



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

RESTORING ALL PEOPLE TO UNITY WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER IN CHRIST

July 2011

Dear Fellow Followers of Christ:

What a tremendous June we had as we wrapped up the 50 days of Easter with a great Pentecost celebration and Bluegrass Mass. You can view the view the movie from that day on our website. Thank you to everyone who made helped the celebration of Pentecost so wonderful!

As many of you know, I spent a couple of days away in June on retreat to spend time in prayer for my own prayer life and to pray for the church and for you. Thank you to all those who sent prayer requests and thanksgivings so that as I prayed my way through our membership, I could pray and give thanks for specific events in your life. I am grateful for the opportunity to pray for you and with you.

As part of my own prayers on this retreat, one of my hopes for our church is finding ways to raise up and empower leaders for Christ. Well, the Bishop's Committee apparently heard my prayers because at our June meeting it was decided to try a new format for sharing the vision for our congregation. Beginning this fall the Bishop's Committee will meet as a Bishop's Committee every other month with the months in between inviting ministry leaders to come together to share stories and participate in and shape the vision for our congregation. The members of the Bishop's Committee will lead the conversations based their ministry areas. You can see those assignments [here](#).

At this Bishop's Committee meeting we also adopted a theme for this coming year, borrowing the theme from the Diocese of West Texas, of "A Sower Goes Out to Sow" from Matthew 13:3-9. The reason for this theme is that we have a lot sowing in front of us as we sow the foundation for a new sacred space, we continue to hear God's hope for us in the world, and as we seek to welcome and restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. Each one of us will be summoned to throw on our boots, hop a tractor, and start sowing.

I am grateful for the opportunity to get out into the fields with each of you. Thank you for being a part of Christ's call for our church.

Faithfully,
Jason