



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Connecting with God; Connecting with Others; Connecting others with God

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Lent 2021 – God’s Lessons All Around Us *Devotionals from Pastor Sell*

LESSONS FROM THE POND

Thursday, February 18

When I first walked through my property with the real estate agent, I was a bit intimidated by the pond and the waterfall. The pond was overgrown, full of muck and algae, and even in chilly late December it smelled a bit. The owner said there were fish in the pond and they would come and eat out of her hand. Well maybe there were fish in there but I wasn’t hopeful. Then Spring came and bright yellow flowers appeared on long stems high above the water. The yellow flowers were followed by tiny purple flowers that danced in the wind and pink water lilies floated in the green muck. The pond company came, captured the fish, drained the pond, cleaned it all out and filled it with fresh clean water. What a difference! The fish dashed through the water checking out each nook and cranny.

Our lives are a bit like that too. We do things of which we are ashamed. We act in unloving and uncaring ways. We do the things we shouldn’t and leave other undone. The Bible called this sin. But thanks be to God, Jesus paid the price on the cross and cleans up the mess we have made. The muck is cleared away by the grace of God and we can more fully appreciate all his good gifts around us.