



January 23, 2019

THE BUSINESS OF THE CHURCH

The next time you're making small talk with strangers, here's an answer you can use when someone inevitably asks "and what do you do?"

Try saying this:

"I promote health and resiliency in the greater community."

"That's great! And how do you do that?"

"By belonging to my church. I participate. I volunteer. I give money."

Social community is one of the greatest assets for health and resiliency in an age of anxiety, complexity, and increasing isolation. Connection in a community is preventative care. Community provides strength to pull through life's challenging times. It just happens that the church has been practicing this for generations. Of course, belonging to church does not magically eliminate challenges, but it gives us greater resources to cope with them.

When you participate in the church community, and when you support the church with your time and money, you are promoting the health of your community. There are, of course, spiritual ways of describing what church is, but I find it helpful to switch our language now and then. It helps to gain a fresh perspective.

Church improves health and resiliency – for you and for your neighbors. This shouldn't be a surprise: the one we follow was known as a healer.

Our congregation's Annual Meeting is this Sunday morning, January 27, at 11:00, immediately following the worship service. At the meeting, we discuss the state of the church. We approve the annual budget, and we elect members to positions of church governance. I hope you will be able to attend the Annual Meeting about the work of our church, because we are in the business of promoting health and resiliency.

It's what we do.

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister