



Streams of the Christian Faith

“There are different kinds of gifts, but they are all from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve but the same Lord to serve. And there are different ways that God works through people but the same God. God works in all of us in everything we do.” —1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NCV)

There is a strong propensity in our culture to celebrate diversity, focusing on the need, right or importance of being unique and different. This has extended beyond personal moral values to Christian practices and beliefs that have created great dividing streams within the Christian Community. Indeed, there streams within Christianity. These streams are each distinct and unique, but they are all complimentary of each other if we take the time to observe their influence and impact on the church we should find them an empowering raging Holy river of living life. Further, the streams (traditions) are all rooted in Christian practice and in the Living Christ. Through each of the traditions we see a different and unique picture of Christ, for He is the unity that is present in diversity, and He makes it possible to rally under the same banner of Christianity to do His good works.

Priest Lake Christian Fellowship celebrates and practices each of these streams of the Christian Faith and believes that are all essential for a healthy, vibrant, growing and mature life.

Contemplative: The Prayer-Filled Life

The Contemplative Tradition seeks intimacy with God. God desires that we spend time with Him, and that we create space to allow Him to speak to our hearts.

Holiness: The Virtuous Life

The Holiness Tradition emphasizes individual and corporate human response to God’s grace: Individually in that because of God’s promises we should live our lives in such a way that brings Him honor and corporately in that we encourage one another to glorify God and bear witness to the world

Charismatic: The Spirit-Empowered Life

The Charismatic Tradition emphasizes God’s Spirit empowering the Christian life. It seeks to recognize God’s supernatural and intimate dealings with each individual.

Social Justice: The Compassionate Life

The Social Justice Tradition is chiefly concerned with how we treat one another. It takes the Golden Rule seriously. As Jesus loved us so are we to love one another—poor, rich, abandoned, family-oriented, innocent, guilty, widow, married, divorced, homosexual, leader, sex offender, child, pastor, African-American, Caucasian—everyone.

Evangelical: The Word-Centered Life

The Evangelical Tradition emphasizes two important areas of Christian life: the centrality of the Bible (2 Timothy 3:16) and the importance of personal witness or evangelism (Matthew 28:19).

Incarnational: The Sacramental Life

The Incarnational (Liturgical) Tradition seeks to use rituals to identify with Christianity as practiced through the ages. The history, prayer books, creeds, and structures offer stability and demonstrate a form of worship from which faithful believers have consistently honored God throughout the ages.

To learn more about these traditions and streams of faith you may wish to explore the book ***Streams of Living Water*** by Richard J. Foster

“The discovery of God lies in the daily and the ordinary, not in the spectacular and the heroic. If we cannot find God in the routines of home and shop, then we will not find Him at all.” —Richard J. Foster