

WEEKLY E-LETTER

Jan. 11, 2017

Grace and Peace to you this week!

I heard a wonderful good-news story the other night on the CBC news; perhaps you watched the report from CBC foreign correspondent Nahlah Ayed too.

It comes from the city of Stuttgart, Germany where 1100 women and children, all Yazidi refugees, have been taken in and cared for in a safe place. Specialists in trauma work with these women and children to help them heal in body and mind. The

Yazidis are a religious minority group who have been brutally targeted by ISIS in northern Iraq, resulting in what the United Nations has called a genocide. In October Canada's Parliament unanimously passed a motion that hopefully will bring Yazidi women and girls who survived sexual slavery to Canada within the next few months.

Stories like this remind us that we are abundantly blessed and therefore much is required of us. The courage and resilience shown by some of the young women is nothing short of inspirational.

Action for justice ideally flows from a life of balance between prayer and action. This is one way in which we can remain open to God's call to act for justice. It makes me think of the hymn "I'm going to live so God can use me, any time, any where."

The Worship Committee met yesterday and Outreach also meets this week. Two of the groups involved in supporting our ministries of prayer and action.

Please help me get this weekly email out to as many folk as want it. Check with those you meet to see if they are receiving it or if they would like to.

I'll leave you with this quote:

To welcome the stranger is to acknowledge him as a human made in God's image; it is to treat her as one of equal worth with ourselves—indeed, as one who may teach us something out of the richness of experiences different from our own. The stranger's gifts may come to a family circle or to a society. Yet the undocumented foreigner...is too often not greeted with hospitality or even acknowledged as a human being in God's image.

Ana Maria Pineda

Source: "Hospitality" in Practicing Our Faith (edited by Dorothy Bass)

Blessings,

Rose~Hannah