

From Pastor Jeanine

Isaiah 43:19

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

During last month’s storms a river ran through the finance office and dust riffled through the sanctuary. There were some glum days of blowing fans and grumbling shop vacs. But God is making a new thing. This month the roof is complete and so is the interior tuckpointing. The cicadas have arrived and will soon perch on our building. God is making a new thing at UiF. Can you feel it? God’s abundant life is alive in us. This summer we will continue to reveal that abundance in our space and in our conversations. We will gather over dinner and dream dreams. We will prophesy and make plans. This is the season of Pentecost.

During this season, I am resolved to seek the Spirit. I am seeking *ruach* (wind, spirit, breath) over hill and dale, in books and in people. On my way through the library before I left for the Memorial Day weekend I snagged, *Faithful yet Changing: The Church in Challenging Times*. Bishop Mark S. Hanson’s book written twenty years ago. Perfect for a plane ride, this small book still speaks to our situation. He envisions the Church as witnessing, worshiping, engaging, equipping, inviting, connecting, changing, and praying. His practice during his ministry was to challenge and provoke people to consider one sign of God at work in them, in their lives, in their ministry. Never to say that God was only doing one thing, but to begin to tune us to look for God in the world.

I am provoked by this practice. I do believe that we find what we seek, focusing our vision, tuning our ears so that we can see and hear God at work in the world. Speaking the results of this quest, is witness—testimony. I invite you to open your eyes and see. And once you see God at work share that with your neighbor. Tell your stories. They will enliven us and spur us on. God is doing a new thing. Filling us with the Spirit. Opening us to our neighbors. Healing our bodies and beckoning our souls.

Where do you see God at work in you today? What new thing do you see?
Please come and share so that we can all see more of God’s blessings.

Pr. Jeanie