

COUNCIL ON INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

The Council on Intentional Discipleship (CID) is the Annual Conference’s equivalent structure to the Conference Board of Discipleship. Guidance for this committee is detailed in ¶630. This paragraph of the Discipline is comprehensive and extensive, but the CID does not intend to duplicate efforts where there are established ministries and Conference programs. Some of the suggested responsibilities of this committee are:

- To help congregations and districts communicate the “redeeming and reconciling love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ to persons of every age, ethnic background, and social condition; (¶630.1.a)”
- “To foster and promote a holistic approach to the development of Christian disciples (¶630.1.b).”
- “To recommend annually, in consultation with the Board of Ordained Ministry, to the conference and the bishop in charge the appointment of certain effective members of the conference as general evangelists... (¶ 630.3.f)”

There are many other responsibilities that cover everything from spiritual formation, children’s ministry, camping, and disabilities education. Where there are existing ministries in the INUMC to address these responsibilities, the CID will support and augment these efforts where possible. But where there are gaps in addressing these responsibilities, the CID will endeavor to equip the membership and congregations of the INUMC to contextually meet those needs with the love of Jesus Christ. The goal of these endeavors will be simple: *to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

In particular, questions that the CID will examine beginning in late 2023 will be:

- How can the INUMC provide more meaningful discipleship opportunities for populations that typically have been excluded or overlooked: persons with disabilities, those who are in elderly/assisted living facilities, neurodivergent persons, over-scheduled families, those struggling with addiction, ethnic and cultural minorities, etc.?
- How can the CID, in conjunction with ministry teams like Church Development, better assist the membership of the INUMC to become passionate evangelists who share the good news of Jesus Christ in meaningful and respectful ways?
- How can the CID, in conjunction with ministries like the Academy for Spiritual Formation, several certified and experienced Spiritual Directors and Coaches, proponents of Breakthrough Prayer, etc., better assist the membership of the INUMC to embrace regular and comprehensive spiritual formation practices as a piece of holistic discipleship?
- How can the CID, along with Leadership Development and Church Development, better assist the membership of the INUMC to make use of the multiple discipleship tools and approaches available to them: Disciples Made, Intentional Discipleship, Covenant Discipleship, the Real Discipleship Survey, etc.?
- What voices are not being heard when it comes to developing opportunities for people to become fully committed disciples of Jesus Christ?

In addition, the CID spent 2021-2022 making great strides to implement Intentional Discipleship and help congregations formulate a discipleship pathway. Beginning in 2023, the CID will evaluate what was successful in these efforts and determine what changes can be made to improve the effectiveness of this work.

Thank you to all of you who have served on this team, particularly to Rev. Joseph Seger, who has chaired this committee and will end his term this year. Thank you to those who continue to serve,

1 and who will be working on this team. If anyone is interested in contributing to the vision and
2 work of this committee, please reach out to Joel Troxell, Associate Director of Leadership
3 Development, at joel.troxell@inumc.org.

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5 *Council on Intentional Discipleship*

6 *Kate Biggs*

7 *Rev. Mindy Huffman*

8 *Rev. David Neuen*

9 *Rev. John Randall*

10 *Rev. Sheri Rohrer*

11 *Rev. Joseph Seger – Chair*

12 *Rev. Shannon Stringer – ex officio*

13 *Pastor Joel Troxell – ex officio*