**GENEROSITY WITH CHOCOLATE:**

Love watching the ad on TV where a young girl walks into a corner store to buy a block of chocolate. She starts handing over her treasured possessions to the storekeeper, looking up at him with her big blue eyes between pulling each item out of her purse until there’s nothing left. He looks over her offerings of small trinkets including a tiny unicorn, buttons and a toy ring, then exchanges them for a large block of chocolate. He then gently hands her unicorn back saying here’s your change. The young girl then walks out of the store and finds her mum to give the chocolate as a birthday present.

I watched an interview with Cadbury’s branding director, Ben Wicks, about the ad. He said that in today’s world it’s very easy to overlook the generosity and kindness that’s been happening between people everyday. So he wanted to shine a light on that, and celebrate the wonderful human connection and the wonderful generous instinct that exists in everyone. And let me add it’s wonderful to see evidence of this as our communities recover from recent flooding.

Generosity extends beyond just finances, chocolates and birthdays. We can adopt a posture of making ourselves ready and available to God with everything—including our time, our intellect, our compassion, words of encouragement, acts of kindness, specific skill sets, and our stuff - possessions and money. A helpful practice is to ask throughout the day, “God, what do you want me to do with what I’ve been given?” This helps us position ourselves with a listening posture at all times, ready to be a conduit of God’s grace in the world.

I pray God’s blessing on you as you continue to grow a generous heart.