

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In the Annual Conference year 2023-2024 our Leadership Development department continued our focus 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 – Pastor 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 camping and retreat ministry.

Children Matter Most, Board of Laity, Board of Ordained Ministry, Camps and Outdoor Ministry, Emerging Leaders, and the Intentional Discipleship Committee all have unique reports for AC2024. Please refer to those reports for additional information.

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

Through the faithful tithe 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 1558 students and an additional 493 volunteers through IMPACT2818 camps
- Providing a camping experience for 188 campers at three camp locations for marginalized children through Royal Family Kids Camp.
- Partnering with 22 new candidates for ministry
- Training 15 candidates seeking local pastor licensing through License to Preach School and continuing the education of 60 licensed local pastors through our Indiana Course of Study
- Developing strong lay leadership by supporting our 22 Certified Lay Ministers (CLM) and supporting six new CLM candidates
- Offering Lay Servant Ministry classes in every district with more than 35 unique participants in total.

1 **Connectional Contributions**

2 As a part of the wider UMC connection, INUMC receives Ministerial Education Funds (MEF) from the general  
3 offices. These funds are administered through Leadership Development at the direction of the Board of  
4 Ordained Ministry. In the past year, these funds allowed us to provide clergy continuing education grants  
5 for a total assistance of \$63,389.27. This year the Board of Ordained Ministry raised the limit of accessible  
6 MEF monies for our clergy. Full Time clergy have access to \$750 annually. Part-time clergy have access to  
7 \$325 annually. Those actively engaged in pursuing Course of Study can apply twice a year for MEF.

8  
9 In addition, we supplied clergy renewal assistance to 18 clergy totaling \$18,987. We celebrate our clergy  
10 using resources available to them. We celebrate our churches supporting their clergy in their work of  
11 intentional development.

12  
13 In addition, MEF has been used to assist with cultural competency development. Through collaborative work  
14 between INUMC discipleship and diversity and inclusion leaders, new initiatives in retreats and continuing  
15 education for our cross-racial/cross-cultural clergy and their churches emerged this year. The success of these  
16 ventures is leading to more development for continued support.

17  
18 MEF funds and endowed scholarship funds also allow us to provide financial support for students, including  
19 seminarians, graduate, and undergraduate scholarships. Providing scholarships is a joint effort between our  
20 Conference and our United Methodist Foundation of Indiana (UMFI). Working together, we support current  
21 students with a wide range of scholarships. You can find more information about eligibility and application  
22 on their website: [www.umfindiana.org](http://www.umfindiana.org). In 2023, we funded 10 scholarships to seminary or other graduate  
23 students totaling \$68,500. In addition, we supported 4 undergraduate students with a total of \$15,348.79.  
24 We encourage you to share the availability of these scholarships that we might be able to bless more  
25 scholars.

26  
27 **Thank YOU**

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

31  
32 If you have questions, want to be more involved with Leadership Development, or are looking for leadership  
33 resources, please reach out and let us know.

34  
35 *Leadership Development Staff: Reverend Shannon Stringer, Pastor Joel Troxell, Emily Krach, Michele*  
36 *Phillips, Nick Yarde, Luska Natali, Katie Starks*

37 *Leadership Development Operational Team*

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

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