

The Universal Christ Spiritual Growth Workshop

HOW A FORGOTTEN REALITY CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING WE SEE, HOPE FOR, AND BELIEVE

> SATURDAY, AUGUST 24 10:00AM TO 2:00PM ST. PAUL UMC

Where better to see the incarnation of Christ in the world than at St. Paul where we experience Christ daily in the diversity of people, especially those on the margins, who come and go from our place. Here, we hold an incarnational worldview striving to be inclusive and respectful of every thing and every one. From that starting place, we can be lead to actions that are affirming and compassionate towards others and ourselves. Continually leaning into the practice of seeing Christ in every thing and every one is not always easy and at times frustrating but yet it serves as a valuable tool for spiritual growth. In his book, *The Universal Christ*, Richard Rohr describes the incarnational worldview as:

...the profound recognition of the presence of the divine in literally "every thing" and "every one." It is the key to mental and spiritual health, as well as to a kind of basic contentment and happiness. An incarnational worldview is the only way we can reconcile our inner worlds with the outer one, unity with diversity, physical with spiritual, individual with corporate, and divine with human.

Several of us at St. Paul gathered over Lent to read, study, and discuss Fr. Richard's, *The Universal Christ*, and found it to be meaningful to our spiritual work. Through his use of scripture, historical knowledge, and simple truths, he offers readers a door into the sacredness of all creation. As Lent came to a close, we were hungry for more. Others also expressed an interest in joining with us. So the idea for this workshop was born.

You are invited to join us. Included in this workshop will be videos of Fr. Richard speaking from THE UNIVERSAL CHRIST CONFERENCE held in Albuquerque, NM, March 28-31, 2019, along with group activities selected from the book's companion guide developed for small group study.

A freewill offering will be collected to cover lunch. We ask that you do register by calling the church (252-4467) so that we can plan for lunch.

To prepare for the workshop, please read the book which you can buy from wherever you buy your books. If you like to listen to podcasts, you will find *Another Name for Everything with Richard Rohr* to be very helpful.