

How Do I Respond as a Christian
in the wake of Tuesday September 11th

As you, I am shocked, saddened, and outraged at the event's of Tuesday morning, September 11th. Also as you, I have grappled with response, especially a decidedly Christian response, as shock gives way to grief, anger, and a whole range of human emotion. Below, in my prayer and seeking of God's guidance, I offer the following as your spiritual leader.

First and foremost we must take the intentional attitude of prayer for victims and families. Pray for doctors, nurses, and medical personnel. Pray for police, fire, and military personnel. Pray for clean up crews, and search and rescue crews. Pray for all these who working in the affected areas in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania. Pray for our national and free world leadership. Lastly in prayer, we are called as disciples of Christ to pray for our enemies (Matt 5:44, Luke 6:28) who have been vexed by Satan into thinking that terror is a way to bring about change.

Second, remember that God is still in control. Hymns and Scripture (especially the Psalms) are helpful in remembering this. Suggestions include; "*O God Our Help in Ages Past*", "*This is My Father's World*", "*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*", "*It Is Well With My Soul*".

Third, allow yourself and your family to grieve and allow natural emotional response as needed. Grief is a natural process. The word's of the Apostle Paul to the Church at Ephesus are helpful here. Ephesians 4:26 "*Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and do not make room for the devil*".

Lastly, continue your life in as normal a fashion as is possible. The ideal of terrorism is to disrupt and make fearful. One of the greatest thwarts to this heinous act of terrorism is to be strong, be courageous, and continue with "business as usual" in the midst of prayers without ceasing.

Bethel United Methodist Church

"Seeking The Life In Grace As The Way of Life"

September 16, 2001

On the Calendar

Sunday School	Sunday's, 9:45
Clean up for Homecoming.....	Sept 29
Homecoming.....	Oct 14
Women's Morning Circle.....	2nd &4th Wednesday's 10am-noon
Women's Afternoon Circle.....	3rd Sunday's, 3pm
Church Council.....	2nd Tuesdays, 6:30pm
Covered Dish Dinner.....	2nd Sundays after Church
Women's Retreat.....	Oct 31-Nov 2
Charge Conference.....	Nov. 15th, 7pm

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Bethel United Methodist Church

"Seeking The Life In Grace As The Way of Life"

Laura Beth Fisher, Pastor

Sept 16, 2001
11:00 am – 12:15

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** Praise and Worship

***PSALTER** Psalm 121 Unison

I lift up my eyes to the hills-- from where will my help come?
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

SCRIPTURE READING NT pg 178
2 Corinthians 1:2-5

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Petitions - Pastoral Prayer - Lord's Prayer

***HYMN** #377
"It Is Well with My Soul"

CHILDREN'S SERMON Phill Brown

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

* **DOXOLOGY**

***HYMN** #117
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

"Our Hope"
Laura Beth Fisher

***HYMN** #378
"Amazing Grace"

* **BENEDICTION**

* Please Stand If Able
