



Greetings People,

These are the paradoxes I keep tripping into:

- “You’re a minister? Wow. Where is your church or congregation?”
- In-Person, Hybrid, OR virtual worship?
- Which path, afford a Full-Time pastor OR afford to take care of our building?
- The “Great Pastor Resignation” OR more Women are in the workforce than ever before in American History (which includes ordained ministry).

*These points are what your NCP leaders and the office continue to organize around. In all the upcoming NCP Gatherings, Webinars, Grants, Scholarships, Coaching, and Trainings be assured these points are critical right now in a Good Way! God calls it Good!*

In our Great Ends of the Church tradition, we are called and compelled

- **to Proclaim the Gospel** - “Here is a list of five congregations in your area and the two things unique to this community of Christians”
- **to Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship of the children of God** – how we provide ACCESS to worship and service through the Body of Christ is a privilege we will always be navigating. There is no ONE way to do this, there is only ONE Body of why we do this.
- **To provide the Maintenance of Divine Worship** – this has so many options for each congregation to organize and budget around. You get to lead with what you can do really, really, really, well, according to your gifts and talents and not according to what you think others do well.
- **To engage the Preservation of the Truth** – God is Love, Love your Neighbor, Salvation is a gift, Grace Abounds...we get to provide access to real experiences and education towards these Truths as Ministers (members of our congregations ordained and beyond)! What a privilege.
- **To be guided by the Promotion of Social Righteousness** – There are more people today drawn and desiring a Spiritual Authenticity with the Triune God - “What would Jesus do?” As church members begin to act in ways consistent with their answers to this question, the community surrounding the church is transformed by Christ. We need to be the leaders in reconciling this truth!
- **To be about the Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world** – With God’s Help! Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in Heaven.

We are committed, with you, to live faithfully in our budgets and practices through our tradition. Join in the upcoming offerings: HolyCow! Consulting webinars on Strategic Planning and Volunteering; In-Person Presbytery Meeting; Session and Elder Training, and NCP wide Installation. If you are tripping into these paradoxes with me, I would love for us to be catching one another so that we are able to recognize the embrace of the Body of Christ as we participate in building this Kingdom with God!

Peace and Courage, Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe