The Shape of the Jesus Movement:
Taking Discipleship, Evangelism and Reconciliation Seriously

Led by The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers
and The Rev. Jay Sidebotham
“The mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.”

The Book of Common Prayer
The Shape of the Jesus Movement

Following Jesus – growing loving, liberating and life-giving relationship with God (*evangelism*), with each other (*reconciliation*) and with creation (*environmental stewardship*).
The Shape of the Jesus Movement

**Discipleship:**
Grow hearts for Jesus through worship, formation, spiritual practice, fellowship and action

**Evangelism:**
Listen for God’s movement in our lives and in the world. Then proclaim and celebrate it!

**Reconciliation:**
Embody the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus with each other.
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Discipleship:

What is its place in the Jesus movement? Why are we talking about it at an evangelism conference?

How will we grow hearts for Jesus through worship, formation, spiritual practice, fellowship, and action. Where it all begins!
The relational dimension of discipleship

Jesus said: The first commandment is this: Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord you God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other greater commandment than these.

Mark 12:29-31
What we’re learning: Total and Episcopal Profiles

- **Exploring Christ**
  - “I believe in God, but I am not sure about Christ. My faith is not a significant part of my life.”
  - 16%
  - 17%

- **Growing in Christ**
  - “I believe in Jesus and am working on what it means to get to know him.”
  - 45%
  - 55%

- **Close to Christ**
  - “I feel really close to Christ and depend on him daily for guidance.”
  - 24%
  - 23%

- **Christ-Centered**
  - “My relationship with Jesus is the most important relationship in my life. It guides everything I do.”
  - 15%
  - 5%
Practices for growth

- The Eucharist
- Prayer to Give Thanks
- Serve in a Church Ministry
- Serve those in Need (Church)

- Read the Bible, Solitude
- Prayer for Others, Love of God
- Meet with Close Friend, Small Group
- Serve those in Need (Church), on Own

- Solitude
- Prayer for Guidance
- Prayer to Express My Love of God

Episcopal Catalysts: Eucharist, Bible Reading, Prayer
What makes a difference?

- Engagement with scripture
- The transforming power of the eucharist
- A deeper prayer life
- The heart of the leader
Three primary archetypes define Episcopal Churches.

- Troubled (55%)
- Complacent (21%)
- Extroverted (23%)
- Average (1%)
Why Does This Matter?

There is an urgent need to recognize that we can’t keep doing what we’ve been doing.
But we've never done it that way.
If we do not understand our own discipleship – at a deep and resonant level – then we cannot hope to evangelize.

You can’t give what you don’t have. You can’t share an experience you haven’t had.
Discipleship precedes evangelism
maybe "discipleship prepares for evangelism" or "discipleship informs evangelism"
Share your story ...

Recall a time of spiritual growth in your life. What contributed to that? Tell the story. With words, images, your energy, take your partner there.
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Evangelism ...

... is the spiritual practice of **noticing** Jesus’ loving, liberating and life-giving activity in our own lives and in the lives of others, **overflowing** with wonder and gratitude, then **celebrating** and **proclaiming** that good news, so others may **discover** their place in the Jesus Movement.
Proclaim the gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.

- attr.to St. Francis of Assisi
Proclaim the gospel at all times. Use words. It’s necessary.
Share your story …

Picture your neighborhood around your church. Recall one place where you see good news getting lived out, see the Jesus alive, outside of church.

Now imagine you’re talking with someone who’s part of the community/activity where you see God. What would you tell them? Where do you see Jesus?
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Reconciliation

Embody the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus as we cross and heal historic, systemic divisions.
Brave Listening

• Why is it so hard?
• What have you lost?
• What do you love?
• What do you dream?
Share your story …

Have you ever been in an event or community where people shared like that? What was happening? What made that sharing possible? With whom do you long to have a Brave Listening conversation?
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Welcome to the Jesus Movement