

The background features three vertical stripes on the left: a wide pink stripe, a medium blue stripe, and a narrow light beige stripe. The rest of the background is a light cream color. In the top right corner, there is a grid of small pink dots that fades out towards the center. A similar, less dense pattern of dots is visible in the bottom right corner.

# **COURAGEOUS HOSPITALITY**

**Presented By : Amy Newell-Large**

**Episcopal Church of Colorado 2025**

# AGENDA

- Core ideas
- Reflection Prompt
- Parish Practices
- Integration
- Beyond “Roles”
- Personal takeaway

# STARTING POINT

**What do you need to create a culture of hospitality?**

# STARTING POINT

## You are beloved

We start with God's love for ourselves. By affirming our own worth, we affirm the infinite worth of the person before us.

## You need YOU

If you want to be part of a welcoming, friendly community then you need to be welcoming and friendly.

## Courageous Mindset

Hospitality is counter-cultural. Our larger culture emphasizes barriers, division, judgements, and exclusivity.

It takes Gospel courage to choose differently.

# CORE IDEA

## Hospitality is a fractal

Whatever patterns exist at the small levels are magnified at the larger levels.

Do you believe all people are beloved? Do you act on that faith?

How do you practice hospitality?

Does everyone understand the significance of hospitality in our faith life?

# CORE IDEA

**Hospitality is not what you do**

**Service is what you do, having a coffee hour, a worship service, small groups...**

**Hospitality is associated with our WHY and HOW.**

**For example: We welcome others so that all may feel beloved and belonging.**

# CORE IDEA

## Hospitality is Curious & Fearless

**In contemplative spirituality we reference the Not-Knowing Mind, a poverty of opinions as St. Francis says.**

**Notice when your judgements and opinions size someone up, let that go, be open to their belovedness.**

**Gift fearlessness - let them be beloved in your presence. They shouldn't have to prove themselves.**

# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

**Pick one of the below questions to talk about with your partner.  
We'll have 5 minutes.**

- **Recall a time you felt deeply welcomed. What made the difference?**
- **Recall a time you felt unwelcome. What created that barrier?**





# PARISH PROTOTYPE

Map out the process through which someone comes to your parish. Walk through someone's experience.

When do they interact with a person, an artifact? Is that moment one of connection, or confusion?

- Parking
  - Bathrooms
  - Worship experience
  - Entryway
  - Entering sanctuary
  - Departure
- 

# INTEGRATION

## ● Incorporating people

What happens when someone wants to get involved?

How are they invited, welcomed, trained, scheduled... so they become part of a ministry or group?

## ● Listening to new ideas

What is the outlet for sharing new ideas?

People bring amazing experiences, knowledge... How are you listening to what they can offer?

# BEYOND “ROLES”

**Everyone embraces the practice**

**Hospitality is a team sport - it requires everyone to play a part.**

**You don't all have to be star players, but every contribution matters.**

**Do people understand WHY hospitality matters in our faith and theology?  
That we connect with God by connecting with one another.**

# PERSONAL TAKEAWAY

## ● Start with You

**Where can you be courageously hospitable? What will help you see Christ's light and connect?**

## ● Build with your community

**How does your community understand hospitality as a practice of our faith? Is hospitality regulated to "roles"? Do people tend to be courageous or comfortable?**

# PERSONAL TAKEAWAY

- **Can you be courageous so they can be fearless?**
- **How will you practice courageous hospitality?**  
Breathing practices, short prayer.  
Catch your thoughts, gently return to God.

Amy NL | 2025

**THANK YOU**