CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Co-Creating Good in the World

BY NATHAN

This past weekend I built a new fence to go around our garden. The old fence was simply some chicken wire attached to stakes, and it was no longer doing its job. We discovered that the family of rabbits that live in our yard had found numerous ways to crawl through the fence and have themselves a feast.

After a couple of hours, the fence came together. Now, it's not perfect, it's not square, it's mildly uneven, but it'll work. As I finished attaching the gate to the fence, my wife walked over and said to me, "Look at you smiling. Are you happy with your fence?" I didn't even know I was smiling, to be honest. However, I responded with, "Yes, look at this thing. It's a fence. I love creating stuff."

It's true. I have always loved creating stuff. There is usually a great sense of pride, joy, and fulfillment in creating something, even if it isn't perfect.

In the Christian tradition, there is a great poem about the Divine Creator creating the world. The poem presents the Creator as one who takes delight and play in creating. In this poem, the ultimate Creator is creating all aspects of the world: animals, plants, water, sky, and more. Each time the ultimate Creator creates something, the Creator looks at what has been created and says, "It is good." It is a refrain in the poem.

At the end of the poem, the ultimate Creator makes the ultimate creation humanity. There is a change in the refrain in this section. Here, the Creator says, "It is very good." There's something different about this creation. This creation is a masterpiece.

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For more information about the Spiritual Life Center, including info on our student groups, go to our webpage - link in the email signature. You can also visit our Linkt.ree



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Co-Creating Good (cont'd.)

Once humanity is created, however, they have a role to play in this ongoing creation story. They are to be co-creators with the Creator. I love this idea. The ultimate Creator's ultimate creation is a co-creator in the on-going creation of good in the world! (Could I use the word creator more in that sentence?)

I hope you know you have the opportunity to create good in the world. And, I hope today you start to create something. You have a part to play in the on-going creation of the world. In this place we call home, you can create something to make it better. It doesn't have to be perfect or a masterpiece, even. But I hope it is something you can stand back, look at, and with a smile say, "It is good."



Upcoming Interfaith Holidays

March 10 - April 9 Ramadan (Islam)

March 28 Holy / Maundy Thursday (Christian)

> March 29 Good Friday (Christian)

> > March 31 Easter (Christian)

Dates to Remember

Thursday, April 4 - 3-5 p.m. DOGGIES IN THE DELL

Monday, April 8 - 5 p.m.
Front Yard of the Spiritual Life Center
(Rain location is Schewel 231)
BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY
WITH TEA AND HONEY
AND MEDITATION