




The Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island



1

Prayer

Almighty God, by your grace you have given us new life in Jesus Christ. By your Spirit you have called us to proclaim His Name throughout the world. Awaken in us such a love for you and your work that we may so boldly share Jesus Christ in word and deed that all people may come to know him as Saviour and follow him as Lord, to the glory of your name. Amen.

2

The Sessions

- Session 1: *Brave New World?*
- Session 2: *What is God up to?*
- Session 3: *The School of Jesus*
- Session 4: *Changing world, changing church*
- Session 5: *Where do we go from here?*
- Session 6: *Next Steps*

3

Last week

The School of Jesus

What it means to live as an apprentice of Jesus, learning to do the work of the Kingdom of God.

Evangelism

Co-operating with the Holy Spirit to help people take steps towards being apprentices of Jesus.

Reimagining Church 4

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the mixed economy church



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How much can we
change church to suit
people's culture?
When does it stop
being church?



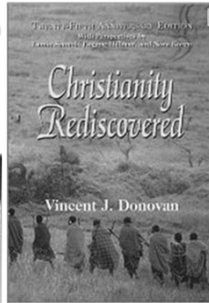
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Vincent Donovan
1926 – 2000
Missionary in
Tanzania
1957 - 1973



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Pat Patten's story

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Reimagining Church 4

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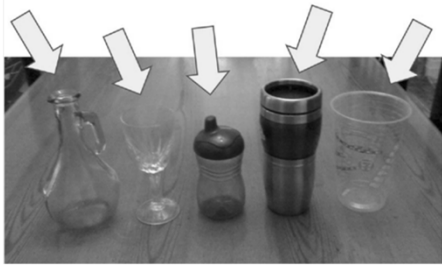


The church must be like water - flexible, fluid, changeable.
- Pete Ward

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Reimagining Church 4

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- The container may change with the culture
- The H₂O must remain the same
- But which is which?



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Church

... in a building?



...on a beach?




...under a tree?

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Church ...
with an organ?



2007/11/25

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Church ...
with various
instruments?

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Church ...

Built on social
justice but with no
sacraments?



Church ... with
liturgical worship but
no social justice?



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What is the H₂O of church?

Jesus went up the mountain and called to him those whom he wanted, and they came to him.

And he appointed twelve, whom he also named apostles, *to be with him, and to be sent out to proclaim the message, and to have authority to cast out demons.*

Mark 3:13-15

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What is the essence of Church? One answer . . .

H₂O =

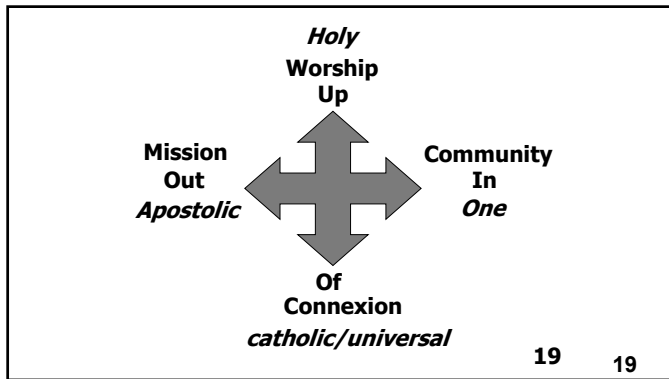
- *Community of followers of Jesus*
- *Gathered for Word and Sacrament*
- *Committed to serving in the world*
- *Linked to the wider church*



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- The container may change with the culture
- The H₂O must remain the same
- What is essential? What can change?
- How can people in our culture get to drink the living water?

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Isaiah 43: 14 - 21

The Lord Who bought you and sets you free, the Holy One of Israel, says, "Because of you I have sent to Babylon, and will bring down all their leaders, even the Babylonians, into the ships in which they find joy. I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Maker of Israel, your King." This is what the Lord says, Who makes a way through the sea and a path through the powerful waters, Who brings out the war-wagon and the horse, the army and the strong man, (They will lie down together and will not rise again. They are destroyed, put out like the fire of a little light): "Do not remember the things that have happened before. Do not think about the things of the past. See, I will do a new thing. It will begin happening now. Will you not know about it? I will even make a road in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor Me, the wild dogs and the ostriches. For I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to My chosen people. The people whom I made for Myself will make known My praise.

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Isaiah 43 Questions

1. What do we learn about God and God's ways in the world?
2. Why do the people need to "forget the past"?
3. What other times in the Bible can you think of when God does something new?
4. What response does God hope for from these people?
5. What promises does God make to them to make it possible for them to respond?

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fresh expressions of church

- Cameron House
- Night Shift
- Somewhere Else
 - What do these stories have in common, and how are they different?
 - What do you learn from them?



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building planes ... in the air

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Time for Reflection – The Examen



When was I encouraged, or touched, or joyful?
What might God be saying?
How might I respond?

When was I troubled, or sad, or angry?
What might God be saying?
How might I respond?

Reimagining Church 1
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Merciful God, creator of the peoples on earth and lover of souls, have compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your son Jesus Christ.

Let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it, turn the hearts of those who resist it, and bring home to your flock those who have gone astray; that there may be one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Solemn Collect for Good Friday

Reimagining Church 2
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Next Week....

Where do we go from here?

See you then!

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