

DECEMBER 3, 2019

Journey Enews

Things to Know:

Tuesday Night Men's Group will not meet tonight, but will meet next week, December 10th, at the Burley Market & Cafe @ 5 PM.

Join us this weekend as we wrap up our series called "Never Quit"

Journey Community
Christian Church
Service Times:
Saturday @ 6 PM
Sunday @ 10:30 AM

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Mr. Rogers' Secret Sauce

Last weekend the movie, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," starring Tom Hanks as Fred Rogers, was released in theaters everywhere. The movie is based loosely on the relationship between Fred Rogers and an Esquire reporter named Tom Junod, who was sent in 1998 to interview the actor of the long-running PBS children's TV show, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood."



Connie and I have not seen the movie yet, but I have read many rave reviews by those who are fans of Tom Hanks. Several movie critics already are calling Hanks' portrayal of Mister Rogers one of the most masterful of his storied career.

Fred Rogers worked in television for 33 years after graduating from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He earned a Masters of Divinity degree and also took graduate courses in childhood development.

Upon graduation he was ordained by the Presbyterian Church and given the charge to continue his ministry to children and their families through the media. Fred Rogers died of stomach cancer in 2003 at the age of 74. His wife of fifty-one years, Joanne Rogers, when asked if he kept the faith until the end, said, "he never wavered, he stayed steadfast."

Fred Rogers' ministry touched millions of children and families over the three decades of his television show. As one author put it, "His singular focus was helping children understand their intrinsic sacred value. He looked into the camera and imagined a single child to whom he was speaking. He did all he could to help that child face the challenges of our broken world, discussing such difficult subjects as death, divorce, and war."

In a world where tragic events are constantly flooding the media, this outlier of positivity from Fred Rogers may lift your hearts this holiday season.

Tom Hanks was asked in one interview if his portrayal of Fred Rogers changed him. Hanks said that a Fred Rogers quote attached to the call sheet every day served as a reminder of some simple truths. One such quote read: "The three secrets of happiness are: Be kind, be kind, be kind."

Fred Rogers was onto something, I think. Kindness to others brings glory to God, who loves us all (Romans 5:8). We honor God when we love Him and one another (1 John 4:7). This may be the secret sauce our world needs most right now. Share kind words and actions everywhere you can.

Moving Forward.
God is Good.

Bobby D.