***The Mission Central Meyer Minute***

I apologize. I’ve been AWOL from writing a Mission Minute. Why? No good excuse except aging. It’s slowing me down me. Remember the movie, “Honey, I Shrunk the Kids”?

Aging, retirement, declining energy, I’m shrinking. Last week I taught a class at the Sem and led a tour, which is what “president emeritus” means, you ain’t what you used to be, and younger people treat you as history. And watching the news, reading the papers, scrolling my iPad, the world after Holy Week and Easter is back to being itself, all so self-centered, all so vain. This world is charging on without me. “Vanity of vanities” says the Ecclesiastes, but no need to tell me. I’m feeling it. It’s my own version of a common experience. How many middle aged, career stunted people, how many who feel they’ve failed in love and life, how many aged confined to a chair or bed despair? How many young people have more despair than hope? Peggy Lee sang about years ago. “And when that final moment comes and I’m breathing my last breath, I’ll be saying to myself, ‘Is that all there is?’”

The world has moved on from Holy Week and Easter, and in many ways organized religion has too. Let them go. I’m getting comfortable with my littleness. “He must increase, but I must decrease” (John 3:30). No one less than the Holy Spirit is shrinking me. Maybe you too. As I’m convicted of my own smallness in the scheme of things, Jesus Christ becomes a greater and greater mystery who more and more commands my thoughts and devotion. That’s why we support and speak about Mission Central. The message of Mission Central is more than Jesus dying and rising, Holy Week and Easter as only history. Yes, His death and resurrection is absolutely necessary for our salvation, but today, right now, as you read this, Jesus is the cosmic Christ. “The Lord make His face to shine upon you.” His face is upon little me, upon little you, and so He will bring us through anything that comes our way. That’s why we tell people about Jesus.