

**Becoming a Beloved Community  
June 2015**

The meeting opened with Prayer and introductions.

The discussion opened with the need to recognize congregants and members of our communities in the age group 18-40; those who are raising families, and/or in college, who may have unexpressed issues that aren't being dealt with, and may hinder the spirit of a beloved community. We also felt it would be beneficial to reach out to older congregants and members of our community and recognize unexpressed issues from their viewpoint that may be hindering the spirit of a beloved community.

We felt that churches should re-visit the mission/vision statements. Creating a beloved community should include the neighborhood in which the church is situated and not just the congregants of our respective churches.

Question: What do we feel is our charge in creating a beloved community?

We are charged with building a vision which fosters respect ecumenically across faiths as well as radical hospitality which speak to loving our neighbor as we love ourselves. We should go beyond the faith community and reach out to those still seeking Christ.

Action Item:

We would like to call on the executive committee to go forth with a spring retreat and to offer up ourselves as planning assistants.

We would like to explore the following:

- What does it mean to be the body of Christ that values all of its members?
- How is power shared among member?
- The composition of the committee is designed to reflect a beloved community it its member, but how may we truly function in spirit?

The Action group will continue to act on this topic with the hope of identifying findings that would influence the work that BGM does such as what will be presented at the next Biennial Mission Summit.