

Organ Donation Sunday – 11/10/24 – United Methodist Church

Todd was asked to speak at the Hillsboro United Methodist Church in Leipers Fork, Tennessee, on Sunday, November 10, 2024. This was, in liturgical circles, Organ Donation Sunday. Pastor Betty Proctor had read our book and was quite moved and wanted to spread the word among her parishioners of the importance of organ donation. As you'll see, she also, most importantly, looks for how God shows up, in all situations.

November is a very significant month for us. First, in 1977, he became my first love. Not sure how almost 50 years has passed since then. One thing for sure: we both feel surer about ourselves and each other, and love, and life, than we could have back then. It's also the anniversary of Todd's surgeries, so this past Nov. 14-15, he is 16 years post transplant. A miracle in and of itself. It's also Todd's birthday month. On Nov. 22, Todd turned 64. 64 years young. Well, it's only a number. Also, his insides are decades younger than his outsides. In my mind and heart, this confirms my belief that everything is possible - in terms of longevity (and everything else). Of course, the premise is that miracles are real. And we all need to let go of the conditioned thoughts and beliefs that were passed down to us as young things. All well-intentioned. But fear based, and not grounded in truth.

I digress.

The raw emotional truth that comes through Todd's testimony – yes, testimony – on a church altar – is moving beyond anything. It's real, it's powerful, it's from the heart, and it's a call to action to all of us to tap into our hearts and our truths and share our stories. Because that's why we are all here. To open up our hearts, our minds, let it all flow, and then reach out, hold each others' hands, and walk each other home. This is NOT an original idea. This is Ram Dass' original teaching. I'm a student and an advocate, for truth and for love.