

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

—Colossians 3:12

MONDAY, MARCH 27

Out of compassion and kindness, we said “yes” and formed a Table. The Holy Spirit is doing the rest. We are an unlikely diverse group of nine including Clara (not her real name), our sister in Christ. On a Sunday afternoon in Lent 2016, we began a yearlong commitment with a potluck that involved sharing our stories. The next week, we heard Clara’s story and her life plan. This is the Open Table: a weekly one-hour commitment to work with an individual or family who is ready to transform their life.

Clara, a middle-aged woman, was unemployed and living in transitional housing. Her life plan is filled with practical goals and wild dreams. As I am writing this, we are halfway through the year, working together as the Body of Christ. Clara now sports new glasses, follows a budget, is completing orientation for employment, and is days away from moving into her own apartment. We have found that patience and humility are key; together, we are making a difference. You can too.

Learn more: www.theopentable.org

—Angela F. Shepherd