

Pastor Anne's Message, October 2025

Mustard Seed Sized Faith

I wonder how many of us feel as though we have enough faith. Or ~ are you like me, and sometimes wish that you had a little more faith? A little more trust that God really is in control of this world. A little more belief that it is all going to be okay. We just have to have faith. We believe we have at least a little faith. But if you have ever wished you had a little more, you are certainly not alone.

In Luke 17:5-6, it is Jesus' apostles who are asking for more faith. Even they sometimes struggled with believing and trusting in God and in their leader, Jesus. The apostles are the ones who have left everything to follow Jesus. But they have been listening to his recent teachings, which have been challenging to say the least. They want to believe and so they ask in a desperate plea: "Increase our faith!" And their honest request should bring comfort to anyone who has ever wished for the same: a little more faith, a little more trust that it is going to be okay; that God is in control, and that God cares about us all. We just have to have a little faith. Or, perhaps, just a little MORE faith.

But this raises a question. How much faith is enough? The apostles feel as though they need more faith to face the challenges that Jesus is placing before them. So, they ask Jesus to increase their faith. If they are going to do everything that Jesus asks of them, they will certainly need more faith. At least that is what they believe. But that turns out not to be true. They actually don't need MORE faith. This is a not a question of how MUCH faith, rather it is a question of WHO WE PUT OUR FAITH IN.

When the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith, he gives them a very famous response. He tells them that if they have **faith the size of a mustard seed**, they have more than enough faith. The mustard seed is not the smallest seed that exists. But it is the smallest seed that the disciples knew about. It is tiny. And Jesus tells them that if they have faith the size of this tiny seed, they have more than enough faith. And I think that is what Jesus is saying, to them and TO US, is that if we have any faith at all, it is enough. Or, to put it another way, if we have enough faith to ask for more, then we already have enough.

Why is this? Because it is not a question of how much faith we have – it is a question of who we put our faith in. Knowing and believing how the tiny mustard seed can grow, our faith in that sized seed, has the promise and capability to grow as well!

May this story of the tiny mustard seed encourage you in your quest for faith and sometimes more faith. Realize that you are enough, your faith ~ even mustard seed sized ~ is a strong faith which will grow along with your love in Christ. Amen

Dear Friends in Plateau Valley and our Community of Faith,

May you enjoy the colorful change of seasons, and may autumn find you in touch with God, with Spirit as you believe and understand.

Pastor Anne



Welcome and prayer for new member, Tom Melendy

Trustees Report

Fall is coming in fast and the Trustees are preparing the building and yard for winter.

The sprinklers have been blown out. The lawn was mowed for the last time this year after the heaviest fall of leaves.

The Gymnasium is, once again, available for rent to the general public. Please contact Julia Cox or Sue Bellotti if you are interested in using the gym. Guidelines will be developed and will be taped to the door and handed out to each renter. The most important thing to note, is that any use of the gym must be supervised by a parent or instructor.

The foundation has been sealed against snow and ice along the east side of the basement. We are preparing to repair the basement room used by the 4-H and for community club storage. Letters will go out to those affected.

The Mothers Park flowerbed needs to be cleaned for the winter and prepared for Spring. Any volunteers?

Trustees – J. Cox, S. Bellotti, M. Loftus, and T. Evans

Women's Fellowship

The Annual Turkey Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 15, and will be TAKE-OUT only. Please preorder your dinners by calling Julia, 970-487-3750, or Sue, 970-487-3474. Leave a message with your name, number, and number of dinners and toffee ordered.

We will be preparing the meal on Friday, November 14th, beginning at 8am. If you are available to help, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sue Bellotti or Julia Cox if you will be able to help either Friday or Saturday.

We will need people to roast turkeys. If you can take on that responsibility, turkeys can be picked up at the Congregational Church dining room on Wednesday or Thursday. Again, please contact Sue or Julia.

Half pound boxes of Toffee will be available at the Turkey Dinner at the usual price of \$15.00. Toffee must be preordered and can be paid for and picked up on Saturday, November 15, during the take-out dinner pick-up scheduled between 11:30 and 1:00pm.

We will be asking for donations of fresh pies. If you would like to bake a pie or pies for Women's Fellowship, please let us know. We have chosen to only serve pumpkin, pecan, or apple pies.

I want to thank the wonderful people in our community who choose to support the Congregational Church Women's Fellowship with this fundraiser.

Sincerely,

Sue Bellotti, Pres.

2025 ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

Fundraiser For Women's Fellowship and Congregational Church UCC

2003 High Street in Church Dining Room

TAKE OUT ONLY

NOVEMBER 15, 2025

Serving from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

\$15.00 per adult/children over 12 yrs.

\$10.00 children 12 yrs and under

TAKE OUT ONLY

Reservations required. Order ahead by calling

Julia Cox, 487-3750, or Sue Bellotti, 487-3474 or 970-208-3902

If necessary, please leave message with name, phone number, number of dinners

Payment is due when picked up

Gluten free option available

Local delivery available if needed



Almond Toffee

\$15.00/half pound

Order ahead by calling

**Cindy Melendy, 970-712-6647,
or Sue Bellotti, 487-3474 or 970-208-3902**

If necessary, please leave message with name, phone number, amount of toffee

Payment is due when picked up

Ready for delivery, Nov. 15, in Congregational Church Dining Room.

THE MUSTARD SEED
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PO BOX 160
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Fall back an hour, November 2