

OCTOBER 29TH

TRUE COMMUNION

"The real danger facing us is to distrust our desire for communion. It is a God-given desire without which our lives lose their vitality and our hearts grow cold."

-Henri Nouwen, *Here and Now*



"Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, "Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame."
"Sir," the servant said, "what you ordered has been done, but there is still room."

Luke 14:1, 7-14



FOR REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

God's passionate yearning for communion with us and with all that God created. God desires that the whole of creation might be given the chance to experience the freedom of true spiritual communion. As we gather our resources together—time, attention, money, and other gifts—we discover the joy of our common yearning. Churches and charitable organizations must realize that community is one of the greatest gifts they have to offer. When we ask for and invite participation, it means that we offer a new fellowship, a new family, and a new way of belonging.

1. Give your own definition of humility. Why is humility a good quality? List some of the reasons people may lack humility.

2. Reflect on or discuss what you believe Jesus' ideal dinner party guest would look like. Who would be included?

3. How does spiritual communion manifest itself concretely? Tell about a time when you have felt that in your life.

PRACTICE

Pray about your commitment through prayers, presence, service, witness, and financial gifts to the Vision of University United Methodist Church. Prepare yourself to offer that commitment on October 29th in Sunday morning worship.

COMMITMENT