

Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church

Master Plan

Final Draft:
June 18, 2020

Intended to serve as the plan through General Conference 2020 (happening in 2021)

OUR WILDLY IMPORTANT GOAL

By 2024 all churches will be engaged in missional transformation.

OUR CORE PROCESS

We will discover, develop and deploy fruitful leaders for vibrant congregations.

- Clergy and lay leaders will be affirmed, equipped, and accountable to the mission.
- Lay and clergy leaders will live their sense of call to ministry both within and beyond the church.
- Leadership at all levels of the Indiana Conference will work through mission-focused teams.
- We will live our commitment to being United Methodist while being obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

VALUES

We believe God is leading us as individuals, as congregations and as a conference to move from saving our institution to participating in the reign of God by making and equipping disciples. We are moving:

- From inward-focused to outward-focused ministry,
- From looking for differences to celebrating diversity,
- From being preference-driven to being purpose-centered,
- From divisions to connection,
- From membership for survival to spiritual discipline-led fresh expressions

MISSIONAL

ACCOUNTABLE

CALLED

CONNECTIONAL

TARGET AUDIENCES

- Clergy
- Congregations
- Lay Leadership
- Communities

STRATEGIES

- 1) Create relevancy for discipleship that is reaching and engaging.
- 2) Engage all target audiences with excitement about making life-giving changes for Jesus Christ in the mission field.
- 3) Foster an environment in which disciples thirst for diverse and inclusive communities.
- 4) Promote social justice and acts of mercy.
- 5) Produce communications that recipients look forward to receiving.
- 6) Order the life of the church at the annual conference level to provide accountable stewardship to our target audiences.

MEASUREMENT & EVALUATION

S1

- Number of professions of faith per year
- Real Discipleship survey (progression)
- New places for new people (church plants, Fresh Expressions, house churches, etc.)

S2 / S5

- The tenor of feedback and requests for clarification

S1 / S3 / S4

- Our congregations take action in support of diversity initiatives as measured by annual church assessments and annual clergy assessments

S1 / S3 / S4

- Churches are engaged in their communities as measured by church assessments and personal testimony

S6

- Accountable to actions and decisions of the Annual Conference as measured by monitoring and reporting

PLANS

Ministry of the Called

- Remove duplications, distractions, and silos. (S5) (S6)
- Together with local church lay leaders, inspire laity to lead discipleship from the right place in their hearts (S1) (S3)
- Partner with laity to equip them to respond to their call (S1) (S3) (S4) (S5)
- Provide resources to clergy and congregations, such as discipleship training and coaching (S1) (S2) (S5) (S6)
- Equip and support local churches with resources connecting emerging leaders (children, youth, and young adults) to Jesus and transition them to become passionate disciples of Christ. (S1) (S23) (S4)

Ministry of Accountability

- Lead the budgeting process, and legal and regulatory compliance procedures. (S6)
- Implement targeted inspiring and bi-directional communication. (S1, S2, S5, S6).

Connectional and Missional

- Assist in the development of new faith communities. (S1) (S3) (S4)
- Equip Target Audiences to create life-changing disciples for Jesus Christ. (S1)
- Create sustainable systems of listening and reaching out to build connections (S1) (S2) (S5) (S6)
- Create targeted, inspiring, and bi-directional communication (S2) (S5).

RESOURCES

- Extended Cabinet
- Board of Laity
- Finance & Administration
- Leadership Development
- Church Development