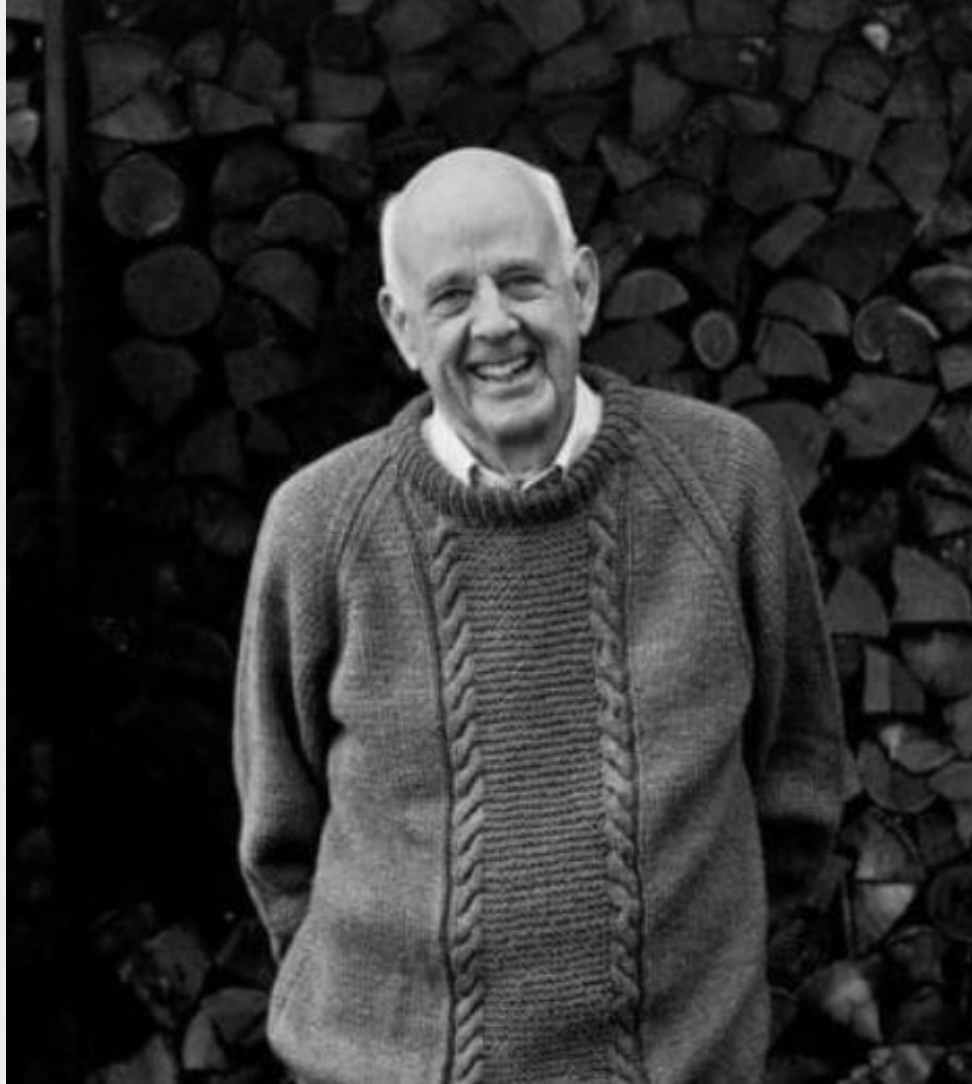




Faithful

A Few Reflections on the Life of Wendell
Berry

St. Croix Church
Sept 20, 2026
Walter Thiessen

“Questionnaire” (by Wendell Berry)

1. How much poison are you willing to eat for the success of the free market and global trade? Please name your preferred poisons.
2. For the sake of goodness, how much evil are you willing to do?

Fill in the following blanks
with the names of your favorite
evils and acts of hatred.

3. What sacrifices are you prepared to make for culture and civilization? Please list the monuments, shrines, and works of art you would most willingly destroy.

“Questionnaire” (by Wendell Berry)

4. In the name of patriotism and the flag, how much of our beloved land are you willing to desecrate?
List in the following spaces
the mountains, rivers, towns, farms
you could most readily do without.
5. State briefly the ideas, ideals, or hopes,
the energy sources, the kinds of security,
for which you would kill a child.
Name, please, the children whom
you would be willing to kill.



Me trying to look like a
farmer/writer
(like Wendell) on the
back cover of my 2013
book

Matthew 6.31-34

- So do not consume yourselves with questions: What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear? People everywhere make themselves frantic over such questions; they don't realize that your heavenly Father knows exactly what you need. Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and then all these things will be given to you too. So do not worry about tomorrow. Let tomorrow worry about itself. Living faithfully is a large enough task for today. *From The Voice* ("Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." KJV)

Berry in *Our Only World*

- None of us knows the future. Fairly predictably, we are going to be surprised by it. That is why “Take . . . no thought for the morrow . . .” is such excellent advice. Taking thought for the morrow is, fairly predictably, a waste of time.

Berry in *Our Only World*

- Only the present good is good. It is the presence of good—good work, good thoughts, good acts, good places—by which we know that the present does not have to be a nightmare of the future.
- “The kingdom of heaven is at hand” because, if not at hand, it is nowhere.