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From Longing to Belonging: Connecting through the Language of Worship with Persons Experiencing Dementia

Barbara J. Newman

All Belong Center for Inclusive Education

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Barbara J. Newman

Calvin Symposium on Worship 2020

B16 From Longing to Belonging

Connecting through the Language of Worship with Persons

Experiencing Dementia

Introduction

- Beginning stories
- Dementia: umbrella term
- Changes in...
- Unaffected
- Predictable

Strategies

- Don't: shout, ask "what's my name?" or avoid bad days
- Keep in mind: behavior is communication, In Christ
- Bring: nametag, pictures, iPad, prayer shawl
- Worship

Vertical Habits: A Common Language for Worship

- Developing habits
- The Vertical Habits:
 - Adoration/praise
 - Confession
 - Lament
 - Illumination
 - Petition
 - Thanksgiving/gratitude
 - Service
 - Blessing
- Tools & Ideas
- Sign the vertical habits
- Togethersmallgroups.org
- Live it

Closing

- Thinking ahead
- Hope
- Questions?