



## ***Emergence***

**October 30, 2022**

*Romans 12:9-21 (MSG)*

### Connect:

- A walk-up song is a song that is played as a baseball player approaches the batter's box to prepare to hit or a song that is played as a speaker makes her way to the stage to make a presentation. The song is generally a song to get people pumped up, confident, ready to be their best. You might call this an individual's theme song. What song would you choose to be your walk-up song?
- When have you been part of an experience individually or as part of a group or organization when you had to change everything, pursuing a new direction due to circumstances outside of your control (*like a pandemic, major health event or something else*)?

### Engage

- Read *Romans 12:9-21 (MSG)*. This is essentially a list of behaviors or attitudes that will deepen a Christian's impact on the world. Pick out a couple of them that stand out to you and share why you chose them with your conversation partners. What if you choose one a week (*or a day!*) to practice out in the real world? What kind of witness might that be in our city?
- Many don't get out and engage their neighbors (*or people they engage day to day*) out of assumptions that they don't want to be bothered. However, relationships require proximity for them to deepen or expand. In what ways have you practiced proximity to deepen a relationship? In what ways have you missed opportunities?
- Have you ever used the excuse of "*when we get the house fully put together*" or any other stalling tactic to refrain from inviting someone to your home? Maybe a second example entails inviting someone to church with you. Why do we think things have to be perfect or even simply "*better*" before we invite someone to engage us where we are now? What are we waiting for?
- In what ways do you feel our church is currently in sync with what people are searching for spiritually? In what ways could we improve that synchronicity?

### Next Steps:

- Choose an action or "*dance move*" from Romans 12:9-11 (*Message version*) and practice it among your neighbors this week. See how those embodied kindnesses make an impact on your neighbors.
- Invite someone(s) to join you for worship next week. Share our hope that they might share in what will emerge in and through Broadway in the coming year.

### Pray:

- Share joys and concerns about your lives with one another. Lift those in prayer.
- Pray courage for yourself and our church to be the most hospitable people in Columbia!
- "*Lord, while we can't control every circumstance or global reality, we can control our response. Give us courage to live in this emergent season with hope, love and grace for our neighbors with whom we're called to live together harmoniously. Help us love from the center of who we are. Amen.*"