# Conversation with Lee Kricher – January 26

* The new Sprankle’s – a nightmare transition period towards an uncertain result to better serve their customer base
* Do you ask someone in their 20s, “where do you go to church?” The question “do you even go to church?” is even out of date.
* Do you have a “I would never do *this*…for Jesus” list?
	+ We pray: “Fill this church…(without us needing to change or me doing anything), in Jesus’ name.” This is the most toxic problem for me.
* Pray for God to fill an empty pew? No! Pray for the people not sitting in it—and for the voice to invite someone to sit with you in it!
* Book: Autopsy of a Deceased Church
	+ “We’re going to pray and wait for things to turn around”
	+ “God doesn’t care about numbers. God cares more about quality than quantity”
	+ “If it’s good enough for me, it’s good enough for everyone (including my children)”
		- The kids should experience church as we did. Shut up and eat pizza. Be seen and not heard. Don’t mess up the building.
	+ “That will never work for us.” Is your church inferior? Why are you telling God what God can’t do?
* What will it take to reach our community more effectively? We’ll pray about it and we’re all in, whatever it takes!
	+ You can have all the right programs – but are you introducing people to faith in Jesus Christ?
* Our church is in a wilderness experience that will be formative, transformative, and redemptive. God’s faithfulness is revealed in the wilderness

What in our church is “off the table” for change?

* Sacraments
* Creeds & Lutheran Confessions
* Serving others
* Christian Education
* Music
* Children
* Family of faith

What are the core things that are going to help us reach people with Jesus’ love?

1. Irresistible Experience at worship
2. Small groups – for community connections
3. Children & youth ministry

How many of you would give your right arm to get your grandchildren in church? Versus: how many of you would change your church music to get your grandchildren in church?

Questions to ponder:

* A good question: what do you love about your church?
* A better question: why do you love Jesus? Why does Jesus love you?
	+ This is the question that will speak more powerfully to people. Jesus leads people to the church that brings people into a relationship with him.