

**Visions United Spirit Gathering**  
**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**The Story of Stephen**  
**Serving the Gospel with Persistence and Courage**  
*Acts Now! Stories of Making Church Outside a Building*

**Our Community Gathers**

**Prelude**                      Seek Ye First    *Heather Thurber (Hand Chimes solo),  
John Foster (whistle) Brian Affleck (guitar) & Daphna Pearson (piano)*  
Words/Music/Desc: Karen Lafferty ©1972 Maranatha Music. CCLI # 11077526

**Welcome**

*God's Doors Are Open to All!*  
*Open Doors · Open Minds · Open Hands · Open Hearts*  
Visions United seeks to be a safe place for people of all  
races, creeds, ages, cultural backgrounds,  
sexual orientations and gender identities to worship.

**Song Medley**

*Song leader: John Pearson*

Jesus Is the Rock                      Words/Music: Ghanaian folk song. Arr: Betty C. Pulkingham  
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Stand on the Rock (*Psalm 95*)                      Music: Linnea Good © 2005. Borealis Music,  
Words: Ancient Songs Sung Anew. The Psalms as Poetry. Trans: Lynn C. Bauman  
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**Invitation to Gather & Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Gathering Words, adapted: Laura Turnbull, Gathering, Pentecost 2, 2019, p. 48

**Sung Centering Prayer**    MV#14 Where Two or Three Are Gathered

*Song leader: Brenda MacKenzie & Daphna Pearson*  
Words/Music: Bruce Harding © 2002. All rights reserved.  
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**We Listen for Wisdom**

**Scripture Story**                      Acts 6: 1-7    *Readers: Bob & Judy Christie*

**A Teaching Moment on Acts**    The Ministry of *diakonia*

**Song**                      VU#697 O For a World (vs. 2-5, with tag)  
*Song leaders: Joan Hawkes, Daphna Pearson & Lorna Teed*  
Words: Miriam T. Winter 1987. Music: Carl G. Glaser 1829. Arr: Lowel Mason 1839.  
Words ©1990. Medical Mission Sisters. Used with Permission.

**Scripture Story**    The Story of Stephen (Acts 6:8 - 8:1)                      - *A Paraphrase by Brian Botten*

**Reflection**                      Serving the Gospel with Persistence and Courage

**We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude**

**Song**            VU#509 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (vs.1&2)            *Song leaders: Virtual Choir*  
                          *Brian & Kim Affleck, John & Daphna Pearson, Joan Hawkes, Ainsley MacTavish-Hawkes,*  
                          *Brenda MacKenzie, John Foster, Bill & Anna Peters, Lorna Teed;*  
                          *Piano, Daphna Pearson. Sound Editing: Brian Affleck*  
                          *Words/Music/Harmony: Daniel L. Schutte & New Dawn Music*  
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**Our Community at Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

*Brian Botten, Ministry Student*

**We Go Forth to Be a Blessing**

**Blessing and Changing of the Light**

**Song**            MV#140 As Long As We Follow (v2 \*act)            *Song leader: Brenda MacKenzie*  
                          *Words/Music: Joseph Kabema, Congo. Words/Music/English translation ©2004*  
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***Thank You for Joining Us!***  
***May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.***