



Judy Goodrow,
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Prayer

By Judy Goodrow

God of open spaces,
break down
our borders
and breach
our boundaries,
tear up
our labels
and blow down
our barriers.
Create in us
springs of
living water
that carry life
to everyone
in our communities.
Amen.

A Conference E-Pistle

Brought to you by Our Church's Wider Mission

Reflections From
The Indiana-Kentucky Conference



Oct. 17, 2016

Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." John 4:13-14 NRSV

Last May, my husband spent some time on a Texas ranch. It was hot and dusty and his camp had no running water. Fortunately, out in the middle of this 6,000 acre ranch, there was a stock tank, a huge cylindrical cement water tank, nearly nine feet deep, which continuously filled a trough for livestock. There wasn't a living creature in sight, so Keith and his friends took advantage of that tank - they jumped right in and enjoyed a refreshing swim. The water was cool and clear, the perfect solution on a hot, dry day.

As they splashed in the water, a strange thing happened. Although there hadn't been any cattle anywhere in sight, the sound of water was like a siren call. Livestock appeared on the horizon, and began slowly moving toward the water. Before long, the men were surrounded by cattle that had come to drink.

This is a perfect picture of what church should be. Church should be like a watering hole on open prairie, with no fences that keep certain creatures in and certain creatures out. No one should be kept from the water. The watering hole is open to all - from coyotes to cattle. They won't wander far; they know where the life-giving water is.

Does your church offer the life-giving water to everyone? Or only to people who look and talk and believe like you?

Judy Goodrow

Sincerely,

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The Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ
was selected as a Constant Contact All Star in 2011, 2012 & 2013



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