

Discipleship Leadership Development Team

Purpose

The task of the Discipleship Leadership Development Team is to support local congregations and specialized ministries in developing principled leaders to lead United Methodists in Indiana in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Activities and Future Plans

In addition to making Disciples for Jesus Christ, two other objectives for the Discipleship Leadership Team are 1) to provide for “grass roots” initiatives; and 2) to be a policy and resource agency, not a programming group. During its three meetings since the team was formed, the team has discussed two main issues: 1) how each of the twenty-one members can work together with the team, as well as with their specific areas, in order to gather information from churches of all sizes as to their needs in each area; and 2) once the needs have been communicated, how the team can become an information center to help local churches locate the resources they need in order improve their ability to make disciples of Jesus Christ. In other words, the Discipleship Team members would like to provide “tools for the local church tool box.”

Some of the ideas discussed for helping meet the needs of local churches have included the following: 1) having a web presence for the team as well as a “Brand Name” for the team and committees; 2) developing a statewide speaker’s bureau; 3) having consistent contact with all cluster leaders in order to receive and share information 4) utilizing something similar to the *Interpreter Magazine* feature “It worked for us” to highlight successful programs; and 4) most importantly- increasing communication across the Indiana Conference so that every church will have the opportunity to take advantage of available resources to meet its individual needs.

The following is a list of the ministry areas on the Discipleship Leadership Team: Board of Laity; Lay Speaking Ministries; Young Adults; Evangelism; Scouting and Civic Youth Serving Ministry; Christian Education/Small Groups; Children’s Ministry; Worship; Young Adult Ministry; Older Adult Ministries; Conference Prayer Coordinator; Stewardship; Spiritual Formation/Devotional Life; United Methodist Men; and United Methodist Women.

Robert Pimlott, Convener