

The Weekly Message from Darren Brandon

April 24, 2024

“Kites”

During our Sunday afternoon walk, the sun and breeze brought a welcome thought, “This feels like good kite flying weather.” I checked the wind speed and gathered up the kite.

Off we went to a big open space near our house. There were walkers, runners and a k-9 unit training, but plenty of room for us all. It took some patience, but the wind lifted the kites in the air - a good day.

Flying kites is a helpful practice to confront our need to control. In kite flying we respond to conditions rather than directing them. Like the Bible says, “*The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.*” (John 3). It occurs to me that grace operates that way in our life too. We think it is just another day, and suddenly we are surprised by grace. In a moment we suddenly see something we had not before - a possibility. So here is a poem about kite flying in honor of those moments when we have courage enough to let go and trust that soon whatever we need will arrive.

The kite struggles in the faint breeze
Crashing to the ground.
We wait. Tug the string. It's up,
Dancing in the bursts of wind,
Ascending, descending.
Then it happens. All at once
A constant flow - up, up, up
The colorful triangle rises in the sky.
Then it stops and changes direction.
Down, down, down.
It falls as quickly as it rose,
And that's how it goes,
Up and down to heights and ground.
- Darren Brandon

Blessings,

Darren

