



PEOPLE REACHING PEOPLE

**A MINISTRY OF BISHOP TODD
& REVEREND PATSY McGREGOR**

Engaging Partners in Evangelism,
Education & Economic Development

Sabbatical Stories

Sabbatical: a period of leave for study and reflection

Why take a sabbatical?

What happened during our time?

What are some of the takeaways?

Over the next several weeks, Patsy and I will share reflections on our experiences during our long overdue sabbatical with answers to the questions above. As we bring you along on our journey, we trust you will see this as a time of reflection in your own lives and encourage you to devote time for prayer and meditation, opening yourselves to what God has in store for you.

Blessings,

+Todd

Why Take a Sabbatical?

A reflection from Patsy+...

Every Moment Holy, Part 1

As missionaries for 28 years, we have lived life on the edge. We've gotten wrapped up in the extremes: driving through rivers, escorted by armed guards, speaking different languages to preach the gospel. During our four month sabbatical in early 2019, we had the luxury to be in one home, invite family and friends for poolside BBQ's, coast along Palm Beach's intracoastal bike trails, take a nap whenever we wanted, and sleep in as long as desired. In a nutshell, we were given the opportunity for rest and relaxation. Todd was thrilled with ESPN and sports channels. I dove into books.

Perhaps at times we felt a bit of cabin fever as we were strongly counseled not to speak, preach, lead Bible studies or answer work/ministry emails. Learning the sacredness of everyday life takes a while. Liturgy was no longer only at church, it became known in the ordinary daily observances of making the bed, watering the plants and loading the dishwasher. I loved the fact that I could sit in bed, clothes washing in the laundry room and read a book. This form of

multitasking I enjoyed and yet occasionally, felt guilty at the same time. New perspective was gained when a friend sent me a unique book of liturgy, Every Moment Holy (Rabbit Room Press.), liturgies for the ordinary events of daily life. The book includes rituals for Morning Coffee, Feasting with Friends, and Stargazing. I furthered the practice of Every Moment Holy liturgies by writing my own: a Liturgy for Playing Cards, Relaxing in a Hammock, and Watching a Baseball Game. Everyday moments of life took on new meaning. Every hour of each day could become a Holy Moment when I allowed it. Some liturgies are written for mundane activities, like washing clothes or changing diapers. But some liturgies help carry us through monumental moments, like the liturgy for the morning of a medical procedure, or the eve of a wedding. Every Moment Holy?! Yes! Sacredness of the ordinary is released in our perspective of life.

Patsy+

The Rev. Patsy McGregor

Serving Christ Together

To make a gift in support of the McGregors' ministry, please use the Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders (SAMS) secure website: <https://give.sams-usa.org/missionary/todd-and-patsy-mcgregor>.

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