



Archdeacon and Deacon Director's Conference Spring 2013 Open Space Notes

Ecclesia-Style Street Ministries

Boston: Started in MTA station. Eucharist every Sunday. Then offer to people on fringes. Atlanta do everything outside. Tried storefront; didn't work

Atlanta. Started 2006. Sing a lot. Do a lot of call and response. Same bulletin every Sunday. Also psalm 23 every Sunday. "Our affirmation of faith" not carried. P's really like ritual. Do not want an abbreviated sermon.

Attraction is community where P's feel safe. Homeless is rough life. Invisible and unsafe.

Come and See conference to learn. Come and Be which is a time to talk about ministry.

Places not urban: Guernville has Ecclesia. Longmont CO has one.

Use parishioners. Has all elements of Epis. Service. P of P: start with looking into each face to see Christ. Free prayer. Ends with Serenity Prayer.

They have Carol's phone number. Pastoral care by texting. Common cup. Dip in grape juice. In SF have ushers who protect from mental health issue. In A monitor themselves. Deac. Constantly scanning The periphery.

Vestments for festivals. Stolls always.

Start? Go out in community. After building relationships, "Le's have a worship service"

A: Monday wednesday, MP, Sunday 1pm. Weekly foot washing and clean socks. Annual parish picnic. Funding? Parishes did not want Common Ground to go way. 4 large parishes offered a challenge grant. Various parishes take turns to bring 70 lunches and up to 10 parishioners to worship with them. Vicar is paid and have a van. Costs 80k a year.

Have a basket on altar. 1/2 to church. Rest goes to outreach ministry.

Ecclesia can be used in prison, labor camps, reservations, almost any setting.

How is it transforming church? Person by person. It has become an important ministry of diocese. Nothing has taught to love neighbor as working on street.

Visiting churches could be RC's, seminarians, congregations,...

Police are caught between rock and hard place. There are forces that want homeless in Atlanta.

Palm Sunday is fun. Sing "we shall overcome". Parade around park.

Stay away from social services. Parishioners do the referrals. Asked for money; don't give money.

Reading the Bible with the Damned, By Bob Ekblade. Basic premise is we are all equal--god's children. Excellent book if working with marginalized.

Took 2 parishes on retreat together. Common Ground and AngloCatholic congregations. Took a hike together, got lost, and got help from Common Ground which helped bond.