

October 25th 2026

WHEN MONDAY COMES

Faith for the Week Ahead

✿ Please take this home and use it during the week. ✿

Sunday worship is not meant to stay in the sanctuary.

Each week, When Monday Comes offers Scripture, prayers, reflections, and simple encouragement to help us carry faith into everyday life.



Read it with your morning coffee.



Use a prayer before bed.



Think about the weekly question.



Share a thought with someone else.



Let God speak in the ordinary places of life.

Faith is not only for Sunday morning.

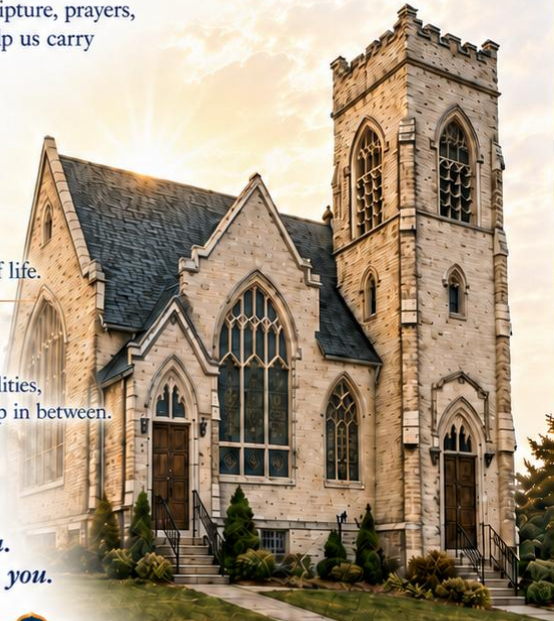
Faith is for Monday decisions, Tuesday worries, Wednesday conversations, Thursday responsibilities, Friday weariness, Saturday hopes, and every step in between.

So please take this home, keep it nearby, and when Monday comes, remember:

God is still with you.

Christ is still calling you.

The Spirit is still working in you.



United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville

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51 Cottage Street • Whitinsville, MA 01588
Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m. • <https://whitinpres.org>

Another View
Forgiveness Is Easy Until You Know Their Name
Scripture: Matthew 22:34–40; Leviticus 19:17–18

Jesus told us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Sounds simple enough, doesn't it?

Most of us try to do just that. We help people when we can, try to be kind, and generally treat others the way we'd like to be treated.

But Jesus never said we only had to love the neighbors we liked.

What about the friend who betrayed our trust? The family member who said something that hurt us deeply? Or the person who knew exactly what they were doing and did it anyway?

That's different, isn't it?

Sometimes forgiveness is hardest when we know someone's name and believe they should have known better.

When someone hurts us, we want an apology. We want them to understand what they did. Sometimes we want other people to know what happened. And if we're willing to admit it, occasionally we'd like to see them get a little taste of their own medicine.

We've probably all felt that way.

In Leviticus 19, God tells His people not to seek revenge or hold grudges, but to love their neighbors as themselves. Jesus repeats that command in Matthew 22.

But Leviticus also tells us something else. We're supposed to speak up when someone does wrong.

Forgiveness doesn't mean pretending nothing happened. It doesn't mean we must trust someone who has repeatedly hurt us or put ourselves back into a situation where we might be harmed again.

We can forgive someone while still holding them accountable.

But there's a difference between wanting someone to take responsibility and wanting them to suffer because they hurt us.

And that's where forgiveness becomes difficult.

Every Sunday, many of us pray the Lord's Prayer, asking God to forgive us as we forgive those who have wronged us.

Those words come pretty easily when we're sitting in church.

They can be a lot harder to live out on Monday morning.

A Conversation in an Ambulance

Years ago, when I was working as a paramedic, I regularly transported a gentleman who was struggling with addiction.

After so many trips together, we'd gotten to know each other. During those ambulance rides, we'd talk about all sorts of things, sometimes having conversations that had very little to do with why he needed medical attention.

One day, the conversation turned to God.

He told me he'd lived such a terrible life that God could never forgive him. He believed he'd done so many things wrong that there wasn't even any reason to ask for forgiveness.

I remember telling him that Christ had forgiven people who had done far worse things to Him than anything this gentleman could have done.

But there was something else I wanted to say.

I wanted to ask him, "Do you really think you're so special that you've managed to do something the God who created the entire universe couldn't forgive?"

I didn't say it.

Perhaps I was afraid of coming on too strong. Perhaps I wasn't as comfortable speaking openly about my faith then as I am today.

I don't really know.

Sometime later, I learned that this gentleman had died from a drug overdose.

And I've thought about that conversation many times since.

Could I have said something different? Should I have been more forceful? Would he have believed me if I'd tried harder?

I'll never know.

His struggle with addiction was far more complicated than anything I could have solved with one conversation. But that doesn't stop me from wondering whether there was something more I could have said.

And here's something I've come to recognize.

I was trying to convince a man that God could forgive him for the mistakes he'd made.

Yet years later, I was still having trouble forgiving myself for the words I hadn't said.

Isn't that something?

We can believe completely in God's forgiveness for somebody else while having a difficult time accepting that same grace for ourselves.

And perhaps that's one reason Jesus' command to love our neighbors as ourselves is so important.

The grace we ask God to give us is the same grace we're called to extend to other people.

And sometimes, we need to learn to accept it ourselves.

The same Savior who knows every mistake we've made is the Savior who offers us forgiveness.

That doesn't mean our mistakes don't matter. Sometimes we need to apologize, make things right, or accept the consequences of what we've done.

God's forgiveness doesn't erase our responsibility. But neither does taking responsibility mean we must punish ourselves forever.

And it doesn't mean that forgiving someone who has hurt us will be easy.

But Christ calls us to love others, even when we're struggling with anger or disappointment.

Sometimes that love means offering forgiveness. Sometimes it means speaking the truth, setting boundaries, or refusing to seek revenge.

And sometimes it means trusting God with an outcome we cannot change.

So when Monday comes, think about a name that still brings back anger, hurt, or regret.

Maybe it's someone who should have known better.

Maybe it's someone who never apologized.

Or maybe it's the name you see in the mirror every morning.

You don't have to make everything right today. Forgiveness can take time, and some hurts run very deep.

But perhaps you can begin with a simple prayer:

Lord, You know what happened. You know why it still hurts. Help me let go of the anger I no longer need to carry, without forgetting what I need to learn. Show me how to forgive, how to make things right where I can, and how to accept the grace You offer me. Amen.

When Monday comes, remember that the same Christ who asks us to forgive others already knows our names, our mistakes, and our regrets. And knowing all of that, He still invites us to come to Him.

Faith Between Sundays
Weekly Reflections: October 25–31, 2026
Love Is More Than a Good Intention

Jesus told us to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves. Most of us would agree that's a good way to live. But agreeing with something and actually doing it aren't always the same.

Loving others isn't always easy, especially when someone has hurt or disappointed us. Sometimes love means forgiving, sometimes it means helping, and sometimes it means speaking the truth when remaining silent would be easier.

This week, we'll look at what Scripture teaches us about putting God's love into practice. Not through grand gestures, but through the choices we make every day.

Prayer for the Week

Lord, You know how difficult it can be to love others when we're hurt, disappointed, or angry. Help us remember the grace You've shown us. Give us patience when we're frustrated, courage when we need to speak up, and wisdom to recognize opportunities to show Your love. Amen.

Sunday, October 25 — More Than Just Words

Scripture: Matthew 22:34–40

When Jesus was asked which commandment was the greatest, He gave two answers: love God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.

Jesus then explained that all the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commandments. In other words, loving God and loving others isn't an optional part of being a Christian. It's at the center of everything we're supposed to do.

That's worth thinking about. We can attend church, read our Bibles, and know all the right answers. But if our faith doesn't affect how we treat people, we're missing something important.

Loving our neighbors doesn't mean we'll always agree with them or even like everything they do. It means remembering that they're people God loves, too.

Today's Faithful Step: Think of one person who could use a little kindness or encouragement. Don't just think about helping. Find a way to do it.

Prayer: Lord, help me show my love for You through the way I treat others. Amen.

Monday, October 26 — When They Should Have Known Better

Scripture: Leviticus 19:17–18

God tells His people not to hold hatred in their hearts, seek revenge, or carry grudges. But there's another important instruction in this passage: when someone does wrong, we're supposed to address it rather than quietly allowing resentment to grow.

That's an important distinction. God isn't asking us to pretend nothing happened when someone hurts us. He's asking us to deal with the problem without allowing hatred or revenge to take control.

Sometimes that's difficult, especially when the person who hurt us knew better. We want an apology, an explanation, or at least an acknowledgment that what happened was wrong.

Those feelings are understandable. But we have a choice about what we do with them. We can work toward forgiveness while still expecting accountability and maintaining healthy boundaries.

Today's Faithful Step: Think about an old grudge. Ask yourself whether holding on to it is helping anything. Begin by asking God to help you deal with the hurt without seeking revenge.

Prayer: Lord, help me face what is wrong without allowing anger to take over my heart.
Amen.

Tuesday, October 27 — The Apology That Never Came

Scripture: Romans 12:17–21

Paul tells Christians not to repay evil with evil. He encourages us to live peacefully with others whenever possible and reminds us that vengeance belongs to God.

Then he gives us an even greater challenge: instead of allowing evil to determine how we respond, we should overcome evil with good.

That doesn't mean wrongdoing should go unchallenged. It means we shouldn't become the very thing that hurt us.

Sometimes we wait years for an apology that never comes. We replay conversations and imagine what we'd say if we ever got the opportunity.

But what happens if that apology never arrives? Do we spend the rest of our lives carrying the anger?

Paul reminds us that we don't have to settle every score ourselves. We can seek what is right and leave ultimate judgment to God.

Today's Faithful Step: Think about something you've been waiting for someone else to make right. Ask God to help you move forward, even if the apology never comes.

Prayer: Lord, help me seek what is right without allowing resentment to guide my actions. Amen.

Wednesday, October 28 — The Person in the Mirror

Scripture: 1 John 1:8–9

John reminds us that none of us is without sin. Pretending we've never done anything wrong doesn't make us better Christians. It simply keeps us from being honest with ourselves and God.

But John also gives us a wonderful promise. When we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from unrighteousness.

Notice that John doesn't say we must somehow become perfect before asking for forgiveness. He tells us to come to God honestly.

Sometimes we have a much harder time accepting God's forgiveness than believing He will forgive someone else. We keep remembering something we said or did years ago, even after we've asked for forgiveness.

We may still need to apologize or make things right where possible. But continuing to punish ourselves doesn't make Christ's forgiveness any greater.

Today's Faithful Step: Think about a mistake you've never quite forgiven yourself for. If there's something you can still make right, consider doing it. Otherwise, bring that regret honestly before God and ask for help accepting His grace.

Prayer: Lord, help me learn from my failures without allowing them to define the rest of my life. Amen.

Thursday, October 29 — Love Doesn't Mean Being a Doormat

Scripture: Ephesians 4:14–16

Paul is writing about growing into mature followers of Christ. He warns against being easily misled and encourages believers to speak the truth in love.

Those last few words are particularly important.

Speaking the truth doesn't give us permission to be cruel, and showing love doesn't require us to remain silent when something is wrong.

Sometimes the loving thing to do is have a difficult conversation. We might need to correct a misunderstanding, tell someone their actions are hurtful, or establish a boundary.

It isn't always easy. Most of us would rather avoid an uncomfortable conversation. But genuine love involves both honesty and concern for the other person.

Today's Faithful Step: Is there a conversation you've been avoiding? Think about how you might speak honestly while treating the other person with dignity and respect.

Prayer: Lord, give me the courage to speak the truth and the wisdom to do it with kindness.
Amen.

Friday, October 30 — Sometimes We're the Answer

Scripture: Galatians 6:2

Paul tells us to carry one another's burdens and explains that doing so fulfills the law of Christ.

That's a short verse with a pretty big responsibility.

We're not supposed to go through life concerned only about our own problems. God calls us to notice when others are struggling and help where we can.

Sometimes that means providing practical assistance. Other times it means listening, offering encouragement, or simply being present.

We don't always recognize how much someone is struggling. The person who seems to have everything under control may be carrying burdens we know nothing about.

And sometimes the help someone needs is something we can provide without much effort at all.

Today's Faithful Step: Look for one opportunity to make someone else's day a little easier. It doesn't have to be anything impressive. Small acts of kindness can mean a great deal.

Prayer: Lord, open my eyes to the burdens others are carrying and show me how I might help. Amen.

Saturday, October 31 — What Did Love Look Like This Week?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

Paul describes love as patient and kind. He tells us that love isn't boastful, arrogant, or selfish. It doesn't insist on always getting its own way, and it doesn't keep a running account of every wrong.

Notice that Paul isn't describing love simply as a warm feeling. He's describing how love behaves.

That's a pretty good checklist for examining our week.

Were we patient when someone frustrated us? Did we show kindness when it wasn't convenient? Did we hold on to anger longer than necessary?

And did we recognize the times when someone showed those same qualities toward us?

None of us gets everything right. Fortunately, our Christian lives aren't graded like a school examination. We're called to keep learning, growing, and following Christ's example.

Today's Faithful Step: Look back over the week. Think of one occasion when you showed Christ's love and one situation you might handle differently next time.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for Your patience with me. Help me learn from this week and become a little better at loving others in the week ahead. Amen.

From the Pew

The Other Side of the Helping Hand

For most of my life, I have tried to help people. Accepting help? Well, that's another matter entirely.

During my years as a paramedic, I encountered many elderly patients who were afraid of falling. Some were so frightened that they wouldn't walk across a room without holding onto something.

I remember thinking, *You need to get up, exercise, and build some strength. You'll never get better sitting around worrying about falling.*

Looking back, I suspect a few of those patients would have been perfectly justified in whacking me with their walkers.

Because now I understand. Or at least I'm beginning to understand a little better.

Following my recent hip replacement, something happened that I never expected. The old hip pain disappeared, and every day I began regaining a little more movement. But I also discovered something I'd never really experienced before.

I was afraid.

Not afraid of an emergency, a difficult rescue, or some dangerous situation. I've faced plenty of those during my lifetime. I've always believed that with God's help, some training, determination, and a little ingenuity, I could find a way through almost anything.

But now I could be walking down an ordinary hallway, looking for a wall or something sturdy to hold onto.

I was afraid of falling.

And perhaps even more frightening was the thought that I might never again be as independent or capable as I once was.

At 71, I'm discovering that aging isn't entirely a matter of attitude. Apparently, some of those factory-installed parts really do wear out.

But the most difficult part of recovery hasn't been the new hip or even the sore knee that came along for the ride.

It's been allowing other people to help me.

When the Burn Tower Caught Fire

Years ago, during a training exercise at our fire department's burn tower, a crew had stored forty or fifty wooden pallets inside the burn room to keep them dry during snowy weather.

During a break in training, when everyone was out of the room, those pallets somehow caught fire.

Now, burning things in a fire training tower isn't unusual. That's what the building was designed for. But setting fire to nearly fifty pallets at once wasn't exactly part of the day's lesson plan.

The firefighters tried to extinguish the fire themselves, but things became considerably more difficult than expected.

Station 6 was located right on the road leading up to the training tower. Help was practically next door.

But imagine the embarrassment of calling another fire company because you couldn't put out a fire in the building where you were supposed to be teaching people how to fight fires!

So they kept working at it themselves.

Eventually, the fire was extinguished, but not before some damage had occurred. There was burned paint on the outside of a wall, smoke residue in places it didn't belong, and most of the pallets needed for future training had been destroyed.

Meanwhile, the firefighters at Station 6 noticed all the smoke coming from the tower and figured the training crew must really be working hard that day.

And, as you might imagine, the firefighters involved became affectionately known as **"The Burn Crew."**

Firefighters have long memories when it comes to things like that.

But there's an important lesson in what happened.

Sometimes we're so concerned about looking incapable that we'd rather struggle alone than admit we need help.

God Doesn't Need a Mutual Aid Agreement

During my years in emergency services, I learned that asking for additional help was sometimes the smartest decision an incident commander could make.

But it also required judgment. Every additional ambulance, engine, or rescue company had to come from somewhere. Requesting more resources for one emergency could leave another part of the city with less protection.

You had to consider what you needed and what effect your request might have on everyone else.

And somewhere along the way, I began treating my relationship with God much the same way.

I've always believed that if something needed doing, I should exhaust every possible solution before asking anyone for assistance.

I've even approached God that way.

After all, He's got an entire universe to manage. Surely, I should try everything possible before troubling Him with my little problems.

But there's something wrong with that thinking.

God isn't an overworked dispatcher trying to decide which emergency deserves His attention.

He doesn't have to take His attention away from someone else's problems to listen to mine. His love, grace, and ability to care for us aren't limited resources.

In Matthew 7:7, Jesus tells us to ask, seek, and knock.

He doesn't say, "Try everything yourself first, and if you still can't figure it out, give Me a call."

That doesn't mean God will always give us what we ask for or that we should sit around waiting for Him to solve every problem.

And here's something else I'm learning.

God's help doesn't always mean He removes the problem. Sometimes it means giving us the strength to face it, the patience to work through it, or sending someone who is willing to help us carry the burden.

My hip didn't suddenly heal because I prayed about it. I still needed surgery, physical therapy, and plenty of assistance. And I still have some difficult days.

But through those difficult days, I haven't been alone.

Perhaps that's something we overlook when we pray. We're so busy hoping God will take away our problems that we sometimes fail to recognize the help He's already provided to get us through them.

Prayer shouldn't be our last resort after every other possibility has failed.

We don't have to prove we're capable of handling everything ourselves before asking God for help.

You'd think a fellow who spent years teaching others when to request additional assistance would have figured that out by now.

Of course, knowing something and actually living it are sometimes two very different things.

The Other Side of Helping

Then I began thinking about Becca, my wife.

For several years, her vision problems prevented her from driving. I became her chauffeur. We went shopping together, ran errands together, and made trips she once would have made on her own.

For Becca, depending on someone else meant losing a little of her independence.

But I never saw helping her as a burden.

I certainly didn't enjoy watching her struggle with her eyesight or lose some of the independence she valued. But I treasured those ordinary trips together.

In fact, now that her eyesight has improved and she's driving again, I sometimes miss the time we spent together.

What she experienced as a loss of control, I experienced as an opportunity for us to become closer.

And suddenly, something occurred to me.

If helping Becca was never a burden to me, why do I assume that helping me must be a burden to her?

Why do I happily offer someone else a helping hand but feel like a failure when I need to take one?

Galatians 6:2 tells us, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Notice those words: *one another's*.

It doesn't say that strong people must always help weak people. It doesn't divide us into permanent groups of helpers and people who need help.

We take turns.

Sometimes we're the ones carrying the stretcher. Sometimes we're the ones lying on it.

And sometimes the person who has spent a lifetime reaching out to others must learn how to reach back.

I'm beginning to understand something else, too.

The elderly patients I once thought simply needed more exercise may have needed something much simpler first.

Someone to understand their fear.

Someone willing to walk beside them.

Someone to offer a steady hand without making them feel ashamed for needing it.

A few weeks of recovery haven't taught me everything about living with a disability or losing independence. But they've certainly shown me how much I took for granted.

Perhaps growing older isn't only about losing some of the abilities we once enjoyed. Perhaps it's also an opportunity to gain the understanding and compassion we didn't have when we were younger.

I still want to regain my independence. I still want to walk confidently, work in my shop, and do the things I've always enjoyed.

And I believe, with time, therapy, and God's grace, many of those things are possible.

But I'm also learning that independence and love aren't always measured by how much we can do for ourselves.

Sometimes love means helping someone else.

And sometimes love means allowing someone else to help us.

Perhaps accepting a helping hand isn't a sign that we've become less capable. Perhaps it's a sign that we've finally understood what it means to carry one another.

And if you happen to see me walking down the hallway with my cane, you're welcome to offer your arm.

Just don't tell anybody I asked for help.

I do have a reputation to maintain.

Have Something From Your Pew?

Have you ever experienced a moment when faith showed up in an unexpected place? Perhaps a stranger's kindness, a lesson learned the hard way, a question you've been thinking about, or something that simply made you stop and thank God.

We'd love to hear your story!

You don't need to be a writer or have a perfectly polished article. Sometimes the simplest experiences carry the most meaningful lessons. Serious, funny, inspiring, or thought-provoking—your experiences might be exactly what someone else needs to hear.

Remember, *From the Pew* isn't just about one person's journey of faith. It's about all of ours.

So don't be shy. Share a story, ask a question, or tell us what you've been thinking about. Your words may encourage someone in ways you never imagined. Submit all articles to Whitinpres@gmail.com

Wisdom From Bird Dog

The Trail We Almost Missed

During a trip to New Hampshire, Becca, Bird Dog, and I discovered that the famous Appalachian Trail passed just a few miles from the house we were renting.

Well, naturally, we had to see it!

After all, this was the Appalachian Trail, stretching more than 2,000 miles from Georgia to Maine. Surely there would be a grand entrance, impressive signs, a parking lot, and perhaps a souvenir shop where we could buy a T-shirt proving we'd visited one of America's most famous hiking trails.

Although I suspect Becca was more interested in finding a T-shirt for Bird Dog than one for either of us!

So off we went.

Forty-five minutes later, we were still driving around looking for it.

No impressive signs. No parking lot. No souvenir shop. Nothing!

We were getting frustrated and about ready to give up when we noticed a gentleman sitting beside the road.

We stopped and asked if he knew where the Appalachian Trail was.

As it turned out, he certainly did!



**Bird Dog happy to meet the
“Pastor of the Appalachian Trail”**

We'd driven right past it several times.

There was no grand entrance. Just a small sign warning motorists about hikers crossing the road and an opening in the trees that looked like any other path into the woods.

But here's where our adventure took an unexpected turn.

The gentleman was a recently retired Methodist pastor who was fulfilling a lifelong dream of hiking the Appalachian Trail. He'd been walking for six months and had only about 400 miles left to complete his journey.

His friends affectionately called him the **"Pastor of the Appalachian Trail."**

We started talking, and I mentioned that I was learning to preach and writing a little publication called *When Monday Comes*.

At the time, I was questioning whether I was really qualified to be doing either.

He encouraged me, reminding me that we don't have to be ordained ministers to do God's work. We don't need a church building, a pulpit, or an impressive title to share God's love or offer encouragement to someone.

Then he said something I've remembered ever since.

Finding God is actually easier than finding the Appalachian Trail. We don't need big signs because God leaves breadcrumbs for us to follow. We just have to look for them.

Now, I don't think he was suggesting that following God is always easy.

Sometimes we pray for guidance and still aren't sure which direction to take. Sometimes the path ahead seems completely hidden, and we have to move forward in faith without knowing where it will lead.

But perhaps that was part of what he wanted me to understand.

We can become so busy looking for something extraordinary that we overlook the ordinary ways God may already be working in our lives.

Before we parted, the pastor offered one more piece of practical advice.

"Always make sure you have dry socks."

In fact, if you look at the photograph, you'll notice he was taking a break and drying his socks.

Apparently, after six months of walking the Appalachian Trail, he'd learned that something as simple as wet feet could make a long journey miserable.

And that got me thinking.

If we're willing to take care of our feet before a long hike, shouldn't we be just as concerned about taking care of our faith?

Reading our Bible, praying, and taking a little time each day to recognize God's presence might not seem particularly impressive. But those simple habits help prepare us for the difficult stretches of life's journey.

Psalm 119:105 reminds us that God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Dry socks won't remove every rock from the trail, and prayer won't remove every problem from our lives. But both can help us keep going when the journey becomes difficult.

And Bird Dog?

She hadn't been disappointed in the least.

As far as she was concerned, she'd enjoyed a nice car ride, met a wonderful new friend, received plenty of attention, and even gotten to stand on the famous Appalachian Trail.

In the photograph, I think she's actually smiling at the pastor!

She didn't care that we'd spent nearly an hour driving around. She wasn't worried about the lack of signs, and she certainly didn't care how many miles of trail were still ahead.

Although I'm fairly certain Becca was still disappointed about that missing T-shirt!

Looking back, I wonder how often we approach life the same way we approached finding that trail.

We expect things to happen a certain way. We pray for an answer, imagine how everything should work out, and become disappointed when things don't go according to our plans.

But sometimes what looks like a wrong turn leads us to someone or something we never expected.

Not every disappointment turns into something wonderful. Some difficulties remain difficult, and we don't always understand why things happen.

But I do believe God can bring something good out of circumstances we wouldn't have chosen.

I can't prove that God arranged our meeting with that pastor. But I certainly believe He was present in that unexpected conversation.

We spent nearly an hour searching for a famous trail. Yet the most important thing we found wasn't the trail itself.

It was an encouraging conversation with someone I never expected to meet, at a time when I needed a little encouragement about the work I was trying to do.



Bird Dog on the Appalachian Trail

And perhaps those breadcrumbs the pastor talked about aren't always great miracles or spectacular signs.

Sometimes they're an encouraging word, a stranger willing to help, an unexpected friendship, or a little opening in the woods that we've driven past several times.

Bird Dog didn't know where we were going or what we were looking for. She was simply happy to be along for the ride, ready to enjoy whatever happened next.

While I was looking for a trail, Bird Dog was looking for a friend. She found hers first.

Maybe there's something we can learn from that.

Sometimes the most important thing we find isn't what we went looking for in the first place.

Bird Dog's Wisdom: *Don't get so busy looking for the big signs that you miss God's little breadcrumbs along the way. And remember to take care of your soles—and your soul. Both need attention if you're going to finish the journey.*

A Question to Carry With You: Have you ever been disappointed when something didn't go according to plan, only to discover later that God may have been opening a different door?

God's Fuel
Just Enough Light for the Next Step
Scripture: Psalm 119:105

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Have you ever noticed that a flashlight doesn't illuminate the entire road ahead? It only shows us enough to take the next few steps.

Sometimes our relationship with God works much the same way.

We want answers. We want to know how things will turn out. We want our problems solved, our mistakes forgiven, and a clear path to follow.

But God doesn't always show us the entire journey.

Sometimes He gives us someone willing to help carry our burdens. Sometimes He helps us find the strength to forgive. And sometimes He places a little encouragement along a path we weren't expecting to travel.

Faith doesn't mean knowing exactly where the road will lead. It means trusting the One who walks beside us.

And perhaps that's enough for today.

A Prayer for the Journey

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for walking beside us, even when we cannot see the road ahead.

Help us forgive when we're hurting, accept help when we're struggling, and recognize Your presence in the ordinary moments of our lives.

Give us the wisdom to follow Your guidance, the courage to take the next step, and the faith to trust You with what lies beyond it. And when we lose our way, remind us that You have never lost sight of us.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WHITINSVILLE
51 Cottage Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588
Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.

 <https://whitinpres.org>
Livestream worship and read current and past issues of *When Monday Comes* on our website.

 Ideas for *From the Pew* or future content?
Contact the church office or scan the QR code.



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