

Tuesday church has brought back my hope, curiosity and desire for deeper connection. We have had two retreats and many laughs, tears and spiritual connected moments together. I've learnt so much I didn't even know I needed to know.

It reminds me that there are so many other pathways to consider for our future, most including our valuable, resource rich communities. Most of these pathways that I can see igniting passion and spiritual connection with the divine again in those who believe it has faded from. I now have hope, a strong connection and faith in my God, and friends to journey forward with together.

I want to minister as a Priest and I even speak about it all at work to colleagues and friends. Tuesday church has brought me to a comfortable understanding of what it means for me to be religious in today's world. It's something I'm now happy to share and not hide. At our latest retreat we even have a vague idea of a couple of future plans which is very exciting for me.

For someone who grew up with just two best friends, one primary and one secondary school, neither of whom are Christian, now to have many friends I can have deep, personal and meaningful conversations is life changing.

Our small group started with one person's curiosity and passion, and has now ignited a new way of thinking, and living Christ's calling.

I still go most Sundays to Sunday church to get my tradition and generational wisdom dose, but Tuesday church is where I have my laughter, friends and rabbit hole questions. It's not an either or, it's an AND. **Tamara Slocombe.**

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Our Tuesday night chats have met a desire of mine to have a small group of open-minded intelligent people to discuss all matters philosophical and spirituality with. Being able to grow and learn with these new friends and develop a deep trust with them has been fulfilling, fun and heart-warming. Being part of this group has made my life better. **Daniel Jackson.**



I've been in Community of Christ for my whole life. There are rhythms and traditions that you just accept as the way things are done. There's comfort in having traditions that my grandparents had but in the last five years I've been wondering what is going to be next.

I had started to lose my enthusiasm for Sunday church, I even thought about quitting all together and handing in my priesthood. As much as I mostly loved going, for people and community mostly, with the occasional thought sparking service, it just wasn't meeting my thirst for learning and my busy life was getting in the way of being present. I want my kids to have the influences of four generations the way I did with the access to wisdom not available from me alone. But I just couldn't see what was going to be next. Everyone was tired and deflated, trying to keep a model of church that requires many more participants than it has, to run successfully.

Emma Ghazarian started a questioning, spiritual learning group.. We called it Tuesday church... Or Tuesday group. It's been running now for over two years and I'm getting stronger and stronger in my enthusiasm and belief.

I now have many friends, and fellow journeyers on a path adjacent to mine.

by Emma Ghazarian

he history of our group began back in May 2020 when I caught up with Adam Wade for a coffee after reaching out about a Scripture passage I was wrestling with. One question led to another question and then another question. Adam suggested we continue the discussion online as it was likely we would begin a statewide lockdown. I invited two other church friends I knew would also enjoy some extra scripture study and we agreed to meet Tuesday nights via zoom for around 4-6 weeks.

We chatted a lot about scripture and theology including questions about our faith tradition. After six weeks, our curiosities only grew and we built a topic list larger than we had begun with. The Victorian lockdowns lasted longer than anyone expected which allowed the group to continue the online Tuesday gatherings. Each discussion made us hungry for more discussions. We began researching things ourselves and brought our discoveries to the following week. We developed a deeper appreciation and enthusiasm towards Christianity and Religion, so much so we would which led to us bringing up our discussions in our other social circles. Slowly more friends found out about the group and started joining our Tuesday night chats.

As Victoria came out of lockdowns and our calendars started to fill back up, our online Tuesday chats remained. The need for rich conversations about theology, philosophy and our desire to explore and understand never diminished.

As a result of regular weekly contact, and all of us in a similar stage in life the relational bonds between each of us strengthened. We started calling our ministry Tuesday Church simply because church is what we do and who we are.

Throughout the last few years we have had guest ministers join our conversations as well as hearing the testimonies from friends in other Christian denominations. We've done series on priesthood offices, sacraments and church history. We have discussed things ranging from Creation, Polygamy, Demons, Angles, Noah's Ark, Miracles and Celibacy. Those of us able have gather in person for things like Birthdays, Dinners, Communion nights, Spirituality Workshops and Retreats.

As I reflect over the last two and a half years I can't help but be amazed at how the Spirit has stirred, challenged and stretched each one of us. What began as one conversation over coffee developed into and a few follow up conversations with a small group of people who were comfortable sharing doubts, asking questions and being open to relearning, all of which has been inspiring.

Having a space for us to connect and do Church online every week, with friends we wouldn't otherwise be able to do church connect with, has created a sense of stability and familiarity amongst the uncertainty and liminal space our church finds itself in. Connecting weekly online from our own homes has become our gathering place and we have become each other's spiritual home.