living as Christians his life of ministry has not been in vain. He tells them in verse 17 that even if he were to die in prison like a sacrifice poured out for them, he would rejoice. In verse 18 he wants them not to feel sorry for him, but know that he is clear he has given his life for a good purpose, for them.

Maybe as we move through this day we remember just how sacred and holy faith is and that it matters how we live and what we say.

Blessings on this Friday,

Pastor Martin