

Christ, Community, Commitment

“I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” John 10:10

Life in Christ is a life of commitment. Moravian Christians often look to the example of the religious refugees in Herrnhut, Germany, who uprooted themselves from their previous lives in order to live their commitment to Jesus according to their conscience. After their experience of the Holy Spirit on August 13, 1727, they committed not only to Christ but to one another, forming true community. The fervor and energy of their subsequent work suggests that their momentum was a product of their Holy-Spirit-renewed *commitment*. Life-changing, live-giving commitment.

Can we hear Christ asking us today: Are you committed to following me? Do you care about the coming of God’s kingdom, a kingdom of justice and love, and if you do care, how are you showing it? How are you living your commitment? Because commitment to the kingdom is commitment to *life*.

As the Stewardship Committee plans for this year’s “Commitment Sunday,” we have been talking about not just financial commitments, but the many ways that commitment to Christ changes our lives and gives us opportunities to serve. How are we, as a congregation, committed to Christ?

Our mission statement gives us a place to start as we answer the question: We are committed to loving God, living in community, and serving our neighbor.

Our vision statement also helps: we’re committed to becoming a church engaged, and to work that heals our community and transforms the world.

So often we get into familiar patterns and rhythms (worship on Sunday, a committee meeting once a month, participating in a certain ministry) and don’t stop to think about what these commitments mean. When we do, we realize our commitments are something to celebrate! Being present with one another, worshipping and serving together, forming community through commitment to Christ and each other—all of it enriches the abundant life that we experience in Christ.

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, October 16. It will be a very special day! In our 10 am worship, we’ll gather to reflect on what it means to be committed to the body of Christ, and how that commitment is reflected in our lives. We’ll sing, pray, hear the Word proclaimed, and **celebrate** the abundant life given by a Savior who committed his life for us all. We will make vows of commitment to our community of faith. We’ll also have a chance to offer our financial commitments to God’s work through the life and ministries of Home Moravian Church for 2023.

And of course, we’ll enjoy an abundance of fellowship together after worship.

We look forward to being with you on **October 16!**

--The Stewardship Committee