



# You Are Here

Navigating the Spiritual Journey





# The Challenges of Following Jesus



This is God's Word for my life in this place and at this time.  
Today I am a new creation in Christ, I am God's very own and I  
believe he has a purpose for my life.



After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee.

When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, “Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?”



Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.”

Matthew 11:1-6



# The Challenges of Following Jesus



Expectations

Pain / suffering

Value



# We are all Students of Jesus Christ

The Greek work is for disciple is '**mathetes**' which means a Learner – doer.  
Not just someone who acquires a lot of knowledge.



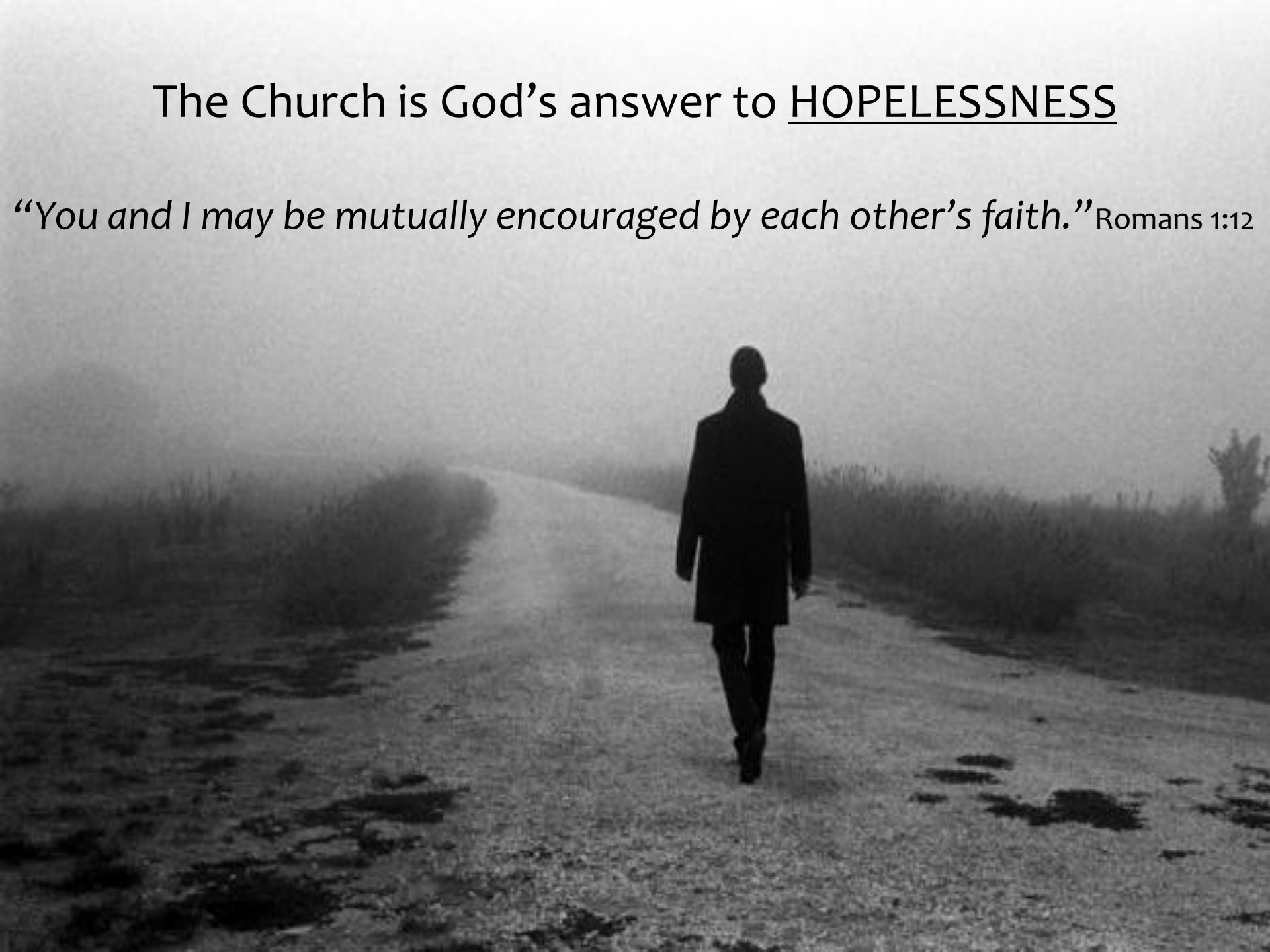
# We're moving from LONELINESS to COMMUNITY

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:34



# The Church is God's answer to HOPELESSNESS

*“You and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.”* Romans 1:12



## Henri Nouwen

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**“Listen to the church.** I know that isn’t a popular bit of advice at a time and in a country where the church is often seen more as an obstacle in the way than as the way to Jesus. Nevertheless, I am deeply convinced that the greatest spiritual danger for our times is the separation of Jesus from the church. The church is the body of the Lord. Without Jesus there can be no church; and without the church we cannot stay united with Jesus. I’ve yet to meet anyone who has come closer to Jesus by forsaking the church.”

“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.” Philippians 2:1-2



First United Methodist Church

# 2011 Annual Report



*Beyond the Walls*



*Home!*