

IT'S HARD NOT TO



October 29, 2023
www.fabricmpls.com

It's Hard Not To...Connect. If you aren't marooned on a desert island (in which case you aren't reading this) you connect with other things and people constantly. The question is what you do with those connections. It's easy to eliminate the connections you don't like, or so you may think. But while having people unlike you in your world seems hard, what is really hard is the endless effort of keeping those people out of your world. Your spirituality is about being whole, those people make you whole, and you are good at what's good for you. It's hard not to connect.



ALSO TODAY: Get Your Vaccinations! Medical professionals from Walgreens are here to administer flu (ages 3+) and COVID (ages 5+) vaccinations from 10am-Noon. Insurance required. No appts needed. This is for your friends and neighbors too. Text them to let them know to stop by!

WELCOME!

Life, for adults and kids alike, is most fulfilling when it is woven deeply with the strands of your full self, others, and that third strand that is bigger, beyond, around and within us all that you may or may not know as God.

Learn more about Fabric at FabricMpls.com

Miss a week or want to hear the message again?

Check our podcast fabricmpls.podbean.com

WHAT TO EXPECT

We're glad you're here

Music with Chris Tripolino and the Fabric Band

Welcome

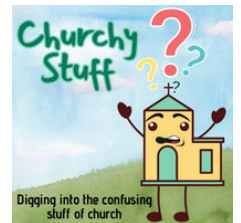
Say Hi and some music

Message – Greg Meyer

Connecting with and supporting Fabric & more music

Closing Thoughts for kids and adults

Kids - What's Happening Today: COMMUNION - Snack time or something more? Come wonder with us about this ritual of remembering, discovering where it comes from and some of the symbols that help create meaning and connection for us. More at fabricmpls.com/kids-current



Sharkey needs your help! Think about a question you have about baptism. What does

all that splashing around have to do with me? Video yourself (shoot it in landscape

please!) asking the question or simply text the question. Both can be sent to...Heidi (763) 957-2813

COMING UP AND MORE



Next Sunday - It's Hard Not to Pray. You do pray pretty much everyday, you know. Seriously. You do. Protest all you want, but prayer is a lot more than kneeling by your bed with your hands folded. See you next Sunday! More at fabricmpls.com/current



What's Next with Fabric? The Search Team has been hard at work. Visit fabricmpls.com/transition to read the latest update. Please reach out to the team with any questions or comments at NEXT@fabricmpls.com or in person.



Where we are and the story of our land matters. Most of us live in, and we gather in land that was part of the Dakota people for centuries, but from which they were forcibly and dishonorably removed by the US government. It is an honor and a responsibility for us to live on and care for this land today.

Growing spiritually is the process of aligning your whole self with God's image within you. It's what happens when you grow in all the other areas of your life. It's hard not to do it. One of the things that process does is connect us with others. We all have the image of God within.

Your spiritual growth means connecting with other people. Including people NOT LIKE YOU.

We LIKE connection with people who are like us, and we FEAR connection with people who aren't.
Can you have unity with people who aren't like you?

Growing spiritually means learning the connection between INDIVIDUALITY and COMMUNITY.

There can be unity without UNIFORMITY. *If everyone is like you, some of you are redundant!*

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is through Christ. For in the one spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one spirit. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as God chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.'
 1 Corinthians 12.12-13,17-21

It's about TEAMWORK not COMPETITION.

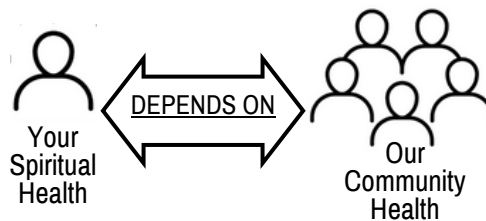
We become WELL-ROUNDED as a community by joining all our WELL-LOPSIDED individuals together.

Unity isn't about being the same, but BEING HELD TOGETHER BY SOMETHING even though we are different.

Fabric Core Commitment - We focus on the mission that unites, not the details that divide. We value unity in diversity, not conformity.

What is Fabric held together by? Our MISSION.

- Creating community with significant relationships. (SHARE, CARE, TRUST, GROW) *This can happen & works better with diversity!*
- Having and putting into practice CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER.
- Weaving the 3 strands of True Self, All Others, and the 3rd Strand.



HOMEWORK - This week keep the idea that 'unity doesn't require uniformity' in mind and watch for the places where you are expecting it. What is hard about those situations? And what could the something that holds you together in your differentness be?



ROAM (Read, Observe, Apply, Meditate) through these readings this week.
Psalm 19 (Our ancestors saw so much variety in universe! Read this and rethink the words like "law" "decrees" "fear")
1 Corinthians 12 (shorter version is to focus on verses 14-21)