MM Email Blue Sheet August 16, 2012

Moment Ministries – Summer Headquarters on Puget Sound

Morgan's Moment…

Time for talk…
one of the things Ecclesiastes
forgot in the listing of
all the things there are time for
under heaven.
OK I quibble slightly…
seeing some difference
between *speaking*
and one-to-one *talking*.
Some make appointments…
for a designated piece of time…
when cell phones are silenced..
and listening happens.
Couples often seek communication…
claiming they don't talk…
forgetting that talk is best
that is part of activity.
Like sailing…
where some long talks
replaced normal banter
reached uncharted depths.
Or morning coffee with camp guests
turned into talk of meaning
and life and death.
Where a walk on the beach
becomes a walk
Into thoughts and feelings
not yet spoken out loud.
When such talk happens
it's almost sacred…
I call it "a Moment."
There is time for everything
under heaven…
even time to talk.
— Art Morgan

CAMP LIFE

It's been an historic August. Each of our three married grandsons has been here with his wife. One even brought along our great grand daughter! The beginning of a fifth generation on this place since my grandparent's were first here.

August brings most visitors. Last night was our first alone for quite awhile. We await daughter Linda with her daughter Grace any minute now.

Off-camp trips this month take us to Edmonds, Bremerton and Eugene, with both pastoral and friend reasons. Global warming arrived this week!

WAS NOAH A LIBERAL OR A CONSERVATIVE?

One of the profound questions I asked a sailing companion. I didn't blame his raised eyebrow. I had been in wonderment about this election season banter over which candidate is the more conservative.

I was thinking about myself. Could I qualify as a conservative? Then I thought how I'm really a conservative sort of guy. Like I'm careful about how I spend money. Being a Depression Kid it comes naturally. I'm conservative in that regard. We had to save and invest to be able to afford living when we weren't working. And I like to have credit cards paid off and buy used cars rather than new. Yes, I'm conservative.

As I consider what I can see around me in the world I'm believing that global warming and climate change is real. I can see where humans have screwed up the atmosphere and done plenty of unhealthy things to the earth. I can see that people are having to adjust their lives to changes and are being asked to plan for rising sea levels. Some political analysts would say that is a liberal idea.

Whether such ideas can be proven true I can't tell. In my conservative state of mind my inclination is to trust the scientist's opinion before a politician's.

This is when I thought about Noah. Wonderful story. Too bad some folks try to prove it as history. Anyway this 600 year old man hears God warn him about pending sea level rising. Everyone is saying that it's just the imagination of a hand wringing liberal, or other similary deranged type. But Noah goes ahead and builds his ark, just in case.

Is that the behavior of a conservative, or what?

The story has a lot of dimensions. Preachers have used it in all sorts of ways. I always thought it made God seem like a petty, hard hearted sort. Just because he later said he was sorry and would never do it again doesn't change my thinking.

Many of us are glad that the story ends with Noah coming ashore and planting vineyards first thing. For an old guy he had some good priorities. He wasn't perfect, but I call him the first conservative.

In our own time there are earth threatening possibilities looming. There are Noah's among us trying to warn us of what we don't want to hear. We call them fools. Maybe they are just true conservatives. — Art Morgan,