

Dear Friends,

I had a wonderful time at our Minnesota Conference Annual Meeting last weekend. It was good to meet some new colleagues in person and discover some friends that I haven't seen in 20 years when I last attended this meeting. The conference had good speakers and lots of time for rest and relaxation with not an over busy schedule. We had two resolutions that were voted on. The first was [Electrification Resolution](#) which encourages our local churches and members to turn away from fossil fuels in our buildings and homes. The big three electric companies for Minnesota are increasing their renewable energy sources with the goal of being 80% by 2030 and 100% by 2050. The second resolution was [Resolution Supporting Public School Educators, Academic Freedom, and Equity Efforts in Schools](#). This resolution stands up for teachers, school board members, and librarians against the rising tide of trying to ban books or subjects (such as the LGBTQA+ community) from being taught or have resources for all to use.

I also came away with a renewed sense of hope for our churches, our communities, and our world. The problems we are facing in our world aren't new, except our global climate crisis. And on those fronts of racism, sexism, homophobia, and democracies (across the world), we have made a lot of progress. Still more to do, but things are better than they were and they can be better still.

We can be despondent and believe that God alone can fix this or God isn't as loving as advertised because of all the wrongs in the world. However, if we believe that God is love and on the side of justice and mercy, but works it out through us, with us, then as Paul would say, "If God is for us, who can be against us." The forces are strong against justice, mercy, and love, but they are not the final word and the dark cannot overcome light. We have come very far in this country where only white men who owned land could vote, black people were enslaved, and women needed their husband to transact business and own property. We have come a long way in the world where we can now have and do have friendships around the world thanks to technology and a wider sense that we are siblings all.

God is good. All the time.

All the time. God is good.

Thanks be to God, the creator and lover of us all.

Peace

Pastor Enno