

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In the Annual Conference year 2022-2023 our Leadership Development department focused on connect, innovate, and impact as key to effective leadership in our emerging post-pandemic season.

Leadership Development has responsibility with and provides staffing in the following areas:

- Camps and Outdoor Ministries – Nick Yarde
- Clergy Excellence – Rev Shannon Stringer
- Course of Study and License to Preach – Rev Dr. Britt Leslie & Rev Meg Lassiat
- Discipleship – Rev Joel Troxell
- Emerging Leaders – Emily Krach
- Lay Leadership Development/Board of Laity – Pastor Joel Troxell
- Ministerial Services/Board of Ordained Ministry – Michele Phillips & Luska Natali

Programs within our stewardship include Children Matter Most, Called to Fruitfulness, Residents in Ministry (RIM), Lay Servant Ministry and Certified Lay Ministry education, Course of Study, License to Preach, Student Leadership Academy, Loving, Leading and Learning with Bishop Trimble, Breakthrough Prayer Initiative, Growing Young, Coaching, and IMPACT2818 camps.

Children Matter Most, Board of Laity, Board of Ordained Ministry, Camps and Outdoor Ministry, Emerging Leaders, and Discipleship all have unique reports for AC2023.

We are committed to working to provide resources for you and your leaders. We work to understand your unique context and invite you to share with us where resources could help you achieve even greater ministry effectiveness.

### Conference Contributions

Leadership Development worked diligently this year to partner with other departments in the development of both programming and resources. The result of this work included bringing the Breakthrough Prayer initiative to our conference, focusing on caring for children across the state through the Children Matter Most All-IN! event, developing a plan for supporting Cross-Racial Cross-Cultural clergy and their families, and creating new opportunity for cultural fluency development through both License to Preach and Moving with a Missional Purpose.

Through the faithful tithing of many of our local churches, the ministry of developing leadership has blessed Christ-followers in all stages of discipleship development.

This includes:

- Sharing the love of Christ and encouraging a personal relationship with God to 1,807 students through IMPACT2818 camps
- 124 clergy continuing education grants.
- Support for 19 seminarians
- Partnering with 17 new candidates for ministry
- Training 11 candidates seeking local pastor licensing through License to Preach School and continuing the education of more than 59 licensed local pastors through our Indiana Course of Study
- Developing strong lay leadership by supporting our 29 Certified Lay Ministers (CLM) and supporting three new CLM candidates

- Offering Lay Servant Ministry classes in every district with more than 41 unique participants in total
- Connecting seven University of Indianapolis students with Camping Ministry service through summer Student Leadership Academy at Epworth Forest

In all, we dedicate more than 56% of Leadership Development’s annual budget to support of discipleship and laity development, with the remaining funds going to clergy resources.

### **Connectional Contributions**

As a part of the wider UMC connection, INUMC receives Ministerial Education Funds (MEF) from the general offices. These funds are administered through Leadership Development at the direction of the Board of Ordained Ministry. In the past year, these funds allowed us to provide clergy continuing education grants for a total assistance of \$69,876. We celebrate our clergy using these resources available to them. We celebrate our churches supporting their clergy in their work of intentional development.

MEF funds and endowed scholarship funds also allow us to provide financial support for student, including seminarians, graduate and undergraduate scholarships. Providing scholarships is a joint effort between our Conference and our United Methodist Foundation of Indiana (UMFI). Working together, we support current students with a wide range of scholarships. You can find more information about eligibility and application on their website: [www.umfindiana.org](http://www.umfindiana.org). In 2022, we funded 13 scholarships to seminary or other graduate students totaling \$57,416. In addition, we supported 11 undergraduate students with a total of \$16,423.

### **Thank you**

We thank you for your continued support of the work of Leadership Development, as it directly impacts our ability to offer Christ and walk alongside others as they learn how to respond to their own call to be a disciple for Christ.

If you have questions, want to be more involved with Leadership Development, or are looking for leadership resources, please reach out and let us know.

*Leadership Development Staff: Reverend Shannon Stringer, Pastor Joel Troxell, Emily Krach, Michele Phillips, Reverend Dr. Britt Leslie, Nick Yarde, Luska Natali, Katie Starks*

*Leadership Development Operational Team*

*Co-Chairs: Reverend Dr. Jeremiah Gibbs, Chris Kindlesparger*

*Members: Kim Arnott, Reverend Hyesook Kim, Reverend Amy Lee, Jim Smith, Reverend Brian Durand*