



## Knox Presbyterian Church

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*"Christ caring for People  
through People"*

January 31, 2010

Greetings and Blessings,

Sundays after epiphany; a time during which we consider how Jesus was revealed as the Messiah, the one sent by God. Jesus, his mother, and his disciples attended a wedding in Cana. During the wedding celebrations it became apparent to some of them that the wine provided for the party was running out. This was not a national disaster but it would have caused quite an embarrassment for the wedding couple. Jesus 'saved the day.' Without drawing a lot of attention to the situation he turned water into wine, and it was the best wine of the day. Somehow this doesn't seem like a great miracle to be his first. But it is symbolic in some very rich ways.

First Jesus was compassionate, even to the point of not wanting to allow this young couple to be embarrassed. But more significantly it was witnessed by his disciples. In John's gospel we read, "This act in Cana of Galilee was the first sign Jesus gave, the first glimpse of his glory. And his disciples believed him." (John 2: 11 The Message). One clear truth revealed in this story is that Jesus wants to be involved in the real events of our lives. Nothing is too insignificant for his attention. How often we seem to forget this. We somehow come to think that God's only interest is in the "big" things.

Another interesting detail is that Jesus often acted in ways to complete or fulfill the natural progress of life. Water, absorbed by grape vines, acted on in the natural course of the real world, given harvest and the process of time becomes wine. Jesus didn't do anything abnormal. He just intervened to speed up the process in this time of need. Yes it was a miracle. Things normally don't happen that quickly.

Reflecting on this event we should realize that God doesn't need to work by abnormal and outrageous actions. He often just adjusts the timing to bring about a blessing. And only God knows the right timing for things. Only he can possibly know for he is not restricted by our understanding of time. God is not only working within time. He also exists beyond or outside of time. The past, the present, the future, all are as present to him. Realizing this can bring us a great sense of peace. Our impatience is often the result of our realization that time limits and controls our potential. But with God, this is not so. No time limits. No restrictions of any kind on his ability or willingness to act compassionately. No limits on his love, forgiveness and grace. With God, all things are possible.

Amen

(Rev.) John McGurrin