

unusually long one, but I kept walking. After walking on the path, I noticed something up ahead watching me from the brush. It was a deer. When I got fairly close to it, it ran off farther into the brush and trees. I thought about that deer. The deer reminded me of how God is always watching us and then continues to move ahead of us on the pathway of life.

Walking along even farther, I thought, "This is the craziest labyrinth I've ever been on." If it was a circuitous path they were certainly quite large circles. But I settled into steady walking and meditating. Up ahead I next encountered a groundhog in the middle of the path. It scampered off into the weeds as I approached. Indeed, God in nature appeared again reminding me of his care.



Still I trudged along wondering more and more if I had indeed missed the path to the labyrinth and was just on a hiking trail. But my walk did open up my awareness to God's care. Next, I encountered some butterflies which represent new life. And so, I thought about how God continues the life cycle and how what seems like the end is the beginning. It wasn't long after that when I came into a swarm of biting insects. They were annoying. That's the way things are in life. Annoying things bite at us and distract us from the path.

I eventually found my way out of the grassy path and back to the beginning. I still puzzled about this path. When I got back to Camp I enquired about the labyrinth and discovered I had not been in the labyrinth at all. Isn't that the way life is? We think we're on the right path, and we meander along when we discover it's not the path we're supposed to be on. We've missed the true path. I learned something even though I wasn't in the labyrinth. Hence, we can take what happens in our life and learn something whether it's the path God intended for us or not. Sometimes we just miss the connection or we take a detour. We didn't hear or understand the directions well enough to find the path. Or we just stumbled onto what appeared to be the path for which we were looking. God uses all that happens in our life for good. I found inspiration on that trail despite not being on the one I intended to be. And I look forward to finding the labyrinth the next time I'm at camp, for it's a reminder of my choice to walk the spiritual path and encounter God on that pathway.

In Christ, for Christ,
Pastor Carol

Condolences

Our sympathy is extended to Beverly Nicholson and her family on the death of her mother, Ruth Wilson, on June 20 at Reid Hospital. A celebration of her life took place on June 24.



Worship Leader

July 2	Laura Nicholson
July 9	Brad Bowman
July 16	Leland Nicholson
July 23	Lucille Dilling
July 30	Heather Nicholson



Prayer Concerns

Bill DeVinney	Brenda Gillam	Glenn Bach	Geneva Davis
Jay Burroughs	Howard Davis	Gratia Waskom	Mark Werking
Don Seibert			

Home: Mary Werking, Harriet Burroughs, Ruth Crull, Viola Nicholson, Bernetha Davis

Care Center: LuFreda Bowman, Margaret Briar

(Please let Pastor Carol or Jodi Johnson know if you want someone placed on or removed from the Prayer List.)

The purpose of prayer is to leave us alone with God.

- Leo Baeck