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From the Clergy Associate

A Blessing for the Summer

June...a time of final exams, graduations, weddings, final classes, year-end festivities...and through all of these events and activities, there is the great anticipation of the slower pace of summer...

As we anticipate this slower pace and chance for refreshment and renewal, I share with you a traditional Celtic blessing from *Sometimes a Star* by M.E. Coleman. It is not necessarily a **summer** blessing, but certainly seems to resonate with what these coming months hold out for us—blessed sunlight, welcomed warmth, sweet rains and soft earth, and rich, renewing time with family and friends.

A TRADITIONAL CELTIC BLESSING

May the blessings of light be on you—light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine on you and warm your heart until it glows like a
great peat fire,

so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself.

And may light shine out of the two eyes of you,

like a candle set in two windows of a house,

bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm.

And may the blessing of the rain be on you, the soft, sweet rain.

May it fall upon your spirit, so that all the flowers may spring up,
and shed their sweetness on the air.

And may the blessing of the great rains be on you,

may they beat upon your spirit and wash it fair and clean,

and leave there many a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines reflected,
and sometimes a star...

And may the blessing of the earth be on you, the great round earth.

May it be soft under your feet as you pass along the roads,

soft under you when you lie out upon it, tired at the end of day;

and may it rest easily over you when, at last, you lie out under it.

May it rest so lightly over you that your soul may be quickly through it,

up and off and on its way to God.
And now may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly. Amen.

The Rev. Joan F. Conley
Clergy Associate