

## Pastor's Point

*We believe everyone is beloved, shaped from the dust of the earth and the breath of God. Everyone has a story to tell. Our stories are messy and beautiful, painful and hopeful—being written and rewritten over time. We commit to disrupting our assumptions and staying curious.*  
~From *I've Been Meaning to Ask...A Study Journal*

This Sunday, June 7, we begin a worship series entitled “I’ve Been Meaning to Ask…” from the pastoral collective known as Sanctified Art. This group of theologians, pastors, and artists started with the questions, “*How can we listen to one another? How do we find connection despite distance?*” In other words, how do we stay connected as the Body of Christ within this particular Beloved Community?

The guiding principles of our series are:

### **1. . . . where are you from?**

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### **2. . . . where does it hurt?**

We believe everyone carries hurt and has the capacity to acknowledge the pain of others. We believe God draws close to us in every moment of suffering. We commit to vulnerability and compassion.

### **3. . . . what do you need?**

We believe everyone has needs, but each of us needs different things at different times. We believe God calls us to care for one another—in seasons of joy, transition, and hardship. We commit to listening and being present.

### **4. . . . where do we go from here?**

We believe courageous conversations have the power to change and transform us. We believe God bridges connections in unexpected ways. We commit to continuing the conversation.

As we ease back into full-fledged worship and ordinary life, questions about reconnection seem more important than ever and they’ve offered a wealth of resources to help us do just that. From prayers and poetry to art and videos to a weekly devotional, we will be steeped in scripture in ways meant to brew a deeper and more connected spiritual life for all of us. I invite you to step into this journey with intentionality and enthusiasm and I look forward to sharing it with you. For those connected to the CCC FaceBook page, there will be opportunities to engage virtually with the study questions posted or respond to the videos. (If you cannot be at worship on Sunday to pick up your devotional, just call the church and we will get one out to you immediately.) Consider calling up a church friend and studying the devotional booklet together. Spend some time looking at the artwork up close – feel free to cut it out and put in on your fridge or mirror to study throughout the week. In the meantime, I wonder how many ways there are to tell the story of where you’re from?

Blessings,

Pastor Heather