

July 7, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of The Old Scotch Church,

Just a short note today, where I'd like to highlight two opportunities:

First, if you've been missing the music of The Old Scotch Church as much as I have, think about spending some time playing the recorded anthems and music we have on our website. For 2017 to present, the whole audio recording of the service is available, but the anthem is often listed if you want to start looking for it, usually 10-15 minutes into the service. Before then, the anthem is often listed separately, so you can just take a look and play one you'd like! While I've been writing the very letter, I've been listening to our amazing choir sing "You Have Been Good" from Nov. 13, 2016, which was sung a loooong time ago at Ryker's baptism and is one of my favorites.

Here's a link to the service archive, starting with 2019 and going back to 2005!

http://www.oldscothchurch.org/sermon_archive.html#s2019

By the way, feel free to send a thank you shout out or email to Kevin Upton, who has taken care of our website faithfully for far longer than I've been your pastor, and has skillfully set out the audio recordings and listings of song and Scripture in such an accessible way! THANK YOU, KEVIN!

Next, I've been moved in a variety of emotional ways as I've listened to stories of racism in different forms over these last couple of months. A pastor friend of mine pointed me to a resource that offers a helpful array of ways to listen and learn called the 21-day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge put together by Debby Irving, a Racial Justice Educator and Writer. Whether or not you want to do the challenge, the website has a great and growing array of learning opportunities, from 3-minute podcasts to book recommendations to TED talks to films. This is a great chance to listen and learn.

Here's the link, which I invite you to explore and try just one option as a start:

<https://debbyirving.com/21-day-challenge/>

Just a reminder that we'll be online for worship through at least September 6, with the hope of holding safe, legal, and responsible outdoor worship on July 26 and August 30. We'll keep communicating through mid-week letters and Friday prayer lists, as well as constantly update our website. Any questions? Our church office remains closed to the public, but Jeff Uecker is working in successful isolation at church and can answer all of your questions! (Church phone: 503.648.9573; church email: office@oldscothchurch.org)

Friends, we have a wonderful electronic opportunity to *listen!* May our ears hear the voice of the Holy Spirit, alive and at work in our lives.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Tracie