

## *From the Pastor's Desk, .....*

John 20:29 Then Jesus told him, Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

We live by the motto of seeing is believing. "I'll believe it when I see it." When it comes to Christianity, all the world is from Missouri. Faith however belongs to those who can believe it before they see it. For them believing is seeing. "I'll see it when I believe it." If you can believe it you can begin to see it.

In 1876 a Western Union memo said the telephone has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication.

In 1943 the chairman of IBM said there could not be more than five people in the world who would want a computer.

In 1899 Charles H. Duell, the Commissioner of the U. S. Patent Office, said, "Everything that can be invented has already been invented."

In 1962 Decca recording company rejected a new music group from England called the Beatles saying "We don't like their sound and besides that guitar music is on the way out."

We get in trouble when we roll life out too flat, close our minds to great possibilities and refuse to believe beyond our limitations. We must not close our minds, we must let our hearts be free. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

In the basement of an abandoned house with its crumbling walls, a victim of the Holocaust scratched out these words:

I believe in the sun, even when it does not shine.  
I believe in love, even when it is not shown.  
I believe in God even when he does not speak.

Have you the courage to believe? The courage to believe comes from our hope in tomorrow. We live in a world today that is skeptical; fearful and uncertain as to what tomorrow may bring. Far too often we see only the problems and not the great problem solver who is right there with us! If we believe in him, truly believe in him, and turn over to him all our cares and concerns, we can come to experience life in a new way; our sense of hope will be renewed, and we will come to exude a new sense of confidence. Jesus is meant to be the Lord of our lives. He is the one sent from God to transform our world and to transform us.

If we are to move forward as the church, as individuals, we need to have the courage to trust and believe in the power of Christ to work in and through us. May the peace of Christ be with you always.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Michele Kaufman*