

What do we mean by a Centered Life?

God placed deep within us a yearning to share our unique gifts, to experience belonging, and to make a difference in the world – to live centered lives. People try to fulfill this yearning through diet, exercise, the right job, and perfect families. But seeking balance, they find exhaustion.

By centered life, we do not mean balance, but faithfulness. Centered lives are centered in Christ and:

- Awakened to God's presence in our lives. God is with us in all everything. God loves the world and draws us out into the world to participate in the co-creation of a better world. When we see and can acknowledge God's activity in our work, God's work in the world will happen through our work in the world.
- Called to faithfulness in daily life. Calling is not just for mission workers and lay or ordained ministers. We are all called to live lives centered in Christ. In addition, we are all called to many places – home, work, neighborhood, and congregation.
- Set Free to contribute their unique gifts to God's good and sustaining work in the world as teachers, computer programmers, construction workers, parents, neighbors and friends. When others name our gifts, those things that engage our passion and creativity, we discover our calling, find belonging, and make a difference in God's world.
- Nurtured to know and share life centered in Christ. Congregations reorient, restore, and renew us for service in God's world through instruction, celebration, encouragement, accountability, and support.

As we are awakened, called, set free, and nurtured our lives become centered in Christ: we experience belonging and discover the opportunities to make a difference that surround us.

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