

A Living Memory

As two people who were never actual bona fide members, but who benefited from an association of some duration, here are a few personal reflections.

Christ Community Church was a place in our religious journey and experience that we are still grateful for today. The particular place no longer exists, but like many things of significance, you carry it with you, though in a different form (perhaps as the saying goes, home is where the heart is...).

For born and raised (and heavily acculturated) Catholics, CCC was a fairly daring detour when we stopped by back in the 80's ad 90's. It was a combination of fresh winds and safe harbor, as well as challenge - where doubt was validated along with faith (and examined as perhaps the flip side of the coin) - where questioning was encouraged and answers were not final nor predetermined.

Ad yet, and yet...there was a shared grounding of belief - the "Christ" in Christ Community - and that grounding was the springboard for community (expansive) and service (likewise expansive). The net effect was a fulsome ecumenism, which oddly enough, helped us appreciate and value more the best of our own original faith tradition and introduced us to the beauty ad value of other traditions too.

So while Christ Community Church is in some regards "only" a memory now, it's a living memory - and living memories can be life-giving and powerful. We're of the mind (and heart) that good religion and the faith it strives to engender, are never *fait accompli* (faith accompli?), but rather process - and process is ongoing, no matter the structures, buildings or circumstances. A belated thank you to Dick Rhem primarily, and so many others from those days, for sharing their lives, friendship and vision.

Mary and Paul Springer
CCC friends