

## Polly's Pondering

### Teaching, Learning, and Pot Luck for Everyone

**“You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.” John 13:13**

Don't judge me, but I read poetry. I came across this one entitled: “Somewhere The Child”

Among the thousands of tiny things growing up all over the land, some of them under my very wing- watched and tended, unwatched and untended, loved, unloved protected from danger, thrust into temptation - among them somewhere is the child who will write the novel that will stir men's hearts to nobler issues and incite them to better deeds.

There is the child who will paint the greatest picture or carve the greatest statue of the age; another who will deliver his country in an hour of peril; another who will give his life for a great principle; and another, born more of the spirit than of the flesh, who will live continually on the heights of moral being, and dying, draw men after him.

It may be that I shall preserve one of these children to the race. It is a peg big enough on which to hang a hope, for every child born into the world is a new incarnate through of God, an ever fresh and radiant possibility. Kate Douglas Wiggin

The author was unknown to me so I looked her up: Born September 28, 1856 and died Aug 24, 1923. She wrote children's stories and many of you have heard of at least one of them; Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm. But even more interesting and important was the fact that she along with her sister started the first free kindergarten in San Francisco in 1878. And she established a training school for kindergarten teachers. In a time when children were considered cheap labor, she saw potential and knew that education was the key to a successful foundation.

Here at Franklin UMC we have a rich history of caring for young children in the community. Our preschool has stood the test of time. This year we will have the opportunity to bring three new teachers into this rich heritage. I hope you will be in prayer for them. And while you are at prayer, begin praying about a mission and ministry to young elementary students that many of us believe God is calling us to begin.

On any given Sunday, you can look out in our congregation and see both former and current teachers. And, of course, we lift up the name of the One who came and called the children to him; the one who taught us about The Father and His great love for us. The one, Jesus, who reminded us that we are loved by our creator. Yes, teachers bring a richness into the world. They inspire creativity, build disciplined minds, and inspire future achievements. What a wonderful way to fulfill the scripture. “Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

**On May 30<sup>th</sup> we will join together after the service to celebrate our graduating seniors.** We are so proud of these young people. Danyelle Edwards, Wayburn Harris, Alie Herring, Luke Kamas, and Karlie Kissinger. And we are so blessed to have been a small part of their growing years. Come celebrate all they have already achieved and encourage them as they set out in faith to new horizons. Bring a dish of your choice - dessert is being provided - and join us May 30 in the activity building following the worship service.