

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rochester, MN

BLUE SKY CONVERSATIONS

Notes from April 18, 2021

Summarizing our conversation so far, we noted that what we do is a natural outflowing of who we are in Christ. So, as we consider the projects we have identified, strengthening our commitment to Christ's mission in the world is a spiritual task as well as a practical matter.

We invited comments on how being part of church has been helpful to us in the past. This history may help guide us into the future without limiting our creativity for new initiatives. Our current COVID situation may suggest innovative ways of learning and growing. We seek these opportunities acknowledging that the goal is to build one another up, not wear ourselves out.

In that vein, we invited the participants to respond to the questions below: (Anyone involved in CPC in any way is invited to ponder and respond to these questions, copying both Pastor Jan and Mark Neville.)

- How has church been important in your life? (Not just CPC, but any church)
- How has being part of a church helped you through difficult times?
- What has strengthened your faith, inside or outside of church?
- What makes church meaningful for you now?
- What can church give you that you can't get elsewhere?
- And particularly, **what do you need from your church connection right now?**

Responses from the group ranged from growing in personal faith, to mutual support, to learning more about the world around us. Opportunities for future means to grow included:

- Getting to know people of other faith traditions, possibly including some of our community gardeners.
- Intergenerational activities, optimally with youth involvement, for fun and learning, like outdoor movie nights this summer.

Pastor Jan has begun compiling a list of options for learning, support, and strengthening faith. She noted that we have a trust account established to cover costs of adult education, which is also a part of our spiritual DNA. The list is available on our website at this link _____, and will be updated with future suggestions - including yours! We look forward to growing together into our mature identity.

Stay tuned for future Blue Sky Conversations!