

From the Dean Hosts, Hostesses and Guests

When you consider your place in St. Matthew's Cathedral, are a you a host or hostess, or do you consider yourself a guest? What I mean by that question is this: When you go to a party, you will notice that the host or hostess is usually busy introducing guests, making everyone feel a part of the event, providing snacks and hors d'ouevres, and is pro-active in putting on the event. Guests, on the other hand, have no responsibility other than to show up. They wait to be served, wait to be introduced, and are usually dependent on the ministrations of the host or hostess for an enjoyable time.

So, are you a host or hostess, or a guest? Glenn "Tex" Evans was addressing a group of United Methodists in Maryland, trying to explain to them why the Wesleyan movement created such a powerful spiritual awakening in this country, even to the point where, in some circles, the 19th century is known as the "Methodist Age" in American history. He wasn't having much success until they showed him a river near the chapel that Francis Asbury once crossed. It was a river that Asbury crossed at flood tide in order to preach to the people in that chapel.

The Maryland Methodists asked Tex, "Do you want us to tell you how Asbury crossed that swollen, rushing river?"

Tex responded: "No, but I do want you to tell me why he crossed that river. In that 'why' is the key to why the Wesleyan movement became such a powerful force for God and the gospel."

As you consider your involvement here at the Cathedral, do you take the initiative, greet people, volunteer in our outreach ministries, take a class to deepen your faith? Or do you usually just show up for Sunday services, enjoy the music, the sense of worship, and then return home?

Francis Asbury was a host for the Kingdom of God. How about you?