

The Pastor's Report

Sum, sum, sum, sum, sum, sum
SUMMER TIME!

Well folks, summer is upon us and I surely hope that you have lots of fun things planned...or, perhaps, absolutely nothing at all!

Through much of the recent heat wave (WOW was it *HOT!*) I was off from church duties and working on repairing/rebuilding the deck on Linda's She Shack. All the whilst I was digging, busting up granite bedrock with a sledgehammer, nailing, screwing and reattaching, I had one very strange thought running through my head all the while: Freeze Tag.

You *know*, the game many of us played as kids (before smart phones, gaming consoles and the internet) where one person would be "It" and chase after everyone else to touch them and say "FREEZE" and that person would have to stay stock-still for the duration of the game, or until touched by an "unfrozen" person who would then say "UN-FREEZE."

Yes, I know, a very peculiar thing to recollect and on which to be focusing when drenched in sweat during the sweltering heat. Though you might imagine the appeal of feeling a cold chill on a hot day was what triggered the memory, it was actually the opposite which created the allure.

At a time when all of us are feeling the blistering pace of the world, and our own lives, I confess that the idea of a good long "FREEZE" is quite appealing. Wouldn't it be nice to just be still, or frozen if you will, for even a little while so as to simply simply watch the game (or world) go on all around us and marvel?



Freeze!

Of course, there is so much at which we might marvel: babies being born, kids growing, learning and exploring the world, new opportunities being ever presented, the joy to be found in life and in sharing our lives with others, the profound impact we can make on people and our world with even the smallest actions and intentions, and the

simple passage of time and the changes it brings to us.

Whereas in the game of Freeze Tag we were always hoping to be unfrozen in order to get *back into* the game, my wish for each of you this summer is that the forces that would FREEZE you might prevail so that you can *step out* of the game to discover a few quite moments to reflect on and enjoy the God-given gift of your life, and this world we share. The game of life is going on around all the time, and eventually we get "tagged" by someone or something and thrust back into the fray. So relish the FREEZE!

Brrrr, Rev. Mike

"By the breath of God ice is given; and the broad waters are frozen fast." - Job 37:10

