



# Regent Exchange CLMPI 2021 Annual Conference Pre-work

*Rooted in God's Story, we walk with churches in Cascadia  
connecting faith with all of life and contributing to the common good.*

## REPORT ON HUB ACTIVITIES

2021 Hub Activities		2022 Planned Activities	
Jan 30	Cohort 1 Gathering: <i>"Grow an Idea"</i>	(Dec '21) - Feb	Cohort 3 Recruitment
Feb 06	Cohort 2 Gathering: <i>"Listen and Discern"</i>	Mar	Cohort 3 Orientation/ Team Formation/ On-Boarding
Mar - Apr	C1 Peer Groups	Mar - Apr	<i>"Called to This Time"</i> Events (Lent and Easter)
Mar - Jun	C2 Peer Groups	May (2 weekends)	Cohort 3 Intensive Learning Journey Launch Event
Apr	<a href="#">Regent Exchange x Regent World Special Edition on Vocation</a>	May - Nov	C3 Church Learning Journey (with peer groups and coaching)
Jun 02	C1 Team Leaders' Check-in	Nov	C3 Design Workshop
Sept/ Oct	<i>Listening by Design Orientation</i> (co-sponsored workshop by Regent Exchange + Academics)	TBD	Student Research Connections with Regent Exchange
Oct 02	All-Cohort Gathering: <i>"Called to the Common Good: A Sustainability Workshop"</i>		
Nov 4, 10	Team Leaders' Check-in		
Nov 10	Church Leaders' Event: <i>"Called to This Time: Advent"</i>		

## ONE POINT OF DISCERNMENT FOR THE HUB

As the Regent Exchange team continues to journey with our first two cohorts, especially with a more extended timeline than initially anticipated, we are keen to discern how we can best support and equip these churches to sustain their learning as a team through their common good/ calling initiatives.

## REPORT ON CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

### The Story of Kitsilano Christian Community's Learning Journey

The mission statement for Regent Exchange begins with the phrase, *"Rooted in God's story"*; as we believe that ultimately the callings and purposes of individuals and congregations are part of God's story and emerge from a deeper understanding of our place in his story. Regent Exchange facilitates a Learning Journey through which church teams participate in an iterative process of "Discover, Discern, Design, and Do" supplemented with cohort gatherings, learning tasks, resources, and Peer Group meetings. Through this journey, church teams are encouraged to discern how God might be calling their congregation to contribute to the common good in their communities. One of the churches in our first cohort, Kitsilano Christian Community (KCC), is about to conclude their learning journey with Regent Exchange, and we are delighted to share a brief excerpt of their story.

KCC joined Regent Exchange in the Summer of 2019. Along with four other churches, their team has been on a learning journey to discover and discern their congregational vocation, and the ways in which God is calling them to serve their neighborhood. From the beginning of their journey, while the KCC Team was just as excited and enthusiastic as their cohort peers, they were markedly more intentional about spiritual practices of discernment. From vision retreats to prayer walks and reflective communal gatherings, KCC has been very deliberate about taking the time necessary to wait, listen, and discern God's leading together. They employed their own discernment practices and incorporated the tools and strategies we shared with them.

With the onset of the pandemic, when other churches were forced to slow down, re-evaluate their vocation in the midst of a time of societal upheaval, and rethink their potential

project plans, KCC were able to continue their discernment practices. And while they were also dealing with the setbacks of the pandemic, they continued with their rhythms of intentionally reflecting and pausing to seek God's guidance.

It is no surprise, then, that we're sharing KCC's journey with you. They exemplified the age-old adage of "slow and steady wins the race." They kept their pace and focused their energies on incorporating prayerful pauses into their process. Among our ten cohort churches at present), KCC is the first to have completed their Common Good Project -- the penultimate milestone in the Regent Exchange Learning Journey!

As part of their project, they recently held an Artisan Market in their church parking lot -- yes, a community event amidst a pandemic when it felt like it would be impossible to meaningfully engage with our neighbors without technological mediation. When asked what they've learned, their pastor and team leader, Monica, shares: "The sense that arose from this project was that Kits Christian Community is invited to be a visible, joyful, contemplative, [and] creative presence in our neighborhood."

As we lead our hubs, we've been encouraged from our own journey of walking with KCC to give time to taking time. It is very easy to get swept up in the deadlines, timelines, and all other lines we try to work within. In our highly efficient and fast-paced world today, it has become less common for us -- even as Christians -- to slow down and take the time to incorporate spiritual contemplative practices of discernment into our routines. KCC's balancing of the contemplative and the active aspects of church life did not slow them down. Rather, their contemplative discernment practices created a foundation of internal unity around their church's calling. This unity was evidenced in several ways: their ability to complete their common-good experiment and project, the breadth of community gifts offered in it, and the high level of laity support and participation in their project.