



Heartbeats along the way: The Dull-Hearted

Matthew 13:15. For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn and I would heal them.

Jesus is explaining the parable of the sower to his disciples. I believe He wanted the people to miss the point of the parable at that time in His Ministry. To me, it's like a coded message. But when Jesus ascended, He commanded the Disciples to go and preach the Gospel to everyone. This is now our task and challenge to preach the Good News to our neighbors next door, in this community, and in this broken world, and if necessary, to use words.

Who are the dull hearted? Let's say they are persons disinterested in Christ, perhaps unaware of Christ.

How can we bring them to life? I believe we are already hard at work in this. CUMC is known in Carlisle as an active, hands-on church. Our doors are always open to visitors; we've an active ministry among the youth and children. And by following God's calling to create a new worship space at the Spring Garden Campus, we demonstrate our wholehearted commitment to being Christ's servants for generations to come. Our new building is more than a new facility. It is a physical expression of our faith in Christ for this community and the world.

Can we do better? Yes! We can continue the conversation to encourage one another. And we can take inspiration from the progress at the Spring Garden Campus. And we can pray that we find new ways to help others come alive in Christ.

"O Gracious and Merciful God, make our hearts fertile ground. Let the Seeds of your Grace fall on us and bear fruit. Let us witness to the dull-hearted and bring them Life in Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen. "