



RADICAL HOSPITALITY

BY THE END OF THIS WORKSHOP YOU WILL HAVE:

- Observed those who are present or absent when extending hospitality to others.
- Defined hospitality.
- Given examples of what makes hospitality radical.
- Examined what it means to have power.
- Analyzed the role of power in our communities.
- Demonstrated hospitality as a way to understand in concrete terms how accompaniment values apply to equity areas.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



MISSION
GATHERING

The radical call of Jesus to love and justice begins with us and how we approach the world. This workshop is for those who are looking to respond to God's compelling and challenging vision of our life together.

How we choose to be together is of incredible importance as we respond to God's vision of accompaniment as embodied in Jesus Christ. Through the lens of accompaniment values, this workshop is designed to expand our capacity to see, understand and respond to the way power and access shape our communities.



WHO IS AND WHO IS NOT HERE AND WHY?

Building the capacity of the church, not tearing it down.

Who is here and why?

Who is not here and why?

Within your church and community?

WELCOMING THE OTHER

Understanding the need for the other both locally and globally.

The 99 Collective is more than just a name it is a way of being*:

Jesus told a parable about a shepherd who left the 99 sheep alone to go find the one who had become separated from the group. When we interpret the parable, we often project ourselves into the story as the shepherd. We believe it's our job to go find the lost sheep. Sometimes we think of ourselves as the ones who know the way. We place ourselves in a position of authority and power over the lost who need to be pitied or rescued.

We also sometimes feel like the sheep who is lost or has been separated one way or another from the group. Sometimes it's our own actions or choices that separate us. Sometimes its the 99 who have marginalized or shunned us. One way or another, we're out of community.



We believe most of us who read the parable are most likely one of the 99 who are left behind while the shepherd seeks those who are separate or marginalized. But what does that mean? First of all it means that we are incomplete. Whoever we are, whatever we achieve, we are not whole unless we are together.

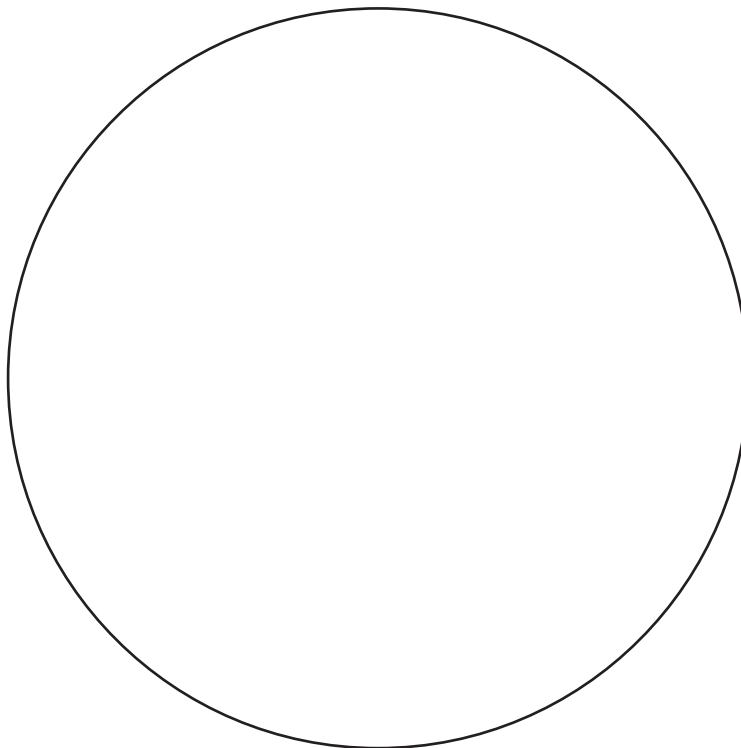
This is not to emphasize the righteousness of the 99. Nor is it to place shame or guilt on the the 1. Instead, it is a call to recognize that the job of the 99 is to celebrate the 1 who has been separated or marginalized. It is to long for restoration not only of the 1 to the 99, but also of the 99 to the 1. We are to prepare a place for the 1, not for assimilation, but for reconciliation.

So The 99 Collective is an effort to be ready for the return of those who have been separated or marginalized, reform ourselves where needed, and take joy in the reality of the diversity of God's creation. We constantly need to ask ourselves: who's not here, who's not included, who have we turned away, who have we left alone?

The line isn't always that clear. Sometimes we're the status quo, sometimes we're not. Sometimes the status quo is good, sometimes its oppressive. What is clear is that God loves the 99 and the 1 the same. But wants desperately that we be made one. Here's to that becoming reality.

*Taken from a translation of scripture by Rev. Philip Huber

Take a moment in your small group to write inside the circle 'who is here' and outside of the circle 'who is not here'. Reflect both in this room and in your own community. Rethinking what the church looks like.





How do we start to envision and re-frame the church?

How do you start to create radical spaces of hospitality?

Where in your community/church is this taking place and where is it not?

How do we use the accompaniment model as a way to guide us to the beloved community?

PRACTICE

Accompaniment method of radical hospitality:

- We are longing for an authentic self, for vulnerability, empowerment, sustainability, inclusivity and mutuality. We are just beginning to learn and understand how these five areas of focus are vital in creating a church that is not only focused on gathering but also sending.
- When we practice accompaniment we are assuming a future that is unpredictable—
- letting go of control is necessary.
- Accompaniment in action: Gather into small groups and practice one of the following or discuss how these could be used in the gathering and sending of the church. It is important and helpful to always remember or refer back to who is here and is not here. Why?



Resource Sharing

Expertise Recognizing

Story-telling

Network building

Decision making



ACTION AND IDEA MAPPING

Freedom Dreams

Robin D. G. Kelly's book Freedom Dreams:

As the great poet Keorapetse Kgositse put it, 'When the clouds clear/ We shall know the colour of the sky.' When movements have been unable to clear the clouds, it has been the poets—no matter the medium—who have succeeded in imagining the color of the sky, in rendering the kinds of dreams and futures social movements are capable of producing. Knowing the color of the sky is far more important than counting the clouds. Or to put it another way, the most radical art is not protest art but works that take us to another place, envision a different way of seeing, perhaps a different way of feeling.

What future are you struggling for in your church, community and world?

What do the 99 need to restore the one back to the community?

What can you do in your own communities and how does that mingle with the 99 Collective and what we do? How can the 99 Collective be a resource to you? How can we collaborate together for a more just world?

'A revolution without dancing is not a revolution worth having.'--Emma Goldman