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EPIPHANY SUNDAY
JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION
January 4, 5, and 8, 2020

The season of Epiphany begins with the coming of the Wise Men, the first non-Jews to worship the Savior. Because of this, Epiphany is a "mission season." Today we begin a four-part message series that invites us to join Jesus on His mission.

PRE-SERVICE HYMN SING

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 80

Angels from the Realms of Glory

M In the name of the Father, who is the Father of the heavenly lights, and of the † Son, who is the light of the world, and of the Holy Spirit, who reveals that light to us through the gospel.

C **Amen.**

M Without the light of Jesus our hearts are dark.

C **In this darkness sin finds a welcome home.**

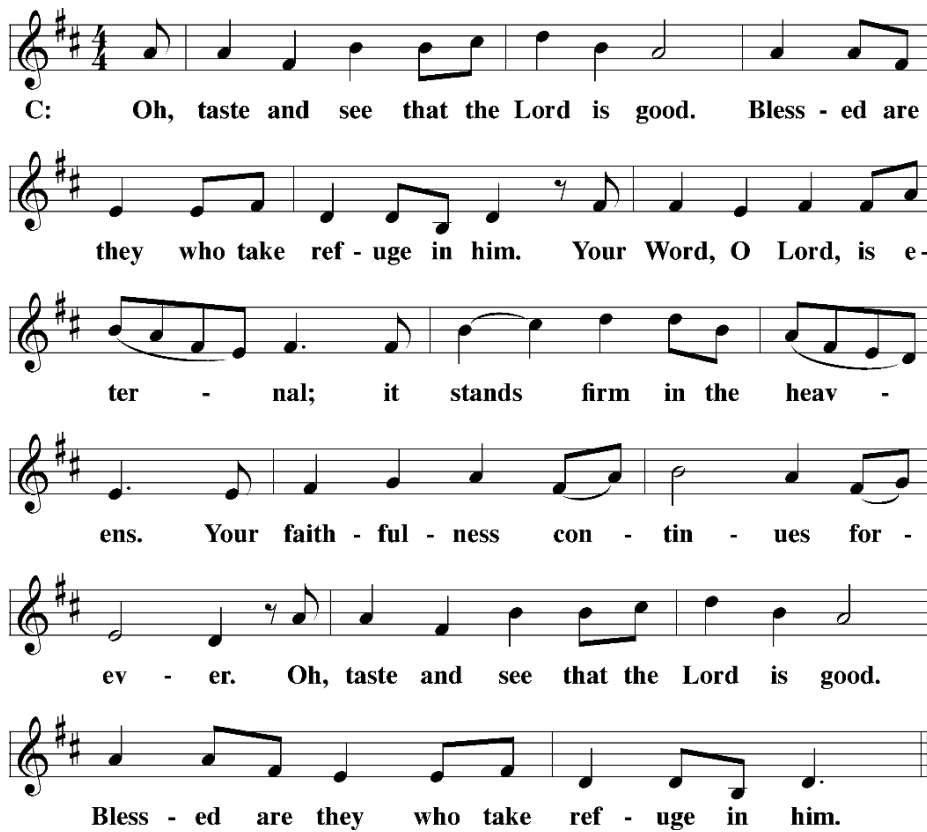
M But we don't live in darkness anymore. Jesus' light shines into our hearts. We not only see the ugliness of our sin, we hate sin. For this reason, we choose not to hide our sin, but to confess it freely:

All Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M Let us pray.
Heavenly Father, as you once led the Magi to worship, so you have led us to this place. We have come to offer you our gifts of worship and praise,
C **as well as hearts and minds that are eager to grow in spiritual understanding and wisdom.**
- M We long to hear your voice. Speak to us of your love, your grace, and your salvation. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6, Bible page 738

The prophet invites God's people to shine with the glory of God. When we do, God promises that people will be attracted to us and to our God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 72, Hymnal page 93

Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does marvelous deeds. May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



HYMN OF THE DAY 79, vv. 1, 2, 5

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

SERMON

Ephesians 3:2-12; Bible page 1174

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.
- C** **You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**
- M** Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:
- C** **You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

M Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C **Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.**

M Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C **Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 577

Rise, O Light of Gentile Nations

CLOSING PRAYER

M Lord Jesus, you are the Light of the world.

C **Thank you for shining your light into our hearts today.**

M May your light continue to change and shape us,

C **that we may serve as beacons of your hope to the world around us.**

M We bless you now and always.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



WISCONSIN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL *GAINING GROUND* VIDEO

Wisconsin Lutheran High School has the special opportunity to expand its footprint for the first time since 1958. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will add 2.5 acres to the 13 acre campus and in addition raise funds to support the ongoing needs of the 830+ students that call Wisconsin Lutheran home. The goal is to raise 1 million dollars by January 31, 2020.

- What does the high school plan to do with the additional land?
Those plans are still being developed by the master site planning task force, but the land acquisition ensures that students have ongoing access to the track, the path to Honey Creek Hall dormitory, the outdoor multipurpose classroom, parking, and more.
- Why is the goal \$1 million by January 31, 2020?
Combined, the land swap purchase along with legal fees and the master site plan development have a cost of \$500,000. Funding for the current needs of serving our students is an additional \$500,000.
- The ushers will give you a *Gaining Ground* brochure and offering envelope as you leave today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREACHER *Pastor Peter Panitzke*

PRESIDING MINISTER *(Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl*



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of January 6, 2020

MON	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	Strings Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Woodwind Rehearsal
TUE	9:00 am	Ladies Bible Study (Faith Room)
	9:30 am	Ministry Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	10:30 am	Ministerial Team Meeting
	6:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	6:30 pm	Volleyball League (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
WED	9:00 am	Mommy & Me (Faith Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School 6-8 Grade Confirmation Instruction Classes
	7:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	7:00 pm	High School Boy Basketball League (Trinity Gym)
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
THURS	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	8:30 am	Legacy Committee Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
FRI	5:00 pm	Awake and Alive Winter Conference (Best Western, Howell Avenue)
SAT	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	8:30 am	Awake and Alive Winter Conference (Best Western, Howell Avenue)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
SUN	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Kid's Club
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:45 am	The Bridge Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
	10:30 am	Cancer Support Group Meeting
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

We have a staffed nursery during the 9:15 and 10:45 am services in the east wing of the church. A silent pager system allows childcare providers to alert you of any need your child has. Our ushers will be happy to direct you if needed.

JANUARY MESSAGE SERIES

JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION

What does it mean to be an “everyday missionary” in the places you frequent or with the people God has placed in your path? Come along as we join Jesus on his mission to reach the lost. This message series is based on the book *Joining Jesus on His Mission – How to Be an Every Day Missionary* by Greg Fink.



January 12

Mission Mindset Change

Matthew 4:18-25

Pastor Greg Finke writes: “If I go *for* Jesus, I am doing the work and seeking the results of what I can accomplish. When I go *with* Jesus, he is doing the work and I am seeing the results of what Jesus can accomplish through me. One is hard, the other is fun. One is exhausting, the other is energizing. One causes me to worry (“Did I do everything correctly?”), the other causes me to be at peace (“Let’s see what Jesus does next.”). One tempts me to force things with people, the other invites me to keep loving people” (p. 30).

January 19

Seeking What Is Already Happening

John 1:29–42a

Where are mercy and grace needed? Having joy in being curious about others and their lives is key. When we get to know others better, we have opportunities to show love, joy, truth, and patience during times of need – using the gifts of the mercy and grace God has given us. We make God’s compassion tangible as Jesus works through us to deliver his gifts.

January 26

A Mission Trip to Our Own Neighborhood

Matthew 5:13–20

A lot of what it takes to be an everyday missionary is just being near to people, listening, developing friendships, and making open spaces of time a priority so there is room in your life to build relationships. Ask yourself, “Who are these people that God has put in my life? What is Jesus already up to in their lives? How can I join in?”

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

FUNERAL

Robert G. Zahn, born December 14, 1926, went home to be with the Lord on December 30, 2019. Visitation will be held on Monday, January 6, 10am -12pm, with the funeral service immediately following. May our God of all comfort and peace be with the loved ones of Bob today and always.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Carol Beyer, David Burkowitz, Steve Drobka, Carol Gosseck, Janelle Gray, Lois Guhr, Connie Hikade, Josh Nagel, Carol Smith, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

HOSPITALIZED

Gary Ives is at the VA Hospital. Carol Constantineau has been discharged from the hospital.

ATTENDANCE

897 were in attendance at last weekend's services; 212 attended the New Year's Eve service.

THANK YOU FROM OUR TEACHERS!

On behalf of our Pre-K through 8th grade teachers, thank you for the generous door offering following the children's Christmas service on December 20. It is a great joy to serve our kids, families, and congregation here at St. Paul's in the name of our Savior! ~ Principal Fitzsimmons

FIFTH GRADE CALL DECLINED

This week we received the following from Mr. Paul Kanzenbach. We will be extending another call for the fifth grade position as soon as possible.

Brothers and Sisters at St. Paul's, Muskego:

A few short weeks ago, God led you to extend me a call to teach grade 5 at your church and school. Your prayers for my family during the deliberation process have been comforting and were truly appreciated. God in His infinite wisdom has led me to return your call, and continue serving at St. John's, Milwaukee, at this time. May richest blessings be yours as it is clear that your collective passion for ministry infuses all that you do!

In Christ,

Mr. Paul Kanzenbach

GET INTO THE WORD IN 2020

If you are interested in a new Bible reading plan for 2020, there are copies of a reading plan available at the Welcome Center that will take you through the entire Bible in one year. Pastor Pete Panitzke reads the same Bible readings for his own spiritual growth each day as well. If you have any questions about what you read for the day you are encouraged to contact him at ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org.

FOLLOWING THE PROMISE BIBLE STUDY

Are you ready to explore the Christmas promise of a Savior? A Savior planned for you before time began? *Following the Promise* class happens Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:15 pm, **January 7** – March 24. For longtime Christians or people just curious to know more, this class is for you! Express interest on the back of the Connection Card.

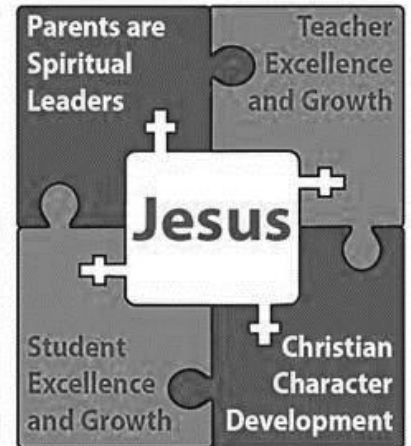
MINISTERING TO MILLENNIALS: THE NEW GRACE ROOM SERIES

Join our St. Paul's pastors, 9:15-10:15 am the Sundays of January, as they lead discussion based on a video series produced by our church body to explore what we can do to retain and gain members of this generation. The discussion will also help you in your personal witness ministry.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

SCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGINS JANUARY 10

Have you considered a Christian education for your child? Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins January 10 for our 3K to 8th grade Lutheran school. St. Paul's participates in the Milwaukee and Wisconsin Parental School Choice programs. Income eligibility information is listed below. Our congregation also provides over \$600,000 in tuition assistance each year. Don't let financial concerns keep you from exploring this opportunity to help your child grow in faith. Schedule a tour with our School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons at (414) 422-0320, ext. 118 or sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org as soon as possible or attend the open house on January 26. See below for more details.



SCHOOL CHOICE INFORMATION

If you or someone you know might qualify for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) given the income limits, please contact School Administrator Seth Fitzsimmons for more information at sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 118. We would LOVE to have your family take a tour of our school!



Income Limits for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)

Family Size	Single Parent Income Limit	Married Parents Income Limit
3	\$45,716	\$52,716
4	\$55,220	\$62,220
5	\$64,724	\$71,724
6	\$74,228	\$81,228
***Add \$9,504 for each additional family member		

Income Limits for the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP)

Family Size	Single Parent Income Limit	Married Parents Income Limit
3	\$62,340	\$69,340
4	\$75,300	\$82,300
5	\$88,260	\$95,260
6	\$101,220	\$108,220
***Add \$12,960 for each additional family member		

More information is found at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/sms/choice-programs/student-applications>

LUTHERAN PRE-K AND ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE JANUARY 26

January and February are the months where many families are interested in learning more information about a school for their child. Whether this is for 3K, 4K, Kindergarten or transferring into a 1st-8th grade, all are welcome. Do you know someone like this? If so, invite them to our open house on Sunday, January 26, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. I would love to talk to them about our schools. You may also have them contact me at sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 118, to set up a visit.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

AWAKE AND ALIVE 2020

Awake and Alive is having their 2020 Winter Conference on January 10 and 11 at the Best Western on Howell Avenue in Milwaukee. Visit awakealive.com to learn more.

CARD PLAYERS' GROUP

The first Friday of every month Sheepshead is played. The third Thursday of the month is card players' choice. Both evenings begin at 7:00 pm in the Faith Room. Enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship, bring a snack to share, and your own beverage. RSVP by calling the church office at (414) 422-0320, ext. 128, or joining the Card Players Group on My St. Paul's.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

If you are a cancer survivor, are currently battling cancer, or have friends or family members fighting the fight, consider attending the next St. Paul's Cancer Support Group gathering on Sunday, January 12, at 10:30 am in the church library. Please contact Karen Schram at (414) 529-5544 or Judy Schmidt at gjschmidt@wi.rr.com for more information.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

The St. Paul's Alzheimer's Support Group for care partners meets to provide comfort and resources. This support group is sanctioned by the Alzheimer's Association and meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month, in the church library from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. The next meeting is January 21. For more information contact David Timm at (262) 787-5955 or Andy Timm at (414) 254-3548.

MOMMY & ME RETURNS JANUARY 8

Mommy & Me is a social, spiritual, and service-oriented ministry for moms and young children—infant through age five. The group meets Wednesday mornings 9:30-11:00 in the Faith Room. Former St. Paul's School Teacher Samantha Lindner serves as the group's facilitator. For more information, contact Sam at (989) 284-2854.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AT ST. PAUL'S CHILD CARE CENTER

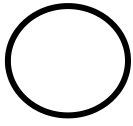
St. Paul's Child Care Center is hiring a Teacher's Aide/Closer in the Infant Room, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm. Contact Child Care Center Director Kim Neubauer at kneubauer@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 200, for a job description and to apply.

ST. PAUL'S CLEAN TEAM STAFF OPENING

We have an opening on our clean team. This is a paid position with 4-8 hours on weeknights and some occasional fill-in hours on weekends. Responsibilities include cleaning of school, church, and fill-in at the child care facilities to create an optimal environment for student learning and worship. Contact Church Administrator Randy Fink at rfink@stpaulmuskego.org or (414) 422-0320, ext. 120, to apply.

SHOP CLASS LEADERS WANTED

Our Lutheran school would like to begin a few short-length, once-a-week, shop class electives beginning next school year for our middle school students. As part of investigating this possibility, Principal Fitzsimmons is looking for volunteers who may be interested and skilled enough to assist. Ideal candidates may be retirees with skills in basic tools, woodworking, small engine repair, or any of the other trades. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, please contact Principal Fitzsimmons at sfitzsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org.



GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

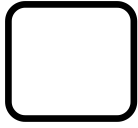
Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Begin with praying Father Mychal Judge's prayer on the top of the message outline.
2. This message series is based on the book *Joining Jesus on His Mission* by Pastor Greg Finke. Read the following definitions from his book and comment about them.
 - a. "Missional Living" means joining Jesus on his mission to save and living each day as if it were a mission trip into our community. We are Neighborhood Missionaries.
 - b. "Missional Community" is a small group of neighborhood missionaries who gather regularly to support each other as we learn to join Jesus on his mission.
 - c. "Neighborhood" is any network of people to which we have regular access. Who is regularly within your reach? Who are the people who live near you work near you, play near you, etc?
 - d. "Neighboring" is any interaction that fosters friendship between neighbors. "Neighboring" puts us into a position to see what Jesus is already up to in the lives of people near us.
3. Finke suggests using five simple questions that correspond with five practices of missional living. The five practices are **bolded**. Work through these questions as a group. Don't get discouraged! We will talk about these questions in the next message. The purpose is for us to become familiar with the questions.
 - a. **Seeking the Kingdom:** How did you see God at work this week?
 - b. **Hearing from Jesus:** What has Jesus been teaching you in his Word?
 - c. **Talking with People:** What kind of conversations did you have with pre-Christians this past week? (By using "pre-Christians" Finke wants to err on the side of hope!)
 - d. **Doing Good:** What good can we do around here?
 - e. **Ministering through Prayer:** How can we help you through prayer?
4. Read together Dr. Martin Luther's explanation of the Address of the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father in heaven: What does this mean?

With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that he is our true Father and that we are his true children, so that we may pray to him as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.

Compare these words with Ephesians 3:12. Why is this confidence important to remember as we see ourselves as neighborhood missionaries?
5. Close by praying together Ephesians 3:14-21 with someone from your "neighborhood" in mind.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

Joining Jesus on His Mission

Ephesians 3:2-13, page 1174

“Lord, take me where you want me to go;
Let me meet who you want me to meet;
Tell me what you want me to say;
And keep me out of your way. Amen.”

(The daily prayer of Father Mychal Judge, NYFD chaplain,
killed in the 9/11 attacks at the World Trade Center)

1. The Mission Mystery: The Gospel is for _____ (aka “lost causes”) too! (v. 6)
 - a. The mystery was hidden in the Old Testament.

Genesis 12:3 “_____ will be blessed through you.”

Psalms 72:17 “_____ will be blessed through him.”

Isaiah 49:6 “I will make you a light for the _____.”
 - b. The mystery is revealed in the New Testament.

Matthew 2:1-12 The coming of the Magi

John 1:29; 3:16 “the _____”

Ephesians 1:11-13 fulfilled in _____ and may be fulfilled in _____
2. The Mission Miracle: The Gospel is entrusted to _____ (aka “the leaster”) (v. 8)
 - a. Relax! The miracle reveals God’s _____ (v. 7).
 - b. Relax! The “leaster” you are, the more _____ of God’s wisdom to share (v.10).
 - c. Relax! You have a powerful ally in your mission! _____ boldly! (v. 12)
 - d. Relax! The mission often works best when you are at your _____! (v. 13)

My Next Steps to Join Jesus on His Mission

- **A Call to Mission:** Work through GroupWork, first as an individual, and then as part of a group. If you are not part of Life Group small group Bible study, mark your interest on the Connection Card.
- **A Call to See:** What is God doing in the lives of those around you? Be curious. Enjoy the people in your “neighborhood” and ask Jesus to open your eyes to see what He is doing in their lives.
- **A Call to Pray:** Pray Ephesians 3:14-21 each day this week for someone in your “neighborhood.”