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ENOUGH!

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Last month, a small and wonderful group of women came together for the monthly meeting of Women's Interfaith Gathering at LSS Center for Changing Lives in Minneapolis. We have met monthly for almost eight years, creating deep friendships, learning about one another's faith and values, building a rich store of shared memories, doing service, trying creative arts, and exploring how to make our world more just and more kind.

This time, we packed up the food that we brought for our potluck dinner, a water jug, paper plates and cups. We had decided to share who we are and what we have with those in the neighborhood, so we walked, arm-in-arm, the four blocks to a local park. We are a group, diverse in religion, dress, ethnicity, and mother tongues. At the park, we spread picnic blankets on a table and sat down to share what we had, inviting those who walked by to join us.

Fortunately, we had fluent Somali and Spanish and English speakers, because our guests were as diverse as we are. Some were initially tentative about sitting down to eat with us. All eventually partook. We refilled the water many times. Although we only had five modest-sized bowls of food, there was enough for all, with seconds and thirds for those who were hungry. All of us left the park, filled with food and relationships and new memories.

Walking back to the Center for Changing Lives, we realized that we had done the impossible: with a modest bit of food, we had fed more than 30 people, and we had food left over. How could this be?

Those of us who are Christian recognized a story recounted in all four gospels: Jesus feeding 5,000 men and all of the women and children with them with just two fish and five barley rolls. When Jesus blessed the food, it became enough to feed all those who gathered, with twelve baskets required to pick up the leftover bread and fish.

Jesus is the author of ENOUGH.

Enough can be an antidote to the pain and cruelty and fear and exclusion we hear about, day after day. Jesus offers us a different story. Yes, we can trust the abundance he offers all of us. **Enough** to feed the neighbor and ourselves. **Enough** to push back the fear of scarcity. **Enough** to reach out with hospitality and inclusion. **Enough** to share possessions, esteem, stories, and community. **Enough** hope and possibility to build a future that we want to pass on to our children and grandchildren.

Won't you take time with those you love to explore how you might share Jesus' **ENOUGH** with the world? Enjoy every minute. Marvel at the miraculous abundance you discover. Rejoice in the wondrous children of God you meet. Rediscover that you are, indeed, blessed to be a blessing!

Links to learn more!

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This is the perfect opportunity to call or email Marilyn

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