

Devotion for Week of July 31, 2022
Rev. Jeanne Simpson

Well, I got to attend my very first Tomato Sandwich Party. What a fun event. A blue grass band, fun photo, "spin the wheel," and bidding opportunities for UGA football tickets. Everywhere I looked, there were decorations using tomatoes. And I got to eat my very first tomato sandwich of the summer, as well as try some very spicy Wickle Pickles. Yowsa – you've got to be ready for those and have some water nearby! Kathy Banke contributed her famous coconut sour cream cake for the auction, and my husband decided he had to have it, so we brought it home and oohed and aahed over it. We also got to buy some good tomatoes, so I'm making gazpacho for the first time this summer.

As to food, the ladies went to Gregg's Peach Orchard for peaches and peach ice cream. I couldn't go, so Pat Randolph drove over and got me half a bushel. There's nothing like a beautiful ripe Alberta peach (except a ripe, juicy tomato). So this week I'll be making gazpacho and freezing peaches. Mid winter, those peaches will remind me of summer and the bounty of God's garden.

I'm not sure how much money the Good Shepherd Clinic raised, but I think it was a lot. When an entire community joins forces to support a good mission program, great things can be done. And giving free medical care to those in need without insurance is a true gift to the people of Clayton County. Who would think that 20 years of raising money with tomato sandwiches could have provided such support? I'm reminded of the parable of the mustard seed – from such a small seed a mighty bush can grow.

Thanks to all at Philadelphia who support this program, as well as school supplies for Kinship Care. You just gave over \$1650 in supplies to those children in need. So keep up your good work – clothes and supplies and suitcases for Securus House, and food for the Morrow Food Bank. With your generous offerings, we build Christ's kingdom on earth, one jar of baby food and one tomato sandwich at a time.

Jeanne