

WCC Board and Committee Monthly Devotional
August 2018

Theme for the Month: Connection

Scripture Passage: Matthew 18:20a

"For where two or more are gathered in My name, there am I"

Have you ever walked the hallway leading to the North Door and noticed the mural hanging on the wall? At first glance it is incomprehensible, abstract art. Painted by George Runge, it hung for over 30 years above the kitchen window in Fellowship Hall, where we gathered for coffee after service.

I remember the initial confusion, looking at the circles and rectangles. Little did I know- it contained scripture. More vividly I recall being given the clue to decipher that verse. At that moment, the abstract geometry formed the words of Matthew 18:20. The words brought meaning, reminding us that church is not the space we occupy, but the act of coming together in His name.

Feeling God at work through small-group fellowship is where the church can become more meaningful and personal. In fact, the highest correlation with happiness is community- feeling meaningful connections to other people. Having just returned from Church Camp, this experience is top of mind right now. If you haven't been, you are missing out on a whole dimension of fellowship.

What about for the person who might be in church, alone, for the first time? To make connection, you might pose a simple question like, "What brings you here today?"

Questions for Discussion:

1. How can we bring more newcomers into small-group fellowship?
2. How can we show empathy for strangers?
3. How can we become comfortable with the uncomfortableness?

Prayer: Gracious and loving God, help us to gather in Your name in the spirit of connection so that we may help those around us to recognize Your good word, to figure out the meaning of the mural of life. Amen

Prepared by the Board of Deacons, Chad Gehrman