Ministries Council

**October 11, 2021 Minutes**

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

**Attendees:** Brenda Allen, Jane Esterlyl-Retttig, Mary Lynn Elver, Mike King, Lori Schippers, Kaci Mahannah, Cathy Cooney, MaeAnn Unser, Lauren Loonsfoot, Lindsay Drake

**Check in:** Favorite fall flavor

**Devotion:** Mary Lynn Elver

**Church Council Strategic Planning: Goals Discussion-**At the July Planning Retreat, participants proposed three goals for CW based on our mission statement and core values were identified from the 2021 membership survey as well as from previous survey data. The five core values were, community, being inclusive, preaching/teaching, encouragement and giving. The goals—and our Ministry Council plans to address them are:

1. To develop and formalize a **Connection Plan** to identify visitors at any CW ministries and to increase intentional follow up by January 1, 2022.
   1. There was discussion that this goal should not only pertain to visitors, but also to current members as part of CW’s rebuilding of engagement with the church.
   2. Reaching and Receiving will update the Welcome Plan by February 2022 as part of this goal development. Congregational Care will assist as needed. Ideas discussed included partnering new members with current members and participation by members of the Congregational Care cluster in reaching out to new and current members.
2. To increase CW’s **Engagement with Campus Community,** including the Campustown neighborhood. There was discussion on the importance to the congregation of an engaged student population and the role that CW members can play through invitation and service.
   1. As the college students have their own clusters, the possibility of their clusters connecting with corresponding CW clusters was mentioned as a possibility.
   2. We will re-visit this after Wesley Foundation has also discussed—would like them to take lead on ideas; but we also need to engage congregation, helping them see members need to be involved to truly make this an active partnership
3. To encourage **Intentional Faith Development of CW members.** This includes developing awareness among members of the four Discipleship Pathways and how their involvement at CW corresponds to one or more of the pathways. An educational program that consistently highlights the four pathways will help individuals better understand the progress of their discipleship.
   1. We will spend more time on this moving forward, but it is important to start with raising awareness and understanding of what Discipleship Pathway means—and that we do have opportunities through the various components of our Purpose
   2. Make connections through our posts in the monthly newsletters
   3. Be intentional about using this language in announcements at worship

**Nomination Process-**The nomination spreadsheet was presented for review and a discussion of names.

**Charge Conference Documents-** For inclusion in the documents, Brenda posed the question, “Where have you seen God at work in our congregation?”

From Congregational Care: Those in need receiving meals.

From Worship: The joy of seeing folks come together during Morning Watch and outdoor worship.

From Education: high school groups growing with members, thoughtful insights from the confirmation class, ongoing anti-racism book groups,reaching people from other states through Zoom.

Also for the documents, Lauren said that the need for improvements in how reporting is done, particularly in the area of statistical reporting, needs to be included.

**Next Meeting Date:** December 13, 2021

**Devotion:** Mike King