

## **2020 Matthew 25 Committee Annual Report**

**The 2020 Matthew 25 Committee: Moderator Adrienne Danielson, David Danielson,  
Jenny Bloedow, Zach Larsen, Katherine Brozek, Nick Brozek**

In late 2019 our congregation committed to being a Matthew 25 church. The PC(USA)'s Matthew 25 Initiative invites participating congregations to focus on 1) congregational vitality, 2) dismantling structural racism, and 3) eradicating systemic poverty.

Two years ago, a Native American family had been visiting our church and was told by one of our members that they were "Not welcome here" and that there was a church for them "east of town". The visiting family did not return. Very unfortunately, this is not the first time an incident like this has occurred in our church. Given our congregation's all too recent and entirely inexcusable history of discriminating against Indigenous American visitors, Session discerned that the Matthew 25 committee was to focus on the "dismantling structural racism" call first.

The pandemic through a bit of a wrench in our plans but we were able to meet via Zoom and plan a "Year of Equality" for 2021. The year will include education about the history and contemporary manifestations of racism in the Church, our country, and the community, and opportunities to examine personal biases. The Year of Equality will also include chances to dream together about a church, community, and country that better reflects God's will for His children ("...behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne..."-Rev. 7:9-10), and discussions about how to work towards achieving these dreams. We are very excited about the journey towards greater equality our church family will be on together through the coming year! We are so grateful to be on it with you.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Adrienne Danielson  
Mission Committee Moderator**