## Connecting New

November, 2017

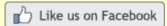
This month let's start with a painting. It is entitled "Church." I invite you to engage the painting for a while before reading the text below it. What do you see and what response does the painting incite within you? Perhaps a feeling, a message or a question will emerge.



Like many of my paintings, the color black represents God as mystery, unknowable, trustworthy and the ground of our existence. The pure colors in the center of the circle represent individual church members, each a unique and beautiful expression of God. Notice that the individuals are isolated from each other. The circle is composed of all of the colors used for the individual persons and represents the deep connection (communion) that we may sometimes experience within church or other community. I believe that we all yearn for this sense of communion. Most of the time, we are somewhere in between - a community yearning together, being human together and seeking God together. Encouraging each other at times, disagreeing with each other at other times, as it has always been and will continue to be.

May each of us find a community where we can join with others in experiencing both the beauty of the particular expressions of God each of us is as well as the unitive experience of God through that community of persons. Both are expressions of the human/divine relationship, one individual and the other communal.

Peace and Blessings, Clarence







Clarence Heller is a spiritual director, poet, and dreamer whose writing and paintings are inspired through prayerful reflection.

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