

April 18th Daily Devotional:

Last night, our youth group had one of their twice weekly Zoom gatherings, and as Heidi Parles led the youth in some games and conversation, I could overhear from the next room the wonderful sounds of laughter coming through my kids' screen.

One of my very favorite verses in scripture is Genesis 18:12 that begins, "So Sarah laughed..." Even in the midst of fear, worry, and sadness, God's creation nurtures our relief and regeneration in surprising moments of joy.

So, on this rainy and somewhat gloomy Saturday morning, perhaps you'd like to share something that made you smile or laugh recently. The first thing that came to my mind was this article I read about the bears in Yosemite having a party: <https://www.cnn.com/.../bears-yosemite-national-pa.../index.html>. I have all kinds of silly visions in my head of what that looks like. 🐻

Let's pray:

God who created out of overflowing goodness, you continually relieve and regenerate us with moments of joy. Be especially close this day to those walking through fear, worry, and sadness. May the complex beauty of your natural creation remind us of the complexity of emotion you weave together in our human experience. May our tears and laughter mingle together today. Amen.