
*The Dorchester/Friend
United Methodist
Church Newsletter*

Dr. Paixao Baptista, Pastor
kissindo@hotmail.com
402-947-1257

**The United Methodist
Church of Friend**
601 6th Street
Friend, NE 68359
402-947-3481

Dorchester UMC
PO Box 251
612 Lincoln Avenue
Dorchester, NE 68343
402-946-3091
dorchesterunitedmethodist.com

Paula Creamer, Secretary
dorchesterfriendumc@gmail.com
um71502@windstream.net

April 2020

PASTORAL POINT

“The Holy Distancing”

John 9

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

³⁶ “Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.”

³⁷ Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.”

³⁸ Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

⁴⁰ Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, “What? Are we blind too?”

⁴¹ Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

ILL: We are all visionary people in essence and we convince ourselves that the best in life is yet to come, we say; life will be better after we get to be an adult or after we are married, have a good job, start a family, etc. Then we start a new job and we say, sometimes we get frustrated that the kids aren’t old enough to mind, or be left alone or old enough to play sports yet (wait until wrestling season start, then we say; I can’t do anything on the weekends). I will wait until my kids are older. When the kids become teens, we’re frustrated that we have teenagers with a mind of their own. Or we tell ourselves that our life will be complete when our spouse gets his or her act together, when we get a nicer car, and

we are able to go on a nice vacation, or definitely when we retire. Then what happens? We retire, sit on the front porch and remember. What do we remember? We remember how nice the past was; how contented we were.”

This is what I want us to meditate today; “Holy Distancing” is for us to thing even in the middle of fear that our cup is overflowing. It is true that fear is part of our human predicament, we have fear that we don’t have enough yet; fear that we are not valuable enough yet; fear that we will be forgotten when we die; and fear that we will face God unprepared. In the midst of fear, I want to look at King David who even in time of war he still had a reasonable contentment before God. We see that when David felt a tremendous satisfaction as he wrote the 23rd for instance. But maybe today we ask; “how could someone feel such contentment and security when all around seems to be crumbling? We see that our 401K is diminishing, or penicillin can’t help in treatment of this new pandemic.

As we take a closer look at that passage, we discover some kind of answer of King David’s state of mind. David had rock solid gladness and security in the Lord, because he believed that God is his Shepherd. King David would tell us this morning that his serenity and sanctuary in life came from trusting that the Lord God was his personal Shepherd, “*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.... I will fear no evil.*” In John 10:11, Jesus reminded us with these words, “*I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*” We all have fears, especially of the unknown, don’t we? In intent, when we face our fears, we always try to grasp hold on something that will give us strength. And we forget that those things are temporary, of course they may help us to be brave. King David time and time again with all his shortcomings had chosen the Lord to help him get through difficult times.

David had chosen the Shepherd who led us to lie down in green pastures and leads us beside quiet waters! For a sheep, there is nothing better than when its shepherd feeds it in pleasant green pastures and near fresh water. Not just to graze on the green pastures, but to lie down in them. This is a picture of a complete peace, rest and relaxation in the presence of the Lord. I would caution us not to get the literal impression that believing in Christ is just resting around in tall grass and drinking Kool-Aid. David makes it clear that as the shepherd leads his sheep in the path of righteousness, they soon may find themselves even on the shadow of the valley of death!

Jesus’ own life and death and resurrection give us a clear illustration of this. Every day of his public ministry he faced false prophets, Pharisees and Sadducees. Many days he went without a place to lay his head. Jesus had to go through this valley so that He could pay for the sins of the world, in order that we should not have to face it, but be at his table. “*You prepare a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever*”

ILL: You may recall that joke of a little girl who had told some lies to her parents, and they got mad at her and made her eat by herself in the corner on a small table. As they began to eat, they heard her saying grace. She

said, 'You prepare a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.' She might have misunderstood that verse just a little, don't you think?

The Lord prepares a table in the presence of our adversity, He gives us closeness to Him for us to have chance to affront the shadow of whatever valley we are in. When we remember the Lord's Table, we remember that God stops at nothing to make sure we have the chance to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. As we believe, there is nothing that is too great in the Lord's power or too unimportant for our Lord to handle for our justification. We may have fear, but let us remember that the Lord is the 'Shepherd of our present and the Host of our future'. And we are under that promise. We are under the promise that Jesus has paid for all of our sins and he is our peace and rest in all our adversity. God has promised us that all things will work out for our good and for eternity in heaven. And the Lord has never made a promise that he didn't keep.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. This "Holy Distancing" with the Lord. Amen.

April Scripture

5th **Passion/Palm Sunday/Liturgy of the Palms**
Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16;
Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66 or
27:11-54

6th **Monday of Holy Week**
Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11;
Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11

7th **Tuesday of Holy Week**
Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14;
1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36

8th **Wednesday of Holy Week**
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3;
John 13:21-32

9th **Holy Thursday**
Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10), 11-14; Psalm 116:1-4,
12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;
John 13:1-17; 31b-35

10th **Good Friday**
Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22;
Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-9:42

11th **Holy Saturday**
Job 14:1-14; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16;
1 Peter 4:1-8; Matthew 27:57-66 or
John 19:38-42

Easter Vigil

Old Testament Readings with Psalms or Canticles

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26;
Psalm 33; Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13;
Psalm 46; Genesis 22:1-8; Psalm 16;
Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21;
Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18; Isaiah 55:1-11;
Isaiah 12:2-6; Ezekiel 36:24-28; Psalm 42;
Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 143

New Testament Reading and Psalm

Romans 6:3-11; Psalm 114

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:1-10

12th **Easter**
Acts 30:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18 or
Matthew 28:1-10

19th Acts 2:14a; 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9;
John 20:19-31

26th Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19;
1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Ecumenical Lenten Services 2020

Tentative schedule

All services start at 7:00 p.m.

An offering will be taken for *Friend Community Backpack Program*

The Community Choir rehearsal for the Palm Sunday Lenten service is **CANCELLED** for Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at Friend Congregational Church.

April 5th Friend Congregational Church w/Mass Choir ??? (unknown at this time)
Speaker – Pastor Murry Johnston (E-MUMC)

April 9th Holy Thursday – Dorchester UMC

April 10th Good Friday – Friend Congregational Church
Speaker – Pastor Eric Black (FCA)

April 12th Easter
Sunrise 7:00 a.m., Dorchester UMC, followed by Easter Brunch
w/Communion 9:30 a.m., Dorchester UMC
w/Communion 10:30 a.m., Friend UMC



Dorchester United Methodist Church will be holding an Easter prayer vigil. We will be praying in one hour time slots on Good Friday, April 10 from 7 a.m. to midnight and Saturday, April 11 from 7 a.m. to noon. We are asking you to sign up for one or more of these 1-hour time slots. If you have any questions regarding the prayer vigil, please contact Rhonda Schlick or Matthew Hoffman. Thank you in advance, prayer warriors. God Bless!!

Minutes of Administrative Council Meeting
Dorchester United Methodist Church
Monday, March 9, 2020

Present: Steve & Vicky Parks, Marla Weber, Bernice Weber, Pastor Baptista and Carol Olson. Steve gave devotions. Marla called the meeting to order.

The February minutes were distributed. Vicky made a motion to accept as presented. Bernice seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Bernice distributed the January and February treasurer's reports. Steve made a motion to accept as presented. Vicky seconded. Motion carried.

Trustees: Steve reported (1) the Trustees are in favor of paving a handicap parking area on the west side of the church, more discussion to follow. (2) The Trustees are in favor of treating the remaining trees (injecting iron) \$380. (3) There are ants in the kitchen. (4) He is still working with Electronic Contracting regarding their billing. (5) The Trustees have chosen a new Lawn Care Company, Wergin's. (6) He will schedule a work night. (7) Discussion continues with Saline County on taxing the west lot.

Action: Vicky made a motion to proceed with treating the trees. Marla seconded. Motion carried.

Action: Carol made a motion to hire Wergin's for 2020 lawn care. Steve seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor: Pastor (1) gave the info (*Your Best Move*) on welcoming a new Pastor to Carol/SPPRC. (2) Easter Sunday (April 12) sunrise service will begin at 7:00 a.m.

NOW: Nurture, Outreach Witness will serve Easter brunch after sunrise service.

Memorial: Vicky reported \$3,996.73 in the memorial checking account.

UMW: Carol reported the next UMW meeting will be April 1st at 7:00 p.m.

Worship Committee: Rhonda reported via text (1) that the Worship Committee will have Easter prayer vigil starting on Good Friday at 7:00 a.m. until Saturday noon. (2) That the Worship Committee is working on Live Streaming.

Bible Study: Rhonda reported the Bible Study, *Jesus I Never Knew*, by Philip Yancey will begin, Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Youth: The youth will meet in Dorchester, Sunday, March 15th.

Action: Steve made a motion to allow the Friend Historical Society to use the church's mailing permit for one special mailing. Marla seconded. Motion carried.

The next Administrative Council meeting will be, Monday, April 13th at 7:00 p.m. Carol will give devotions.

Recording Secretary,
Carol J. Olson



Administrative Council
United Methodist Church of Friend
March 16, 2020

Friend UMC Ad Council met on Monday, March 16th with 7 members present. Attending were Sylvia Stokes, Charlene Huber, Linda Hanneman, Pastor Baptista, Jen Stutzman, Mary Jo Weber and Margo Houlden.

Devotions were provided by Sylvia Stokes, followed with prayer by Pastor Baptista. Jen opened the meeting. Minutes were read from the January meeting. Mary Jo moved to accept the minutes with a second from Linda, motion approved.

Pastor reported that the Bishop asked that churches follow the state and national health recommendations for meeting groups and the number in attendance in regard to the coronavirus outbreak. Due to the guidelines issued today that groups not exceed 10 individuals (March 16th), there will be no worship service held until further notice. Video options will be explored in order that members can view Sunday service online. Due to the cancellation of Sunday service, concerns were expressed that contributions may drop. Discussion was held on different options to make giving easier and more convenient. We will explore online options and apps that can be used for donations. As always, donations can be sent to the church office.

Linda Hanneman reported that 3 funerals had been held since the last Ad Council Meeting.

Sylvia Stokes gave the financial report. Mary Jo reported on behalf on the Trustees. Recently, the trustees had approved a computer purchase.

Linda Hanneman made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Charlene Huber, motion approved.

The next meeting will be May 18th with Mary Jo giving the devotions.

Margo Houlden

Ad Council Secretary

FRIEND UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

2:00 p.m.

Program
Time to Share
Committee

CANCELLED

Carol J. Olson, Secretary

Golden Link

Lil Barker-Hannon

Dorchester United Methodist Women

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Call to Prayer & Self-Denial

May Baskets

Devotional:

Prayer Calendar:

Program:

Prayer & Self-Denial

Serving Committee:

Doris Broz-Clauss,

Vera Mazour, Sandy Krivohlavek

From the Dorchester Nurture-Outreach-Witness Committee

We are looking to implement a program that looks after those who are ill or who have recently experienced loss of a loved one. For example, if someone is ill and having to go through treatments and run to doctor's appointments frequently, we would like to take the burden from them of having to figure out "what's for supper" off of them one night a week while they are ill.

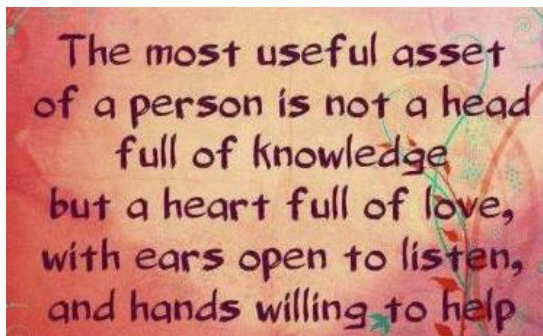
For those who have experienced loss of a loved one it is quite simple. When you lose a loved one you have an outpouring of love and support in the beginning. We would just like to touch base with them a few weeks later to let them know that they are still in our thoughts and that we are still there for them by visiting or giving them a call.

If you would like to participate in this program there will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

If you are ill or know of someone who has lost a loved one that you would like to have contacted please contact Cathy Weber at

lcrhweber@yahoo.com or 402-641-8768

or any other NOW committee member.



Easter Lilies

at the United Methodist Church of Friend

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to provide an Easter Lily and have it "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" someone.



FLOWERS for EASTER

at Dorchester United Methodist Church

The Worship Committee will be doing what they did last year for Easter. Instead of just Easter lilies we are also inviting people to bring Spring flowers, i.e., tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, etc. Easter lilies are still fine, but, if you'd rather do the other that'd be great! Our sanctuary will be full of color! There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like us to purchase your flowers for you, please let Rhonda know (or indicate it on the sign-up sheet). Please indicate if it is "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" someone.



Update on The Backpack Program at Dorchester Public School

During the current 2019-2020 school year, the ongoing program of the Backpack Program, coordinated through Food Bank of Lincoln, had continued to offer nutritional support for low-income families with students in our small, rural community.

Each student, qualifying for the program, requires financial encouragement through gifts totaling \$250.00 from individuals, organizations and businesses who each give a check in any amount and designated "BackPack Program" and mailed to:

Dorchester Public School
506 West 9th Street
Post Office Box 7
Dorchester, NE 68343

During the present very difficult times in our small community, it is our prayer that God, in His love for us, will continue to bless us through the Backpack Program.

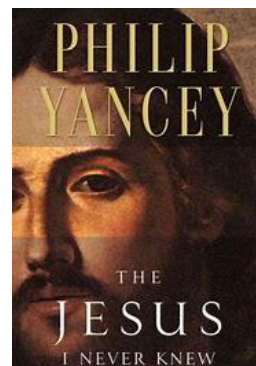
Gratefully, Kathy Palky,
community volunteer for the Backpack Program
at D.P. S.

New Bible Study at DUMC Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. "The Jesus I Never Knew"

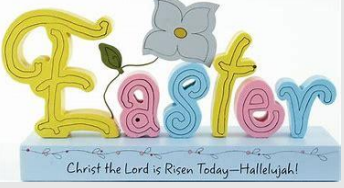
by *Philip Yancey*

Award winning author, Philip Yancey uses film clips to portray the Jesus we have come to know through our culture. This six session study series is a condensed version of the 14 session study developed by Yancey 10 years ago. Rediscover the difference that the life and teachings of Jesus made not only in his world, but in the world today. The six sessions are:

- 1) The Jesus I Thought I Knew.
- 2) The Beatitudes & Sermon on the Mount-Jesus teachings although appearing simple are deeply profound.
- 3) A Revolution of Grace-Jesus did not come for the wealthy and beautiful but for those we consider outcasts.
- 4) Jesus' Miracles-Jesus' miracles are a preview of what Jesus wants our life to be; free of pain and sorrow.
- 5) Jesus Death and Resurrection-the events of Holy Week are portrayed through vintage movie clips.
- 6) The Difference Jesus Makes-The life of one man, Jesus of Nazareth has changed the whole world.



April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Loose Coins: (D), (F) Table Grace			1 9 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel (F) No UMW 7 pm (D) UMW	2 No Choir Practice at (F) Congregational Church	3	4 10 am (F) Christian Assembly Easter basket packing & distribution
This is just a tentative schedule right now.						
5 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:30 am (D) Fellowship 10:40 am (D) Sunday School 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 9:45 am (F) Fellowship 10:10 am (F) Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship/baptism of Natalie Pendleton 7 pm (F) Cong Church ELS with Mass Choir (unsure right now)	6	7	8 9 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel 7 pm (D) Bible Study	9 Holy Thursday 7 pm (D) Holy Thursday Service w/communion	10 Good Friday 7 am-midnight (D) Easter Prayer Vigil 7 pm (F) Congregational Church Good Friday Service	11 7 am-noon (D) Easter Prayer Vigil
12 Easter 7 am (D) Sunrise Service Easter Brunch 9:30 am (D) Worship (F) Food Pantry Sunday 9:45 am (F) Fellowship 10:10 am (F) Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship	13 7 pm (D) Ad Council Meeting	14	15 9 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel 7 pm (D) Bible Study	16	17	18
19 9:30 am (D) Worship/baptism of Kyler Neeman 10:30 am (D) Fellowship 10:40 am (D) Sunday School (D) No Without Partners 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 9:45 am (F) Fellowship 10:10 am (F) Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship	20	21 Newsletter Articles Due	22 9 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel 7 pm (D) Bible Study	23	24 Arbor Day	25
26 Native American Ministries Sunday (D) Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:30 am (D) Fellowship 10:40 am (D) Sunday School 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 9:45 am (F) Fellowship 10:10 am (F) Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship	27	28 10:30 am (D) Folding the Newsletter	29 9 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel 7 pm (D) Bible Study	30		

Greeters

5th (D) George & Jen Kasl
(F) Cortney Kenney
9th (D) Randy & Rhonda Schlick
12th (D) Randy & Rhonda Schlick
(F)
19th (D) Amy Hansen & Carol Olson
(F) Houldens
26th (D) Loren & Judy Vyhnalesk
(F) Allen & Amanda Bruntz

Ushers

5th (D) George & Jen Kasl
(F) Cortney Kenney
9th (D) Randy & Rhonda Schlick
12th (D) Randy & Rhonda Schlick
(F)
19th (D) Amy Hansen & Carol Olson
(F) Houldens
26th (D) Loren & Judy Vyhnalesk
(F) Allen & Amanda Bruntz



Children's Time

5th (D) Rhonda Schlick
(F) Jen Stutzman
12th (D)
(F) Sherri Rohrig
19th (D)
(F) Liz Stutzman
26th (D) Rhonda Schlick
(F) Diane Odoski

Scripture Reader

5th (D)
(F) Jen Stutzman
9th (D)
12th (D)
(F) Sherri Rohrig
19th (D)
(F) Liz Stutzman
26th (D) Matthew Hoffman
(F) Diane Odoski



Liturgist (worship leader)

5th (D) Cindy Kotas
(F) Jen Stutzman
12th (D) Rhonda Schlick
(F)
19th (D) Matthew Hoffman
(F) Sherri Rohrig
26th (D)
(F) Diane Odoski

Fellowship Hosts

5th (D)
(F)
12th (D) Easter Brunch
(F)
19th (D)
(F) Sherri Rohrig
26th (D)
(F) Diane Odoski

Acolytes

5th (D), (F) Charlee Stutzman
9th (D)
12th (D); (F)
19th (D); (F) Mason & Addison Vossler
26th (D); (F) Blake & Brock Bruntz

Dorchester/Friend United Methodist
PO Box 251
Dorchester, NE 68343

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. postage
PAID
Dorchester,
NE 68343
Permit No. 4

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



Dorchester Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School – 10:40-11:30 a.m.
Friend Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School – 9:30-10:15 a.m. at FUMC



April 1 Rose Bruha, Robert Paulsen, Gary Rohrig
April 3 Jacob Weber
April 4 L.J. Barley, Lila Pribyl
April 5 Travis Kenney, Norma Knoble
April 7 Dinah Cannon
April 10 Brent Kasl, Melinda Rohrig
April 11 Ridge Hoffman
April 12 Sandy Krivohlavek
April 13 Elizabeth Stutzman
April 14 Kyle Palky
April 15 Ronald Styskal
April 16 Shelley Bruha, LaneyMae Ellison,
Ryker Vontz
April 17 Janet Cerny
April 20 Rhonda Schlick, Susan Stewart
April 21 Judy Bors, Diann McClatchey
April 23 Sawyer Nerud, Mike Nohavec
April 24 Helen Horner
April 25 Kelly Brummett
April 26 Joan Frahm
April 27 Brenda Bruntz
April 28 Stefanie Ottmann, Douglas Paulsen
April 30 Meredith Behrens, John Bruha,
Gary Palky



April 2 John & Kathy Palky (56)
April 3 Brandon & Kathryn Vossler (16)
April 4 Gary & Penny Veprovsky (33)
April 11 Harold & Sharon Axline (56)
April 15 Harvey & Joan Weber (69)
April 16 Brian & Kelli Kohout (9)
April 17 Robert & Julie Behrens (27)
April 20 David & Ann Betka (35)
April 28 Chet & Jill Sharkey (25)

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Neither sugar nor salt tastes particularly good by itself. Each is at its best when used to season other things. Love is the same way. Use it to “season” people. —Vera Nazarian

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot” (Matthew 5:13, NIV).

If you are like me, perhaps you think that the *primary* use for salt is in food preparation, or as a seasoning for food.

According to salt experts, however, food preparation and seasoning accounts for only 6 percent of salt usage. In fact, salt can be used in more than 14,000 different ways. These applications can be sorted into five major categories: Water conditioning, food grade salt, agriculture, highway deicing and industrial chemicals. Salt is used in the making of products as varied as plastic, paper, glass, polyester, rubber and fertilizers. It is used in household bleach, soaps, detergents and dyes.

I read recently of another use for salt. In Jordan, a country that borders Israel in the Middle East, salt is sometimes used to help the cooking process. In rural Jordan, the Jordanians put salt on fire to increase the temperature of the rocks for baking bread. When the salt they use for this purpose is no longer effective, it’s taken away and thrown onto the path, just as Jesus said in his Sermon on the Mount.

Jesus said that we are the salt of the earth. What I really like is that this metaphor leaves a lot of space *for us to all have different “uses,” functions and purposes.* Some salt is used as seasoning. Salt is sometimes used as a preservative. Salt can also be used to thaw ice. Salt can also be used to make water potable.

As Christians, we do not all look alike, nor do we have the same function. We have our own ministries and things we do well, just like salt!

So, let’s be salty Christians this week! Let’s be the salt of the earth! Let’s be the person Jesus wants us to be, and bring glory to God! —Timothy Merrill