Sermon Series: Life Is Messy
Losing Your Grip
Genesis 30:25-43

Vienna Presbyterian Church
A Disciple-Making Community

October 28, 2012
Awesome Is the Lord Most High

Great are You, Lord, mighty in strength. You are faithful and You will ever be.
We will praise You all of our days. It’s for Your glory we offer everything.

(Chorus) Raise your hands all you nations. Shout to God, all creation,
How awesome is the Lord Most High?

When You send us, God, we will go. You’re the answer we want the world to know.
We will trust You when You call our names. Where You lead us, we’ll follow all the way: (Chorus)

And we will praise You together, for now and forever. How awesome is the Lord Most High?

Hallelujah, Hallelujah! “How awesome is the Lord most high?” (repeat)
Raise your hands all you nations. Shout to God, all creation,
How awesome is the Lord Most High?
And we will praise You together, for now and forever.
How awesome is the Lord Most High? (repeat all five lines)

Prayer of Adoration

Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun, Hymn #423 (v. 1,2,5)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Here Is Love

Here is love, vast as the ocean; Loving kindness as the flood.
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom, Shed for us His precious blood,
Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten throughout Heav’n’s eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion fountains opened deep and wide.
Through the floodgates of God’s mercy flowed a vast a gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers poured incessant from above,
And Heav’n’s peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

Chorus:
No love is higher, no love is wider; No love is deeper, no love is truer.
No love is higher, no love is wider; No love is like Your love, O Lord.
Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship Your holy name.

Yes, I will worship Your holy name. Lord, I worship Your holy name.

2

Please request large-print hymnals from ushers.
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician.
A hearing loop is installed under the rear balcony. Please switch your hearing aid to T-coil.
Minute for Witness
Michelle Rahal

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Offertory
Youth Choir
To Know the Love of God
Petker

During the Offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Gloria Patri and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture
Genesis 30:25-43

Sermon
Glenda Simpkins Hoffman
Losing Your Grip
Sermon Series: Life Is Messy

Heidelberg Catechism
What is your only comfort in life and in death?
A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God, Hymn 260

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper, He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing:
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God’s own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God’s truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

Benediction

Postlude
Toccata for Organ
Michelle Leclerc

Today’s flowers are given by Barbara Greig and family to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Kathy Greig Van Meter on the 3rd anniversary of her journey home to the father. Flowers also given in loving memory of M. Wayne Timblin by Herbert and Lisa MacArthur.
Sunday Worship 9:30 & 11:00

Prelude
Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now
J.S. Bach

Call to Worship
Never Forget to Be Thankful
Carol Choir
Natalie Sleeth

Jesus Shall Reign, Hymn 423
Jesus shall reign where’er the sun does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
To Him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.
Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

Prayer of Adoration

Anthem
We Gather Together
Friendship Chimes

Before the Throne of God Above
Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea;
A great High Priest whose name is Love, Whoever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands. My name is written on His heart,
I know that while in heaven He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there, Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free.
For God, the just is satisfied. To look on Him and pardon me.
To look on Him and pardon me.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the One, Risen Son of God!

Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb. My perfect spotless Righteousness.
The Great unchangeable I AM. The King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself I cannot die; My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high. With Christ my Savior and my God!
With Christ my Savior and my God!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the One, Risen Son of God! (Repeat 3x)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

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Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician.
A hearing loop is installed under the rear balcony. Please switch your hearing aid to T-coil.
Children’s Message

Children in Bridges and Gateways are dismissed.
(11am) Children’s Choirs are dismissed.

Daryl Wright

Minute for Witness

Michelle Rahal

Offertory

Jesu, the Very Thought Is Sweet

During the Offertory, please pass the Friendship Pad.

Wilberg

Gloria Patri and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture

Genesis 30:25-43

Sermon

Losing Your Grip

Sermon Series: Life Is Messy

Glenda Simpkins Hoffman

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**Prayers**

**Grieving:** Phyllis Cassee (father); Steve Dutton (mother); Joan Houston (niece); the family of Paul Huff; Jeff Malick (father)

**Hospitalized:** Bill Comerford

**Facing Tests or Surgery:** Pamela O'Connell's father

**Homebound:** Alice Burroughs

**Ill or Convalescing:** Tom Addams; Beverly Bender; Beata Blasdell; Polly Brentlinger; Chuck Garland; Barbara Greig; Kyle Hard; Barbara Mancini; Audrey Neeson; Audrey O'Shea; Kate Parthum; Bill Phillips; Sabrina Remy (20-mos.); Joan Sansone; Dottie Swink; Margaret Takesian; Libby Mosher's grandfather; Pam Priester's friend Mike; Janet McKechnie's daughter; Lynn Lotocki's aunt (& uncle); Linda Lyon's son; Valerie King's brother; Neil Kemple's friend Mike; Frank Kifer's sister N

**Family and Friends:** Carey Bragaw's friends Emily Hope & Sara; Dana Burnette's step-grandmother; William Buterbaugh's sister-in-law; Marsha Coe's friend Barbara; Sandra Crippen's brother; Arayanna Darst's friend Mary; Donna DeLanoy's nephew Colgate; Gail Doughty's aunt (Hospice); Bill Downer's friend Carl; Nancy & Adrian Eley's friend Kaylee (3); Jay Flounlacker's brother; Mary Flounlacker's father; Bonnie Grouge's first father-in-law, Allan Kerr (Hospice); the Hamlet family's beloved Aunt Mimi; Elaine Hamlet's co-worker Kathy; Avice Hill's brother Neil; Bob Hill's sister Lois Ann; Jim Jeffrey's friend Lee; Walter Johnson's sister-in-law; Barb Jones's friend Jessica; Michelle Jones's sisters Donna & Sharon, brother Lamar and friends Paulette and Sandra; Karen Dunlop's & Neil Kemple's friend Mike; Frank Kifer's sister Nancy; Valerie King's brother-in-law Danny; Lisa LeJune's mother; Lynn Lotocki's aunt (& uncle); Linda Lyon's son-in-law; Janet McKechnie's daughter-in-law; Mary Monie's mother; Libby Mosher's grandfather; Pam Priester's friend Mike; Michelle Rahal's mother; Trish Sandercoc's mother; Bev Stream's goddaughter; Phyllis Swenson's brother; Mary Beth Savary Taylor's father (Hospice); Pamela Vining's friends Caden(2) and family, Joshua (12), and Peter; Karen Williams's friend Lauren; Daryl Wright's father

**Other:** The Aki family; Matt & Amber Bergstrom; Sarah Collins & family; Mike Hughes; Gwyn Ann Taylor; Violeta Villacorta; Sandra; Haymarket Crossroads Mission; peacefull resolution of the conflicts in Africa and the Middle East; the people across the US hit hard by natural disasters; persecuted Christians in Egypt, Iraq, Pakistan and the Sudan

**Missions/Missionaries of the week:** Oscar Dorantes, Jr., Accion, Mexico (International); Becca Verley, Coalition for Christian Outreach (CCO), Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA (National); Miriam’s Kitchen, Washington, DC (Local)

**Congratulations to:** Elisabeth Bogart & Andrew Pafford, who were married at VPC on October 20.


**Need Prayer for Yourself or Someone You Love?**

USE THE CARDS in the Friendship Pad in your pew or at the rear of the church, and place them in the collection plate or the wooden box in the lobby/narthex; CALL the church office at 703.938.9050, x301; E-MAIL linda.kemple@viennapres.org; or enter a prayer request ONLINE via www.viennapres.org/prayerrequest

Please ensure that you have permission before submitting a request on behalf of someone else. Confidentiality requests are strictly honored.

If requested for the weekly bulletin, prayer notices will be published up to four weeks but can certainly be extended upon request.
Visitors and Guests – Welcome to VPC!

We are delighted you are here. Here are some ways to make the first steps on your spiritual journey at VPC easier. For more information, please visit www.viennapres.org/firststeps or contact Shannon Jordan at 703.938.9050 x123 or shannon.jordan@viennapres.org

Step 1: Get Started: Fill out the Friendship Pad in the pews during the service and we will contact you to help you get connected at VPC and answer any questions you may have. You are also invited to visit the Welcome Table in the narthex for a gift, and then visit the Great Hall for coffee between 8-11am.

Step 2: Get Oriented: Orientation to the Journey class is an opportunity to look at who we are as a church, find out what we believe, ask questions, and find how to best connect. (Next class: November 11 at 11am in room 108C.)

Step 3: Get Going: Invitation to the Journey class is a more in-depth look at our mission, beliefs, values, and practices. Discover what we mean by “learning to follow Jesus with your life” and “living your life as Jesus would.” Please go to viennapres.org/firststeps for information and to register, or contact Linda Kemple (x100). Next Classes: January 2013.

Step 4: Get Connected: Share the Journey! Being part of a group or community to grow in Christ, connect with others, and serve is critical in our faith development. We would love to help you find the best place for you! For more information contact Shannon at shannon.jordan@viennapres.org or call 703-938-9050 x123.

In past years, the Christmas holiday season may have been a time of great anticipation and excitement … but this year, the prospect of facing the holidays may cause anxiety and dread.

You are not alone.

Here you can connect with support, encouragement, and advice to survive the holidays:

**Passages…**

for men and women who are experiencing the pain of marital separation or divorce.

**Tuesday, November 6, 7 to 9pm.**

**Room 205**

**Griefshare…**

for those grieving the death of a loved one.

**Saturday, November 17, 10-12:00, Room 203.**

Free (with donations accepted to cover cost of materials). For more information or to pre-register (not required but helpful), please go to griefshare@viennapres.org
**Sunday, November 11, Town Green**

Join our local 3-mile **CROP Hunger Walk**
Register Today: in front of the bookstore or [viennacropwalk.org](http://viennacropwalk.org)

**You CAN make a difference!**

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**Tuesday, November 6, the schools are closed, but we aren’t!**

**Bring the kids and create Christmas kits for Haitian children:**

A fun activity for yourself and to do with your children on their day off!
Bring toiletries and small gifts. Assemble kits, complete crafts, enjoy snacks, and meet new friends. Kits to benefit CCH.

For more information on what you can contribute and to RSVP, contact shannon.jordan@viennapres.org

9:30-11:30am, 3rd floor

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**It's that time again...**

*Time for the annual Student and Youth Worship Ministries Fall Retreat!*

**November 16-18 at Camp Horizons**

What will be this year’s late-night game?
Who will win?
Could this year’s skit be funnier than last year’s?

Cost: $125
(high ropes and climbing wall are $25 apiece)
12th-grade and confirmation students get a discount! Transportation included.

[viennapres.org/SMretreat](http://viennapres.org/SMretreat)
Pledge Sunday
Coming November 4

Fill out your pledge* and place in the baskets

OR

go online to viennapres.org/pledgecard

With full congregational commitment we can continue the mission and ministries that are important to you.

viennapres.org/pledgecard

*This kind would be even better
General Announcements

Welcome Amanda Strong, New Student Ministry Administrative Assistant: Amanda grew up traveling the world; her father’s job in the Marine Corp took their family to many exotic places, which influenced her decision to pursue missionary work. Amanda settled down in Northern Virginia 6 years ago and looks forward to seeing how God is going to move in her life, this ministry, and within the global church.

Middle and High School Youth Groups: will hold a combined youth group from 4-6pm following the Crop Walk on November 11.

Drop off donations through November 15 for Samaritan's Purse: Christmas Shoe boxes in memory of Jack Donaldson. Hotwheels cars, hard candy, playing cards, small toys, hygiene items, barrettes, and jewelry. You drop off the donations in Grapevine Books; VPC youth will assemble and ship the boxes!

Flowers for Sunday Services: Can be given in memory/honor of loved ones, in celebration of blessings, and always to the glory of God. Cost per arrangement: $35. Visit the sign-up table in the narthex for details or contact Gerri Webb at gerrirwebb@gmail.com

Serve

Angel Tree Coordinator Needed: Angel Tree, sponsored by Prison Ministries, provides Christmas gifts to children of incarcerated adults. Individuals or groups “adopt” a family and purchase and mail two Christmas gifts each to children of these families. The gifts minister to their hearts in this time of struggle. If you feel called to coordinate this ministry, please contact Sue Hamblen, 703.938.9050 x113 or sue.hamblen@viennapres.org

Lamb Center: Crochet and/or knit adult hats at home and leave them in the office or come to a stitch session on Saturday, November 10, 2-4pm. Room 317. All skill levels welcome; we can teach you! Laura Macqueen, lmacqueen10@gmail.com

Family Advent Workshop Coordinator: Do you enjoy planning events? Love crafts? Are you detail-oriented? Then you'll love volunteering with our team to coordinate the Family Advent Workshop on November 25! Contact Karen Covell at 703.938.9050 x125 or karen.covell@viennapres.org

Meet the Artist: Shawnte of Holly Lane Designs

Today, 9am-12:30pm, Grapevine Books

View her enormous selection of Christian jewelry and find out about the inspiration behind each piece.

Bring your Christmas lists!

Connect

SWATT (Christian Fellowship for Seniors 55+): Join our fellowship as we visit the US Supreme Court (film and lecture), lunch at Union Station, and enjoy a docent-led tour of the US Postal Museum. November 15. Cost $13 (excludes lunch). Contact Gwen Datt at 703.759.4209 or gwendatt@verizon.net

Widow and Widowers Luncheon: November 10, noon, Clyde's at Tyson's Corner, 8332 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. (Please note that it will be the second Saturday of the month instead of the third.) Contact: Linda Waters at 703.860.8685

PitStop (Parents of Infants and Toddlers): Recharge, a dinner and play time for families with the youngest children. Pizza, salad, and fellowship! Visit viennapres.org/Pits for information and upcoming events.

Club 56: 5th-6th graders. Pumpkin Bash! Bring your carved pumpkins for a smashing good time! Thursday, November 1, 4-5:15pm, small parking lot. Contact Daryl Wright at daryl.wright@viennapres.org with any questions.

Kids Nation 34: 3rd-4th graders. Service project: Operation Christmas Child! Friday, November 9, 7-8:30pm, in the Underground (aka basement).

Refuel (Young Adults): Thursday, November 1, 7:15pm, Underground. Contact Kevin Miller at kevin.miller@viennapres.org or visit viennapres.org/refuel for additional information.

Men's Fall Great Banquet: November 1-4 at VPC. This is a unique 72-hour Christian retreat for anyone who wishes to strengthen his spiritual life. As space is limited, we ask you to apply as soon as possible at our website: novagb.org
Grow

**Monday Night Men’s Group:** 7–8:30pm, every Monday, 3rd floor Activity Center. Senior Pastor Pete James with Rev. Ed Dawkins, Steve Garner, Phil Kratovil, and You! Guys among guys, who take the Bible seriously... learn, grow, laugh, and make life-long friends. 45 minute teaching time and 45-minute small group time. Pizza, popcorn, drinks... For more info: viennapres.org/men

**Tuesday Morning Women’s Bible Study:**
9:30-11:30 am, Third Floor
Helpmates, Harlots and Heroes: Women of the Old Testament. This fun and interactive 14 week women’s Bible study is in progress and runs through early December. Childcare is available with advance registration. For more information contact Shannon at shannon.jordan@viennapres.org or 703-938-9050 x123.

For support and encouragement in your personal spiritual growth, try one of our classes.
Visit: viennapres.org/study

Care

**Griefshare:** A support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. Sundays, 6-7:30pm, Rm 203/204.

**Passages:** for those going through separation or divorce. Tuesdays, 7-9pm, Rm 203/204.

**Christian Cancer Companions:** Contact Rita Lockwood at 703.573.6168.

**Widows Dinner Group:** 3rd Monday each month. Contact Betty Little at 703.938.9050 x121.

**Widows and Widowers Luncheons:** 3rd Saturday each month. Linda Waters coordinator.

**Newspring:** Contact David Jordan-Haas at 703.938.9050 x116.

**In need of a Stephen Minister?** Please contact David Jordan-Haas at 703.938.9050 x116.

Last Sunday, Pastor Pete challenged us with this declaration.
Many have asked for copies, here you go . . .

*Today, Lord, I’m crossing the line. I’ve made my choice. I’m going your way!*

*I’ve decided to become a real disciple. Not a Sunday-only, pretend type of Christian, but the real deal, a true believer.*

*I pledge to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, my energy and creativity, my love and devotion, my gifts and resources. I endeavor to become like Christ together for the world. Whatever you ask, wherever the cost, whatever it takes, I will follow you, Jesus.*

*I give myself to the body of Christ, the church. I’m done with petty bickering, needless gossip and hurtful words. No more deceit, Lord, no more phoniness. I will treat people with dignity and respect.*

*I will treat every day as a gift from you. I intend to live this day with joy and gratitude; enough of whining and endless complaining.*

*I will practice generosity. I will invest more time and money to support your work in the world. No more lip service.*

*I will learn your Word and practice its principles. Prevailing cultural influences will now take a back seat. I will worship more and evaluate less. I will pray in earnest.*

*From this day forward, I resolve to love the Lord and love the people, to serve the Lord and serve the people. Amen.*
Sunday Mornings at VPC

Children’s Room Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Age/Grade (9:30am)</th>
<th>Age/Grade (11am)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>207</td>
<td>3s (turn 3 on/before 9/30/12)</td>
<td>3s Cherub Choir (turn 3 on/before 9/30/12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>208</td>
<td>Pre-K 4's (turn 4 by 9/30/12)</td>
<td>Pre-K 4's (turn 4 by 9/30/12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>Kindergarten Power Up</td>
<td>Kindergarten/1st grade Power Up</td>
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<tr>
<td>312</td>
<td>1st Grade A Power Up</td>
<td>Junior Choir (4th-6th grade)</td>
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<tr>
<td>313</td>
<td>1st Grade B Power Up</td>
<td>Carol Choir (2nd-3rd grade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321</td>
<td>2nd Grade Power Up</td>
<td>2nd-4th grade Power Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>317</td>
<td>2nd Grade Girls</td>
<td>5th &amp; 6th Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318</td>
<td>Bridges to Worship (4th-1st Grade)</td>
<td>Joyful Noise Choir (K-1st grade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311</td>
<td>Friendship Club (as needed)</td>
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</tbody>
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Middle and High School Sunday Youth Services

Lower Level, Light Breakfast Served, 9-9:30am
Sunday School, 9:30-10:30
Youth Groups: Middle School, 5-7pm; High School, 6:30-8:30pm

Adult Education Classes

9:30am

Beyond Basics: Fellowship, coffee, and a study of the minor prophets and the book Be Amazed. Leaders: Shun Ling and George Marling. Kate Lund, katejlund@yahoo.com Room 205.

Friendship Class: For adults with intellectual disabilities. Teachers: Emmy Parker & Beth Gourley. Room 108C.

Partners With Christ: Come join us in our study of the classic Knowing God by J. I. Packer. All newcomers welcomed with a smile! Parlor. Questions? Martha Strauss: wmstrauss@aol.com

Foundations Class: Join us as we build on the twin foundations of scripture and friendship. No preparation required! John and Kathy Draper, 703.539.8300 or jkdraper@ymail.com. Room 203/204.

11am

Apprentices Class: “Men and Women: Spirituality of Transformation.” Newcomers are always welcome. Elaine Ryan, 703.470.1338 or isaiah122elaine@aol.com. Room 205.

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages): Bonnie Grouge at bonnie.grouge@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x102. Room 311.

Study of Corinthians 1 & 2: Berean Adult Bible Study. All are welcome. John and Nancy Davidovich, 703.938.4775. Room 203/204.

Practical Christian Living: 2nd-floor conference room. All are welcome. Contact Phil Kratovil at phil.kratovil@viennapres.org

Vienna Presbyterian Church
124 Park Street NE, Vienna, VA 22180
703.938.9050

Pastors
Peter James
Glenda Simpkins Hoffman
David Jordan-Haas

Teaching Pastor
E. Stanley Ott

Parish Associates
Connie Jordan-Haas
Ed Dawkins

Music Director
Lance Vining

Associate Music Director
Kerry Wilkerson

Organist
Terry Sisk

Adult Ministries Director
Shannon Jordan

Student Ministries Director
Barry Hill

High School Ministry Coordinator
Thea L. Jeschke

Middle School Ministry Coordinator
Kim Snyder

Children’s Ministries Director
Dawn Geschiere

Asst. Children’s Ministries Director
Daryl Wright

Preschool Director
Marnie Sturm

Evangelism Director
Phil Kratovil

Congregational Care Director
Charles Geschiere

Missions Director
Sue Hamblen

Communications Director
Barb Jones

Operations Director
Doug LeMasters

Office hours
Monday–Friday, 8:30am–5pm

Website
www.viennapres.org

Calendar, Building Reservations
viennapres.org/calendar

Event Announcements
communications@viennapres.org

Printed and recorded sermons are available at www.viennapres.org/sermons

VPC Core Beliefs
As a disciple-making community, we believe...
Jesus is Lord
Scripture is our authority
Everyone is called to discipleship

VPC Mission
As a disciple-making community, we will...
Call people to faith
Equip people for discipleship
Send people to love and serve

Give Generously

...both individually and in community

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