

Howell eNews June 15, 2022

We live in an **“inflation nation.”** I don't need to share with you what you already know. We are all disturbed by the trend. I sometimes wonder how we make these things work for both the church and for all of our personal lives. If we have a lot of margin it's not such a big thing. If we were already scraping the bottom of the barrel these things are very painful. Let me just say, in my college days Carrie and I lived on \$10.00 for groceries for a two week period. How does that work you ask? I have no answer except for God's provision. I do know that we never missed a meal, though we did miss out on meal preferences.

It's easy to worry but why bother? Jesus says, **“Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”** (Matthew 6:36) What he is saying is what we all know. It is time to live just one day at a time. At this very moment I am fed, sitting in a comfortable chair in an air conditioned office! That is luxury by any standard!

By telling us not to worry, he is not saying don't plan ahead. Rainy day funds are always great to have around because it WILL rain. The funny thing is that in the Bible rain is a blessing not a curse. Jesus acknowledges that, **“In this world you WILL have trouble,** but then he adds **take heart I have overcome the world.”** (John 16:33) Fortunately for you, Howell First United Methodist Church is a church filled with faith, hope and love. In the spring of 2019 that love came out as our church created a fund for those who experience emergencies within our church family. We have only spent a small portion of it since, *so help is available to you.* If you are in a bad spot and groceries or a tank of gas would help, please let me know. After all, what good is an unused fund?

Last summer we created a red Howell First United Methodist shirt that says, “We Care.” And we DO care. If you are struggling we are very sorry and would be very happy to help. Please let me know how we can help. Your situation will be kept confidential.

The only inflation I want to see around here is **an inflation of love.**

Pastor Scott