

Adventures in Renewal

Listen. Learn. Be Transformed.



Greater Milwaukee Synod

Listening to One Another's Stories

**Listening to each other is an essential practice
for learning to ask different questions.**

**As we learn to listen to each other well,
we also increase our capacity to hear what God might be saying to us as well.**

Step 1: Take five minutes of silence to jot down your own notes in response to this question:

**Think of a story...of a time
when you either knew or felt that God was close to you.**

Helpful prompts to consider:

- *What was happening in your life during this time?*
- *What other people played a role in this experience?*
- *How did the church play a role in this experience in your life?*

Step 2: Find someone you don't know as well as others.

Pair up to share your stories. (Each person gets 5 minutes).

Note: As we will be sharing what we noticed in each others' stories, ask permission at the end to share. If the person would rather you keep part of their story between the two of you, that's fine. Only share what they allow you to share.

Step 3: Come back to the large group to discuss:

What did you notice in your partner's story?

Step 4: Have a large group conversation to discuss:

What did you notice about that time of sharing with each other?

Where has God shown up in this conversation we just had?

(Take notes on the wisdom that emerges to add to the congregation's "learnings log")

Step 5: Have a large group conversation to discuss:

What might God be nudging us to consider as a group through what we are learning and naming together today?

(Again, take notes on the wisdom shared to add to the congregation's "learnings log")