

The Church and the Super Bowl

Come, let US bow down in worship...
Psalm 95: 6

This Sunday is the Super Bowl, so I thought it would be a good time to talk about worship and football. There are 22 players in a football game, 11 on each team. This year's game will be held in Nevada in a stadium that holds 65,000 people with a television audience of an expected 101 million viewers. That's a LOT of spectators and just a FEW players, "performers" or workers or participants ... whatever name you want to use to identify those who are DOING as opposed to those who are WATCHING.

Some folks come to church expecting a performance. They think they are there to watch someone else do something. In our Reformed Tradition worship is NOT performance oriented. We gather to worship God TOGETHER and the whole congregation is doing something. To emphasize this aspect of worship, I have always included others in the church to lead in the service. One person will be the liturgist, one other person might lead the time for children, different elders are scheduled to greet and collect the offering, folks are in the choir to help the congregation sing together hymns of praise, and we are blessed to have special vocalists and instrumentalists that participate in the service, not to mention the pianist who shares her talent of playing. Each week different children serve as acolytes, and the children add to the service when they participate in the Time for Children and give answers that could only come from the holy spirit!

As the preacher, when I am preparing the sermon, I reflect on those who will more than likely be present to hear the word proclaimed on Sunday. It is a group endeavor as I am thinking of you as the words appear on the page of the sermon manuscript. So....there is a Lot of "doing" going on in our worship service and very little watching. Friends, worship is NOT a spectator sport. It is what we do together to keep ourselves spiritually fit.

My hope, my prayer, is that you will join us this Sunday prepared to participate in worship, bring your cans of soup for our contributions to the Souper Bowl food drive for ECCO, bring your offering and bring your voice to sing and praise God together with other "players" here on the New Wappetaw "team." I'll keep the sermon short so you have plenty of time to get ready for the big game!

It's a joy to be your pastor.

Blessings,
Mike

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 11... Collections of soup for Souper Bowl Sunday
- Feb 14...Ash Wednesday service 6:30
- Feb 18... Session meeting after worship
- Feb 21... Wednesday night Bible studies/ covered dish dinners begin
- Feb 24... Oyster Roast at home of Leland and Karen McClellan