

Church in the Forest

at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School
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Monday morning, January 19, 2015

Dear Members and Friends,

Being an Inviting People: “Come and See”

Here’s a challenge. Let’s move from being a welcoming church to be an inviting church. Welcoming is passive. It denotes waiting for visitors and guests to drop by. When they do, we attempt to treat them very well and do everything possible to make them comfortable. Inviting is different. It means leaving the comfort of our congregational home-court advantage and going into our neighborhood. It isn’t so much welcoming someone to our place, but going into their place and meeting them there.

Here are ten steps to becoming an inviting people:

1. Move from: “If they wanted to come they would come.”
Change to: “If we invited them, many would come.”
2. Cascading: Use one-on-one invitation. One then invites another—personally not just a leaflet.
3. Gift of friendship: Make friendships outside of church. Take time to build friendships
4. The power of story: tell your story, naming the person who first invited you to church and faith.
5. Practice the question: “Would you like to come to church with me?”
6. Pray: For the whole congregation to have the courage to invite and for the people we are going to invite.
7. Make the invitation: follow through and make the invitation. Our friends can either say “Yes” or “No.”

8. Walk or drive with your friend to the church: pick him/her up and drive your friend.
9. Introduce your friend to others over coffee after church: people that s/he will have something in common with. Your friend is more likely to stay if s/he makes another friend.
10. Assume that your friends are coming the following week: actually invite them again, pick them up, and introduce them to more of the others.

What a GREAT Sunday to invite (and bring) a friend... check out the *Music Box* (a piper and Scottish songs, better than a polka—my heritage!!). See you in church Sunday can’t wait to be introduced to your guest.

See you in church,



Ken Feske

Calendar

Sunday, January 25, 2015 — New Member Intake and Celebrating Robert Burns — wear plaid!

8:30 AM Bible Study with the Rev. Ken Feske. “Choices: Matthew 7: 13-29”

9:15 AM **Music Prelude**

9:30 AM **Morning Prayer**

Passage Ephesians 4: 22-32; Psalm 62:1-12; Mark 1:14-31

Lector Bob Mulford

Crucifer Leslie Mulford

Acolyte Jacob McCarthy

Flowers ???

Cookies ???

Altar Care Andrea Thatcher and Shirley Temple

Ushers Marilyn Gorman and Jan Stine

Sermon The Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

Title “It Rings True”

Sunday, February 1, 2015 — Holy Communion, the Rev. Charles Anker preaching and *Annual Meeting of the Congregation to approve the Budget* immediately following the service.

Tuesday, February 3, 2015 — Small Group Study “Dealing With Doubt”
— John 20: 24-29