



**Hudson United Methodist Church**

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Team Name: Discipleship Pathway Ministry Team**

Date: 6-13-25

Time: 1:30p

Note Taker: Elizabeth Goodin

### **Participants**

- Kallie Beck
- Marty Hannah
- Steve Hannah
- Dave Rais
- Elizabeth Goodin

### **Agenda**

1. WHY of Discipleship Pathway
2. Intention
3. Work so far (CEC)
4. Learning Resources

### **Meeting notes:**

Prior to the meeting, Elizabeth asked that team members review two resources:

- [Discipleship Pathway Presentation 8-27-24 Recording.ppsx](#) (download to listen to full presentation)
- [How-to-Create-a-DP-Article.pdf](#)

Elizabeth opened with a prayer that spoke of seeking God's vision for discipleship at HUMC. A discussion ensued regarding God's vision being bigger than our vision. With help from the Holy Spirit, we seek to embody God's vision for our discipleship ministry.



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### WHY? of Discipleship Pathway

Elizabeth shared a video: [Michael Jr: Know Your Why](#) to illustrate how great an impact our WHY can have on WHAT we do.

Our WHY for creating a discipleship pathway begins, but does not end, with “because Jesus said so” (the Great Commission). Elizabeth offered one version of a WHY? from p. 18-19 of the booklet [Developing an Intentional Discipleship System: A Guide for Congregations](#) that referenced a sermon by John Wesley: *Oh, for a movement of people inwardly renewed and able to see and love all the people! What does such a movement require? A rediscovery of intentional discipleship!*

Questions that come from a deep sense of a person’s WHY for discipleship: How do I grow in this new faith? How can I use my gifts? How can I give? How can I serve others? Can I invite a friend?

To enable us to most effectively approach our work as a ministry team, we will spend time in our next meeting crafting our WHY; Why discipleship? Why now? Why a change? We will also consider objections that we might anticipate.

### Intention

Recognizing that by default, we already have a discipleship system (plan) in place, we discussed the statement: “Your current system produces exactly what it is designed to produce.” At this time, we may move forward with **intention** to design a system based on what we are aiming to produce: mature disciples.

Remaining mission-focused (*To make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*) will require us to make intentional decisions about investing HUMC’s time, money, and resources only on activities that help people follow Jesus Christ more closely, even if this involves saying “no” to activities that are otherwise good or popular.

### Work So Far (Christian Education Committee)

Working definition of a disciple: *Someone who trusts and follows Jesus, is being changed by Jesus, and is committed to the mission of Jesus.* The Greek word that is translated as disciple may mean learner and also apprentice. The word, apprentice characterizes a disciple better, as it involves turning one’s learning into action.



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We reviewed 5 characteristics of a disciple:

1. A disciple *Worships*
2. Is part of a *Community* (Fellowship Team)
3. Commits to *Spiritual Practices*
4. Is *Generous & Serves*
5. Is seeking to be *Christ-like*

Referring to the handout entitled, **Discipleship System Sample**, we recognized that discipleship is a process that happens in stages and that involves multiple disciplines: worship, community, spiritual practices, generosity and service, becoming Christ-like.

Elizabeth shared a worksheet that indicates where on this grid current and potential HUMC opportunities fall. Keeping in mind that people's discipleship journeys will vary, part of our work will be to maintain an awareness of next-step opportunities for all the stages and disciplines of discipleship.

### Learning Resources

[Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples: Rainer, Thom S., Geiger, Eric:](#)

[Stride: Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church: Schreiner, Mike, Willard, Ken](#)

[A Disciples Path Companion Reader Deepening Your Relationship with Christ and the Church by James A. Harnish, Justin LaRosa](#)

EOC UMC Portico Online Course: *Creating a Discipleship Pathway*

[Learn more and register to use Portico for free](#)

EOC

Action items	Responsible person	Due date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review <i>A Disciple's Path</i> Companion Reader and Daily Workbook</li><li>• Take Portico online course: <i>Creating a Discipleship Pathway</i></li><li>• Report on learnings at future meeting</li></ul>	Steve	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read <i>Stride</i></li><li>• Report on learnings at future meeting</li></ul>	<b>Kallie</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Order Stride for Kallie</li><li>• Read <i>Simple Church</i></li><li>• Report on learnings at future meeting</li></ul>	<b>Elizabeth</b>	

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 8 @9:45am**