

## Playing With Fire

I have hope  
that the Disciples are poised  
to be a church *of* and *for*  
the 21st century.

This room was full of people  
who care about the Church!

I found hope and challenge  
in the idea of increasing faithfulness  
in particularity.

My hope came from  
young seminary students in our midst ...  
continual grounding in spiritual practice and listening ...  
being deeply challenged to do ministry in a way  
that all are truly welcome and at home ...  
the need to move from a church that has a mission  
to a mission acknowledging that it needs a church ...  
increasing interest in interfaith conversation.

How do we become a mission with a church  
rather than a church with a mission?

Fernando Jara! really living by faith  
and trusting God's vision  
and giving up comfort in order to do so.

I was challenged to rethink and go back to  
taking significant time for spiritual practices.

I was reminded again that it's God's invitation  
for me to join what God is doing.

So how do we challenge settled pastors  
to see the landscape and be open  
for God's invitation to *them*?

Hope and challenge  
in that we can move  
from mission *to* to mission *with*  
and back again.

Inspired by the willingness to explore and wrestle

I have *received* hope  
in spite of the bad news we hear about church  
and what is not happening, churches dying and closing

God is at work in the midst of us and in our communities!

If we're open to the movement of God,  
we can see the new church formed before us!

I have hope  
that God's spiritual transformation can change *anything*.

As long as there are sincere forward-thinking Christians,  
there is hope.

How can we, as a group, attain an effective unity  
in the midst of our vast differences?

Passionate dialogue of core fundamentals  
of who we are as church  
and who we might become

Stop making assumptions  
about the place that we've been placed!

Conversations and the ways we've explored being faithful even *without* concrete answers.

The 21st century church must look more like the 1st century church than the 20th century church!

There are lots of motivated younger leaders *and* lots of older leaders willing to change.

There are passionate people who are passionate about what the future holds.

So let's continue to step out in faith even when it's uncomfortable.