

Just A Kid

A Shared Message for Sunday Morning Worship with Communion
Stewardship Sunday & All Saints Sunday
United Congregational Church of Westerly, UCC
November 4, 2018
Text: 1 Samuel 17:19-49

As many of you know, this has been a tough week for the congregation as we lost one of our beloved members last weekend and we celebrated her life together yesterday. Becky was truly one of our saints in this place, and she always will be. This was also a busy week for me in many other regards as well. So, I confess, when it came time to write my usual sermon for this morning, I sort of ran out of steam. But, perhaps this is also an opportunity for us to try to do something a little different with the message portion of this Sunday's service. I'd like us to try, anyway. Here's what I am proposing. I'd like us to have a conversation about the story of David and Goliath together, instead of me preaching about it – telling you what I see in the story that's relevant to our lives. This morning I'd like you to help me in that work as we parse this story out together. Are you up for it?

Good. Here goes. First, you need to have the story in front of you so if you don't already have your pew Bible open, please turn to the page now. It's toward the front of the Bible on page 227. Okay. Now let's ponder some questions about this story together.

➤ As you read and hear this story, what stands out in it for you?

- What surprises you in this story?
- What is the most significant moment in this story, from your perspective? David volunteering? David refusing Saul's armor? Goliath's death? ??? Why?
- Who do you think was stronger in this story – David or Goliath? Why? Did it matter that David was just a kid?
- When you think about your life each day, how do you think of yourself – as a David or as a Goliath? Whatever your answer, would you like to change that? Why?
- What are some David and Goliath moments you see happening in the world these days? What does this story say to how they might be resolved?
- Any last learnings from our conversation?? I do suggest you take some time to look over the Sabbath Circles lesson insert, especially for the link to the TED Talk on this story. The link is live once we post the story to the website later this week. Or you can scan the insert into your computer and then copy the link and put it into your browser, hit return and voila!!

Thank you for a wonderful conversation, and for being willing to try something new. Maybe again some time???