

Dare to Dance Again

Thou Shalt Love Thy Dance Partners

Dancing is best when you love the music, catch the beat, and get to dance with a dance partner you love and appreciate. However, far too often we find ourselves across the dance floor of life facing people we don't really have much in common with ... and maybe don't appreciate too much. It's not always easy to love those who are so different than we are.

John 10:11–18

1. All are _____ ... that means everyone.
2. _____, not orthodoxy (correct belief), is the mark of membership.
3. Unity in mission and purpose was Jesus' _____.

My Count Me In! Commitment

- I'll be "here" next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- How will you help extend the reach to the "other sheep" of Raytown Christian Church?
- What will you do this week to help welcome those "other sheep" who are already becoming a part of the church?
- What will you do to help ensure those attending the online worship will continue to be fully welcome when we return to worship services in our building?

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper

Week of April 25, 2021

Dare to Dance Again: Thou Shalt Love Thy Dance Partners

Scripture: John 10:11–18

Introduction: The world is filled with wonderfully odd kinds of people. Some of them find their way into church and become us. Some of them remain outside the church and ignore us. And some remain on the outside looking in. The problem with odd people is that they're ... odd. They don't automatically fit in. Their oddness may be in how they look, how they talk, how they think, or how they live – or some magical combination thereof! But no matter how odd ~~they~~ we may be, Jesus invites us all to be part of his one flock – and we're expected to extend that invitation to all.

1. Read John 9. Why did the Pharisees throw the man born blind out of the synagogue?
2. Read John 10:11–13. In Jesus' parable, who do all the characters in the story represent?
3. How do you think the crowd reacted when they heard this parable?
4. Read John 10:14–18. What promises does the Good Shepherd make to his sheep? In return, what does the Good Shepherd expect from his sheep?
5. Dr. Bill said that the disciples (and the crowd) would have been caught off guard by Jesus' expansion of his ministry to the "other sheep not in this fold." Why do you think they'd have been surprised?
6. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was created to lower the barriers between the denominations ... so that all Christians could be a part of the "one flock" who's under "one shepherd." Why do you think this vision has failed (so far)?
7. RCC has expanded its reach to people all across the nation with its online ministry. What are you doing to help those people find their way into our "one flock"?