Ministries Council

**June 13, 2022 Minutes**

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

**Discipleship Pathways**

Clusters and their relationships to Discipleship Pathways

Invite: Reaching and Receiving

Experience: Worship and Congregational Care

Grow: Education

Serve: Sending to Serve

**Attendees:** Brenda Allen, Lindsay Drake, Mary Lynn Elver, Jane Esterly-Rettig, Lauren Loonsfoot, Kaci Mahannah, Steph Scherbart, Steven Schroder

**Invite:**

* **Check-In Question:** What’s a talent or skill you have beyond your “day job”?

**Experience:**

* **Devotion:** Mary Lynn Elver

**Serve: Discussion and Decisions**

* **Strategic Planning Goals**
* CONNECTION PLAN: Ideas were shared about the church website, which serves as both a front door to the church for potential visitors and as a source of information for C/W members. Discussion centered on the front door aspect of the website. A challenge to keeping information updated and making improvements is there is not a single person who is totally responsible for maintenance. Suggestions for the website:
* Make it easier to find information on the Wesley Foundation. If possible, provide a link for those who click on “college students” under the Get Involved tab that connects to the Wesley Center portion of the website. Possibly move information on the Wesley Foundation to a more prominent position at top, so that it requires less scrolling to reach it.
* List committees and clusters with brief descriptions under the Leadership tab to show some of the ways that members can be involved.
* Ask clusters to review website and make suggestions for what they would like to see included from their areas.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CAMPUS COMMUNITY: The task force continues to meet to generate ideas for supporting the Wesley Foundation related to finances and organization. To promote connection between collegiates and other C/W members, it could be very effective for WF members to periodically share what they are doing during worship. This summer there is an active Tues. night group averaging 16 participants.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT: Theme for the August worship sermon series will be the Discipleship Pathways and how the four areas guide us in what we do at C/W. There was discussion on using the Discipleship Pathways as a framework for development of a new Growing in Faith brochure. Cluster chairs were asked to bring fall opportunities, which could be listed in the brochure, to the August 8 meeting. If there is to be a Ministry Fair in the fall, the Discipleship Pathways would also provide the structure for booths. Lindsay reminded chairs that there would have to be specific upcoming activities for members to sign up for in order for the fair to be a success. Brenda reminded chairs to begin conversations re: nominations for the coming year.

CONSIDERATION OF FALL WORSHIP PLANS AND HOW THEY IMPACT GOALS: With all members together in one worship service, members will hopefully feel energized and more connected to each other. Positive communication regarding the change will be important as well as an understanding that everyone will have to compromise for the greater good. Variety in the worship experience will be important so that all audiences are recognized.

**GROW: Cluster Updates**

EDUCATION: Students are involved with mission trips this summer. Grade school

students volunteered for Meals for the Heartland. The middle school mission trip

was in the Twin Cities and the high school students traveled to Dallas/Fort Worth.

SENDING TO SERVE: CW members helped to fill 100 backpacks with travel

contents for asylum seekers in Texas. This project was done in conjunction with

Ames Sanctuary Interfaith Partners (ASIP). There will also be an intergenerational

service and learning opportunity to help with renovation of the drop-in shelter at The

Bridge Home.

WORSHIP: Cluster is still seeking members for the paraments committee. Will be

busy with changes to the fall schedule.

EDUCATION: Lindsay ordered new signs for outside worship. Church is considering

becoming a member of Ames Chamber of Commerce to increase visibility in the

community. Cluster is working on getting new coffee makers.

Meeting concluded with pros and cons of meeting by Zoom or in person. There may be a hybrid in the future if all are agreed.

**Next Meeting Date:** August 8, 2022