Ministries Council

**February 14, 2022 Minutes**

*Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation is building an inclusive community that invites all people to experience God’s unconditional love, to grow in faith and serve others.*

**Discipleship Pathways**

Clusters and their relationship to Discipleship Pathways

Invite: Reaching and Receiving

Experience: Worship and Congregational Care

Grow: Education

Serve: Sending to Serve

**Attendees:** Brenda Allen, Steven Schroder, Mary Lynn Elver, Steph Scherbart, Lori Schippers, Kaci Mahannah, Tillie Good, Lauren Loonsfoot, Lindsay Drake

**Check In:** Something (or someone) you love

**Devotion:** Mary Lynn Elver

**Church Council Strategic Planning: Goals Discussion**

* **CONNECTION PLAN:** Kaci reviewed the draft of the Connections Plan which was prepared by the Reaching and Receiving cluster. Currently, the process of connecting visitors to C/W is staff heavy. Goal is for members of the congregation to take ownership of guest identification and assimilation. Cluster chairs and members can be helpful in the effort by identifying cluster activities that serve as entry points for visitors and then assist with follow-up. Other ideas include: Congregational Care cluster send welcome cards to visitors, review the “I’m New” tab on church website, cluster members give short presentations at New Member orientation, provide brochure or flyer at Welcome Center with brief cluster descriptions and info on how to join a cluster, invite visitors to book groups, emphasize importance of more intentional greeting as part of Welcome Team training.
* **INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT:** Goal is for at least 100 C/W participants to be able to identify at least one thing that they are doing to further their discipleship pathways. Ideas for familiarizing all with the Discipleship Pathway terminology include integrating the vocabulary into the worship bulletin, Thursday announcements, and agendas for all clusters. Articles by church members describing their Discipleship Pathway journey will also be featured in the Communicator. Jane Jacobsen will write a piece for the March issue. Discipleship Pathway vocabulary will be included in the worship message.
* **Engagement with Campus Community:** The congregation has a role to play in achieving this goal. Yet to be determined are which areas of the Wesley Foundation are in need of support and what would that support look like? One example of a partnership with the Wesley Foundation was that a portion of the Advent Special Offering went to SHOP, the ISU food pantry. Wesley Board will include this goal as part of the discussion in a future meeting.

**Updates from Clusters-**

* Reaching and Receiving: Cluster has focused on writing a draft of the Connections Plan.
* Congregational Care: Cards are being sent to residents of Green Hills, Northcrest and Northridge. Lori is developing a more personal care ministry to take the place of the more formal Stephen Ministry.
* Worship: Cluster will meet the week of February 21 with many items to discuss, including summer worship.
* Education: Small group offerings for Lent include a study of the book, Witness at the Cross and an all ages activity called Edible Theology, which will meet on Sunday mornings from March 6 to April 3. An April retreat is planned for the confirmation class. Confirmation Sunday is the first weekend in May. There are 13 confirmands. Mary Bellon is providing a meaningful ministry for residents of Green Hills and Northcrest.
* Sending to Serve: The Lenten Special Offering will be monetary and book donations for the library at Kate Mitchell Elementary School. The 15 year celebration of Women at the Well has been postponed.

**Next Meeting Date:** April 11, 2022

**Devotion:** Steph Scherbart