Dr. Seuss Sermon Karen Stovell March 12, 2017

- S1. Born 1904 Springfield, Mass. Father was a master brewer in family brewery. worked at brewery promoted to president day Prohibition was declared (1920) ended up Superintendent of Parks and running the zoo
- S2. Was 10 when WWI broke out called Kaiser had coal thrown at him because of his German name and heritage
- S3. Devoted life
- S4. And to think
- S 5. There's more to being a parent than the laying of the egg, if you will. You don't have to give birth to be a good parent. **Courage and Loyalty**

"No matter how small the task, always strive for perfection." Dr. Seuss

- S6. Being faithful
- S7, 8, 9, 10, 11 political cartoons
- S 11. He started drawing political cartoons for a Popular Front newspaper called *PM*. This time his targets were American isolationism and the evils of Nazism and Fascism.
- S12. McElligot's pool mysteries
- S13. Oobleck king wanting things his way, creates an environmental disaster through his magicians needs to own up to mistake in his search for power.
- S14. Horton In the aftermath of the war, he was also coming to realize that writing for children might be the most effective way to start political education and an intelligent appreciation of life when it most mattered. Not that he admired what Pease describes as "sugar-coated and condescending tales fostered by adult sentimentality." In a 1947 writers' seminar, Geisel said the best children's stories were those that addressed children's seven basic needs: love, security, belonging, achievement, knowledge, change and aesthetics. "They want fun. They want play. They want nonsense", he insisted. He also declared there had to be a logic in the way an author kidded children, a concept of plausible nonsense. He called his method of manipulating everything, but in a way that appeared reasonable to a skeptical audience of children, "logical insanity."

S 15. The line from the book, "A person's a person, no matter how small," has been used as a slogan for pro-life organizations for years. It's often questioned whether that was Seuss' intent in the first place, but when he was still alive, he threatened to sue a pro-life group unless they removed his words from their letterhead. Karl ZoBell, the attorney for Dr. Seuss' interests, says the author's widow doesn't like people to "hijack Dr. Seuss characters or material to front their own points of view."

S16. The Cat in the Hat – probably his most famous book. Became the trademark of the Dr. Seuss books

S17. Read

S18. Grinch - read

S19. Yertle - read

S20. Yertle the Turtle story revolves around Yertle the Turtle, the king of the pond. Dissatisfied with the stone that serves as his throne, he commands the other turtles to stack themselves beneath him so that he can see farther and expand his kingdom. However, the stacked turtles are in pain and Mack, the turtle at the very bottom of the pile, is suffering the most. Mack asks Yertle for a respite, but Yertle just tells him to be quiet. Then Yertle decides to expand his kingdom and commands more and more turtles to add to his throne. Mack makes a second request for a respite because the increased weight is now causing extreme pain to the turtles at the bottom of the pile, as well as hunger. Again, Yertle yells at Mack to be quiet. Then Yertle notices the moon rising above him as the night approaches. Furious that something "dares to be higher than Yertle the King", he decides to call for even more turtles in an attempt to rise above it. However, before he can give the command, Mack decides he has had enough. He burps, which takes away Yertle's throne and tosses the turtle king off the turtle stack and into the water, leaving him "King of the Mud" and freeing the others.

S21. The importance of valuing yourself – self-esteem and content with who you are

S22. Read

S23. Read

- S24. One fish
- S25. Adventure wonder and acceptance of what is different
- S26. Diversity read
- S 27. The story of Sam-I-Am's odd culinary journey now ranks as one of the best selling English-language books in history, coming in third behind the Bible's King James Version and the dictionary.
- S28. Read
- S29. Sneetches read
- S30. Helen
- S31. Audrey
- S 32. The Lorax is widely recognized as Dr. Seuss' take on environmentalism and how humans are destroying nature. Groups within the logging industry weren't very happy about it and later sponsored *The Truax*, a similar book—but from the logging point of view. Another interesting fact: the book used to contain the line, "I hear things are just as bad up in Lake Erie," but 14 years after the book was published, the Ohio Sea Grant Program wrote to Seuss and told him how much the conditions had improved and implored him to take the line out. Dr. Seuss agreed and said that it wouldn't be in future editions.
- S 34. Marvin K. Mooney Will You Please Go Now! It's often alleged that this book was written specifically about Richard Nixon, but the book came out only two months after the whole Watergate scandal. It's unlikely that the book could have been conceived of, written, edited, and mass produced in such a short time; also, Seuss never admitted that the story was originally about Nixon. But that's not to say he didn't understand how well the two flowed together. In 1974, he sent a copy of Marvin K. Mooney to his friend Art Buchwald at the Washington Post. In it, he crossed out "Marvin K. Mooney" and replaced it with "Richard M. Nixon", which Buchwald reprinted in its entirety.
- S35. Marvin
- S 36. The Cat in the Hat shows a Young Cat the fun he can get out of reading. He also shows that reading is a useful tool to acquire knowledge.

S 37. *The Butter Battle Book* was pulled from the shelves of libraries for a while because of the reference to the Cold War and the arms race. Yooks and Zooks are societies who do everything differently. The Yooks eat their bread butter-side up and the Zooks eat their bread butter-side down. Obviously, one of them must be wrong, so they start building weapons to outdo each other.

The book concludes with each side ready to drop their ultimate bombs on each other, but the reader doesn't know how it actually turns out.

- S38. Proliferation and escalation of weapons
- S39. This books speaks to many of us now!
- S 40. *Oh The Places You'll Go* is Dr. Seuss' final book, published in 1990. It sells about 300,000 copies every year because so many people give it to college and high school graduates.

S41. read