

LOCAL CHURCH AND CLUSTER TEACHING/LEARNING/SHARING

Dr. Terry Faris, Corbin District Superintendent

“The mission of the Church is to MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST.

Local churches provide the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs.”

The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 2004, Paragraph 120

The Great Commission – Matthew 28:19-20 – Jesus says to us:

**“And in your going, MAKE DISCIPLES of all the nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;
and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”**

The main verb (imperative) is to “make disciples.”

The “going, baptizing, teaching” are participles, by which we “participate” in the making of disciples.

“DOING WHAT DISCIPLES DO”

Bishop Robert Morgan - Discover People (Evangelism) - Bring Them In!
Develop People (Discipleship) - Build Them Up!
Deploy People (Mission) - Send Them Out!

**Bishop James King
“5 Missional Paths”**

**Rick Warren
“5 Purposes of God”**

**Acts 2:41-47
“Flows”**

Relating
Growing
Inviting
Worshipping
Going

Fellowship
Discipleship
Mission
Worship
Ministry

Fellowship
Learning
Outreach
Worship
Service

Acts 2:41-47

FELLOWSHIP – “And they continued steadfastly (they devoted themselves) to fellowship... breaking bread from house to house--- they had all things in common...”

LEARNING – “And they continued steadfastly (they devoted themselves) to the apostles’ teaching...”

OUTREACH – “3,000 souls were added to them.. and the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.”

WORSHIP – “And they continued steadfastly (they devoted themselves) to prayers... continuing daily with one accord in the temple... praising God...”

SERVICE – “And they sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need... having favor with all the people.”

Church Council – Making Disciples of Jesus Christ by “connecting vision and ministry in your church.”

p. 17 – “The primary work of the church council is visioning and strategic planning.”

Essential Leadership Functions:

1. Lead in the Spirit (Matthew 6:33 – “Seek first the Kingdom of God...”) – a Christ-like World.
2. Discover Current Reality (The way things are, and not what they used to be.)
3. Name Shared Vision (What is our Business?)
4. Develop Action Plans (How to reach specific goals.)
5. Monitor the Journey (How is Business?) – Quality Control. Excellence (Out of Heaven.)

4 Basic Administrative Teams: “Ad-Minister” literally means “toward ministry:”

1. **Trustees Team** – Making Disciples of Jesus Christ by “managing church property, equipment, and investments to support the vision and mission of your church.”

Chairperson elected by the Trustees – Membership (3-9 persons) – 1/3rd of Trustees shall be Women – 2/3rds must be members of The United Methodist Church – 3 Year Class Rotation – Policies for Building Use – 10% Rule – Trust Clause – Incorporation (www.gcfa.org)

2. **Finance Team** – Making Disciples of Jesus Christ by “funding ministries that nurture persons in their faith.

Money or Ministry? – John Wesley: “Earn all you can, Save all you can, Give all you can.”
The Finance System: Raising Funds, Managing Funds, Dispersing Funds – Financial Secretary and Treasurer – Plate Giving (10% of income given each week in worship) – Planned Giving (assets of a lifetime) – Permanent Endowment Fund (Bill Squires of the Kentucky United Methodist Foundation, bsquires@kyumc.org) – Annual Audit

3. **Lay Leadership Team** – Making Disciples of Jesus Christ by “nurturing leaders in your congregation.” Formerly called the “Committee on Nominations and Personnel” – 3 Year Class Rotation – Not “fill in blanks” in the fall for Charge Conference, but a “Year-Round” ministry

p.8 – “Our discussions are open and honest. We work for consensus, not necessarily unanimous decisions. We avoid win-lose voting. We maintain confidentiality.”

4. **Pastor-Parish Relations Team** – Making Disciples of Jesus Christ by “supporting your pastor, staff, and congregation.”

SPR or PPR? – Why the “hyphen?” “Hypo” (under + “en” (one) – Membership (5-9 persons plus Lay Leader and Lay Member of the Annual Conference) – 3 Year Class Rotation – Meet at least Quarterly (every 3 months) – Cheerleading Squad and not the Firing Squad – Not “all in the family” – Non-Substance Abuse – Evaluation and Consultation with the District Superintendent – Confidentiality (private matters shared in trust) and not secrecy (something hidden or concealed)