

01-15-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“...Jesus' question, 'What are you looking for?' (John 1:38), serves as both an invitation and examination for those same disciples to follow him. As with all persons who would be followers of Jesus, it is not simply if they wish to follow, but *what* and *whom* are they looking for.”

- Troy A. Miller



John 1:29-42

Questions for Reflection —

- What is it that you are presently seeking? What do you think your family members, friends, and neighbors are seeking? What do you think people in our broader society are seeking? What are the deep spiritual hungers of the present age? How can we as a congregation help to address these various longings?

- How well do you think our congregation reflects the local community in the neighborhood(s) near our building? How can we better include and invite those with whom we do not presently engage? What does it look like to build relationships across differences in culture or socioeconomics? What would you invite people to “come and see” in the life of our congregation? How can we share the gifts of our congregation with the wider community?

- What does it mean for you to follow Jesus? Are you willing to follow wherever Jesus leads you? How do you respond to the invitation of Jesus to a transformed and abundant life? Where and how do you find meaning, purpose, connection, and belonging? What brings you closer to God?

Daily Household Prayer

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us, and allow your Spirit to fill our very being. Inspire us to work more faithfully for justice and dignity of life everywhere. Raise our vision above the barriers of color, culture, and creed that separate us. Give us wisdom as we deal with one another. Help us to recognize and to respect different ways, rather than to judge. In the Spirit of Jesus who came not to be served, but to serve, we now must walk in the world. We must reach out our hands with help and open our hearts in love. Awake in us the desire to seek your way of serving you in the world. Amen.