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CEP - Lifelong Learning

From the desk of Rev. Paul Gehrs

As I write this, it is Ash Wednesday. In worship, I was invited to a life of self-examination, marked with ashes on my forehead and sent on my way [summarized] to:
*Go into the world to serve God with gladness and;
...be of good courage;
...render to no one evil for evil;
...help the afflicted; honour all people;
...love and serve God, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit.*

Lifelong learning is one expression of a life of self-examination. As God presents us with new opportunities, perplexing challenges and emerging contexts, we are called to discern how we need to grow, what we need to learn and who might help us get there. Honestly admitting I have something to learn may be the first step. A conversation with your employer may be the second step.

Serving God with gladness may lead me to improve skills that are already part of my passion. Not being of good courage or feeling tempted to render evil may lead me to work on my spirituality through direction, coaching or a retreat experience. Trying to help the afflicted may call me to seek new skills in order to help in a good way. Honouring all people may drive me toward a deeper understanding of racism, systemic injustice and deeper truth about how I am called to be transformed.

What if it's the Holy Spirit that calls us to learning for the good of our neighbour, just as the Holy Spirit calls us to lifelong loving and serving in God's name?

For additional Information about CEP contact Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop, ELCIC. pgehrs@elcic.ca 204-984-9156.

Peace,
Paul