



A PEOPLE CALLED TO LOVE

CHRISTIAN CHARITY IN NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY

Interview with Mrs. Gail Olson

Study Questions:

- 1) What does Mrs. Olson believe is the single most important factor for making a stable neighborhood?

- 2) What factors does Mrs. Olson believe affect the stabilization of families?

- 3) What resources has the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod promised to the residents of the College Hill neighborhood?

- 4) Who is “in charge” of the vision for the revitalization of the College Hill neighborhood? Why is this important?

- 5) Mrs. Olson stresses listening more than talking when Christians engage in acts of charity. Why do you think listening is so important for congregations who intend to engage their community?

- 6) Why does Mrs. Olson believe it is important for congregations to be involved in projects like the community revitalization project in College Hill?

- 7) How do St. Paul and St. John members utilize celebration events to share the gospel with the residents of College Hill?

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8) Mrs. Olson talked about the “cross-cultural” aspect to this project when suburban parishioners get involved with the residents of a lower socio-economic neighborhood. Have you ever considered opportunities for your own congregation that would allow members to experience ministry across cultures in your own neighborhood or town?

9) What single factor prompted Mrs. Olson’s Bible study group to get involved in the city?

10) How has her involvement in acts of charity in St. Louis changed Mrs. Olson’s views of her neighbors in the greater metropolitan area?