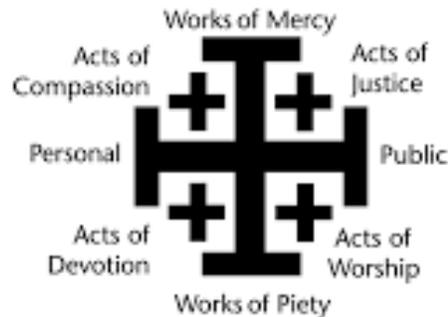


Intentional Discipleship –

THE GENERAL RULE OF DISCIPLESHIP

To witness to Jesus Christ in the world and to follow His teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Spirit.



The General Rule of Discipleship is an adaptation of Wesley's General Rules. (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church—2002, ¶ 1117.2)

Discipleship Journey:

- The “why” –
 - Mark 1:17 *Come, follow Me, He said, and I'll show you how to fish for people.*
 - Isaiah 42:5-7 *God the Lord says – the One who created the heavens, the One who stretched them out, the One who spread out the earth and its offspring, the One who gave breath to its people and life to those who walk on it – I, the Lord have called you for a good reason. I will grasp your hand and guard you, and give you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations, to open blind eyes, to lead the prisoners from prison, and those who sit in darkness from the dungeon.*
 - Luke 10:2-3 *The harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for His harvest. Go! Be warned, though, that I'm sending you out as lambs among wolves.*

- The “how” –
 - Matthew 28:19-20 *Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age.*
 - Psalm 25:4 – 5 *Make your ways known to me, Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth – teach it to me – because you are the God who saves me. I put my hope in you all day long.*

- The “what” –
 - Isaiah 42:6-7 *I, the Lord have called you for a good reason. I will grasp your hand and guard you, and give you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations, to open blind eyes, to lead the prisoners from prison, and those who sit in darkness from the dungeon.*
 - Matthew 9:36 *Now when Jesus saw the crowds, He had compassion for them because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*
 - Luke 4:18-19 *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to liberate the oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.*

- The “when” –
 - Isaiah 6:8 *Then I heard the Lord’s voice saying, ‘Whom should I send, and who will go for us?’ I said, ‘I’m here; send me’.*
 - Matthew 5:13-16 *You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? It’s good for nothing except to be thrown away and trampled under people’s feet. You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can’t be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.*

2 Books would be studied in the Discipleship Journey Class:

- *Disciple’s Path* by Jim Harnish
 - *Week 1: A Disciple’s Path Defined*
 - *What Does it Mean to Be a United Methodist?*
 - *What Is a Disciple’s Path?*
 - *Relationship Stages*
 - *God’s Role in Growing Your Faith*
 - *The Roles of the Church and Family in Growing Your Faith*
 - *Your Role in Growing Your Faith*
 - *Week 2: **Prayers:** Prayer and Scripture Meditation*
 - *What Is Prayer?*
 - *Three Prayer Methods*
 - *The Bible*
 - *The Wesleyan Quadrilateral*
 - *Bible Study and Reflection*
 - *Week 3: **Presence:** Corporate Worship and Small-group Community*
 - *There is No Solo Christianity*

- *Preparing for Worship*
 - *What Is Worship? How Do We Worship as United Methodist?*
 - *The Sacraments of Baptism and Communion*
 - *Discipleship Changes as You Grow*
 - *Week 4: **Gifts:** Financial Generosity*
 - *It's All God's!*
 - *The Tithe*
 - *Cheerful Giver*
 - *It's the Heart, Not the Size*
 - *10-10-80*
 - *Week 5: **Service:** Spiritual Gifts and Gifts-Based Service*
 - *Priesthood of All Believers*
 - *Spiritual Gifts*
 - *Servanthood*
 - *The Body of Christ and Ways of Serving*
 - *Divine Discontent*
 - *Week 6: **Witness:** Invitational Evangelism*
 - *What Is the Good News?*
 - *Who Was Your Andrew or Philip?*
 - *Your Story is Important!*
 - *How Will I Share My Story?*
 - *Do I Have a Witness?*
 - *A Final Day: A Time for Commitment*
- *Deepening Your Effectiveness – Restructuring the Local Church for Life Transformation, Dan Glover & Claudia Lavy*
 - *Chapter 1: The Ocean Diagram*
 - *Chapter 2: Stage 1: Life on the Beach*
 - *Chapter 3: Stage 2: Life on the Shoreline*
 - *Chapter 4: Stage 3: Life in the Waves*
 - *Chapter 5: Stage 4: Life When Your Feet Come Off the Bottom*
 - *Chapter 6: Stage 5: Life Beyond the Breakers*
 - *Chapter 7: Stage 6: Life in the Deep*
 - *Chapter 8: The Discipleship Pathway*
 - *Chapter 9: Invitational Discipleship*
 - *Chapter 10: Orientation*
 - *Chapter 11: Instructional Discipleship*
 - *Chapter 12: Relational Discipleship*
 - *Chapter 13: Servant Discipleship*
- According to the book, *Deepening Your Effectiveness*, what stage are you currently in?

- One year from today, which stage do you desire to be in?
- Five years from today, which stage do you desire to be in?

Being intentional in my discipleship journey, I commit to participating in the life of the church:

Praying Daily for the Church and its Ministries	
Attending Worship	
Giving Generously	
Serving My Community and Beyond	
Giving Witness to My Faith by Words and Deeds	