

Faithful Thoughts

A few years ago the Rev. Lottie Hood was Moderator of our National Association. She is a woman of great faith and great spirit which is contagious. Throughout the meeting her ringing voice would remind us 'God is Good.' And we would all shout back "All the time."

But these are hard days. We see horrifying pictures of the destruction wrought by storms and warfare. We hear angry voices and the cries of children. The scent of hatred fouls the air. We taste the bitterness of our own disappointments. In our discouragement we forget that God is good, all the time.

I saw the truth of it just the other day. I was just walking into Trader Joe's, by the outside racks of plants. A woman was handing her young daughter a flower. "Take a sniff," she said. 'It smells beautiful.' And though a few feet away I whiffed its lovely scent.

But her daughter couldn't because she was still wearing part of what had to be her Halloween costume. She wore kitten ears on a headband. A plastic clown nose covered her own nose. She took the flower and tried to sniff but that plastic nose smothered the scent.

Watching me made we wonder if that's why sometimes we forget that God is good, all the time. We put stuff between us and all that is lovely and hopeful. We shield ourselves from the possibility of good that can glimmer even through the shadows. We cover our hearts with costumes to hide ourselves and protect ourselves from being hurt. We just don't reach out to let God reach in. We don't let ourselves sing the song of the Psalmist: *Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever*" ([Psalm 107:1](#)).

Or put another way---We cover our noses to spite our faith!

Let our prayer be that we are encouraged and motivated and led by the reality that God is Good...All the Time! Amen.