

October 10, 2019



As a newbie, I am asking a lot of questions.

- How do I make copies?
- When is this meeting?
- What do you like to do with each other?
- Where does this money go?
- Who needs to be a part of that conversation?
- How do I set up a zoom meeting or conversation?
- Can I have more pens and post its?
- Who needs to be a part of this conversation?
- Have we, the royal we, asked this question yet?

When starting a fresh or anew, there are a lot of questions with some assumptions. The delightful dance is to not start with an assumption but with a question. This is the dance that is giving me the most energy and agility right now as your Transitional Director of Congregational Development and Mission.

About this title, all acronym ideas are welcome as it is long to write! Transitional is the reality of what is going on right now in your NCP office as new staff is finding our place. And therefore, with transition comes a lot of questions. The main questions I am asked from others are:

- Are you overwhelmed?
- Why is there Transitional in the title?

But the one most recent question that gave me a chance to think anew: How are you having fun? Not, am I having fun (maybe they asked that) but how am I having fun? First, I am having fun. How I am having fun is relishing in your responses to all my questions. You are sharing with me why you serve, why we have and want to budget this way, how we go about new things and new ideas and where there are areas or ways, we can be more agile. You invite me to see your churches and your ministries in response to my questions. This is a lot of fun for me.

Asking questions is also the root of how we each are able to connect with a coaching mantra: I am creative, resourceful, and whole. In all my questions I will be asking you, I ask with a foundational belief that you and our presbytery is creative, resourceful, and whole therefore the answers are within us and connected to each other. We are connected in our Lord Jesus Christ. That is why we are creative, resourceful, and whole!

Thank you for staying in a welcoming disposition to all my questions.

Tara