

## Ministerial Musings

### May Ministry Theme: Creativity

*Creativity is our ability to dream things up and make them happen. - Peggy Taylor*



Sometimes the word “Creativity” can stop us in our tracks, because all too often we associate this with people who are artistic, who make wonderful things and imagine great new ways of seeing or who bring about awe-inspiring beauty through art or writing or performance. But what we’re being asked to think about this month is how can we begin to *see ourselves as people of creativity*. As with most of these “themes”, we are invited to step outside of the box, stretch out of our comfort zones a little, and begin to see the possibility of full, enriching spiritual and moral lives.

Aside from the “talent” aspect, we associate creativity with dreaming - conjuring up new ideas and images and imagining something really outstanding. But what about that other part? The part about “making them happen.” Maybe that’s where we get stuck. Because we can all use our imaginations and perhaps come up with great and wonderful ideas. But bringing them into reality is harder.

We celebrate the fun part of creativity and leave off the hard piece of making our imaginings real. And this is not just the hard part - this is the scary part too.

Because in seeing ourselves as a people of creativity, we’re being invited to not only tap into our imagination but also to try something new, experiment a little, and then embrace our missteps when we undertake any kind of creative venture. You have to be brave to try new things and risk failure. Being creative and unique can cause others to cheer us on, be impressed, applaud our efforts. But it can also lead to being laughed at or ridiculed or thought less of. Of course there is joy, beauty and play in creativity, but there is also insecurity, loneliness and self-doubt.

Which means that this month is not just about imagination, artistry and self-expression, but also courage. And it isn’t just about art, but creativity also has its other aspects: and we can find creativity in the patterns of nature, and in the analytical work we do in charts and spreadsheets. We can find and feel abundant creativity around us and inside us by simply paying attention, noticing and appreciating.

And then making sure we are part of this ongoing creativity - part of restoring and healing the world.

I can’t help but notice how apt this is, in this time of beginnings, a new ministry on the horizon, for all of us to be thinking and seeing ourselves as people of creativity!

in the faith, with hope and love...

Rev. Susan

Reverend Dr. Susan Veronica Rak, Interim Minister

*(image courtesy of Rev. Susan, taken on a street in Arles, France this past summer)*