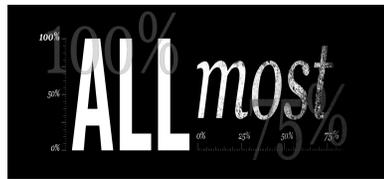


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"More Than A Potluck Dinner"

March 6, 2016 Pastor Michael T. Sawicki

Message Notes: Aldersgate UMC



Now this is eternal life: that they may **know** you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3 (NIV)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship (κοινωνία), to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (NIV)

The First Expression of Fellowship is Found in the Trinity.

## Fellowship Is More Than A Pot-Luck (Learning to Really Love)

### 1. We Love Voluntarily.

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' "

Matthew 22:36-39 (NIV)

{Jesus said} "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

Matthew 7:21-23 (NIV)

{Jesus Said} "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love." John 15:9 (NIV)

### 2. We Love With A Servants Heart.

Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."

John 4:31-34 (NIV)

{Jesus said} "Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:26-28 (NIV)

In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:5 (NIV)

### 3. We Love Sacrificially.

He walked away, about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will, not mine." Then an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened him. He prayed more fervently, and he was in such agony of spirit that his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood.

Luke 22:41-44 (NLT)

Share each other's troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2 (NLT)

We know what real love is because Christ gave up his life for us. And so we also ought to give up our lives for our Christian brothers and sisters. 1 John 3:16 (NLT)