

ENCOUNTERING

Meeting, seeing, hearing, experiencing

EMBRACING

accepting, adopting, incorporating, allowing in

EMBODYING

Personifying, incarnating, becoming

CHRIST IN COMMUNITY

Each of us needs to know deep down to our bones that we are beloved of Christ. We can only know this if we truly encounter Christ in our lives. Christ becomes real through prayer, music, worship, nature, the people we meet, and those with whom we worship. When we recognize God's divine spark in each person and all of creation, we can rejoice in the knowledge that we are all connected, worthy of love and deeply valued. Let's open ourselves to hearing God's voice, sharing God's love, and experiencing God's presence, in and with each other.

Where is God going to be revealed if we open our eyes and our ears to God's presence? How will embodying Christ together impact the way we live and love?"

A few ideas to help you encounter each other in a new way:

Welcome to Year 2 of MCA's 3-Year Action Plan!



Commit to "Undercover" Prayer

Pick someone you don't know very well from your congregation and pray for that person every day

Volunteer

Congregations, Food Banks, Newcomer Centres, and Thrift Stores all need volunteers - meet your community in a new way

Mutual Accountability

Set up a regular coffee time for honest conversation about where you're doing well or needing growth

Intentionality

Deliberately look people in the eye and try to see Jesus in their expression

Listen to a Faith-based podcast

Find a "pen pal"
from another congregation

Read a book

Pick a topic, issue or public figure you don't know enough about and find a book to help you learn

How do we ...

... live into our identity as beloved children of God living among other beloved children of God?

... turn our focus to what draws us together instead of what could pull us apart?

... practice deep community, hospitality and welcome in our congregations?

... allow ourselves to heal from old narratives so we can celebrate God's activity among us?

... form the character of our community so that we reveal the face of Christ to the world?



In Year 1 of MCA's 3-year Action Plan, we have opened ourselves to encountering, embracing, and embodying Christ in life. We looked to prayer practices to deepen our relationship with God and have that relationship affect our day to day life. Now we begin to look out, to our siblings in Jesus Christ. Who are they? Where are they on their faith journey? Do we see God in their eyes, their actions, their very being? If we are honest and let ourselves be vulnerable within trusting relationships, can we share the love of Christ and help each other grow in faith and discipleship?

Let us open ourselves to the possibilities of community in Christ!