



Epiphany

Gather round while I share the story of an Epiphany...

...And lo and behold, a star appeared in the East. It was an epiphany in city of Richmond, Virginia! We all have heard of the three wise men who followed the star in the east until it came to rest over the child Jesus. Well, there are many stars that lead people to miraculous moments and inspiration. For me the star that leads me, in addition to Jesus, is MCC Richmond.

MCC Richmond and the community that is gathered here is incredible. They shine brightly as a beacon for those who come here and for those who don't. We have been doing ministry in Richmond for over 45 years and we are going strong.

I arrived here last January and quickly became impressed and fell in love with what was going on. I could write about the fabulous 15 ministries that we currently have such as feeding the hungry, providing clothing, welcoming the stranger, and exploring our faith together. But that is all about what we have done and what we are currently doing. I want to talk about the future of where we are headed. Where this star is leading us.

Just as the wise men headed out, we too are heading out. And guess what? We do not know exactly where we will wind up, but I do know it will be amazing and we will have fun exploring the possibilities. We already have some ideas in various stages of development.

We are looking for volunteers to start a new children's program, a revamped meditation circle, and a new facility team to explore improvements in our church and community center. We are working with the new LGBTQ police liaison for stronger relationships and check



out the new rainbow-colored police car that arrived at our church in December for our fabulous Christmas concert. (Thank you, Captain Mooney!)

We are adding more voices to our choir, more people to membership, and partnering with other faith community leaders to provide services to those who need the help.

The star is shining brightly for all to see. And even though there is much that is in the early stages of formation, I am sure that this list will continue to grow as we grow. I invite to come be a part of what is happening here; come get involved in a community that is life giving and life affirming. Come follow an old star that is leading us to new things.

And Lo and Behold, a star appeared in the East...To me, that Star is MCC Richmond.

Rev. Gail Minnick