



November 1, 2020

## All Saints Sunday

When it comes to finding parity and unity in faith traditions, especially those that flow out of the many streams of the Christian tradition, I try to always err on the side of ecumenism. In fact, I consider myself a bit of an “ecumaniac,” always looking more for what unites us rather than what divides us.



All Saints Day, is, in many ways, one of those uniting elements. Christians all over the world celebrate this holiday that honors those who have gone before us and carried the faith that we now treasure.

There is, however, a very important distinction in the celebration of All Saints Day that speaks to who we are as people of the reformation. In Roman Catholic tradition the designation of saint is reserved for a few people who have verifiable evidence of miraculous deeds. Saints are therefore a special group for which admission is not easy.

In the Reformed tradition, however, sainthood is for the many and not the few. We do not put a few people on pedestals and call them saints, but rather we honor the “great cloud of witnesses.” In a way our emphasis is on the ALL more than the SAINTS. Every church and every family has a long legacy of people whose names may not be written down and whose history could easily be forgotten, but we use this day to remember them and the big and small ways that they championed the faith.

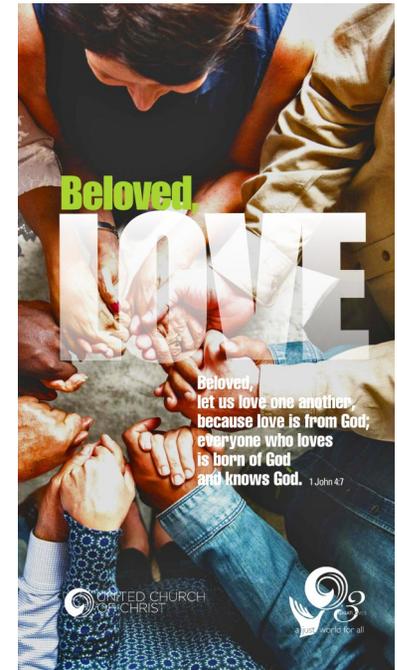
- Rev. Cean James

PSEC Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Development

## Stewardship Sunday—Nov. 8th

[1 Peter 4:10](#) -

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace*



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