

Pastor's Corner

May 2012 – Rev. Eric Lane

Dear Friends,

I was thinking of what to write this month when I read an article in *The Upper Room* entitled “Weathering the Storms.” “Jesus said, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. (John 16:33).

From the article, I read: “A severe rainstorm approached our town like a threatening and uninvited houseguest. The media warned us to prepare, so my husband cleaned our rain gutters and stored our lawn furniture. I gathered flashlights and bottled water. At dawn, we awoke to wind gusting through the trees as a downpour hammered the ground. But because we had prepared, we were able to face the storm with less anxiety.

Life is full of times of preparation. We prepare for school exams and job promotions. We prepare for a baby to be born, for retirement, and yes, even for harsh weather. Should we not then prepare our minds and spirits for life's inevitable personal storms?

When we faithfully read the Bible and pray, we prepare spiritually for the storms of life. This may sound simple, but such disciplines help us to know God's character more deeply so that when trials occur, we won't feel overwhelmed and question God's goodness. Instead, because of our intimacy with God, we will know that God is ever-present in any storm. And we can know God's peace through it all.” Article was submitted by Karen Y. Foster.

You know sometimes we simply need to be reminded—reminded of what we know we should do. It is not the storm that creates a problem for us; it is encountering the storm unprepared.

To take an umbrella when you know it is going to rain is your choice; to study and prepare yourself spiritually is your choice as well.

Blessings.