



Northwestern Ohio Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

DISCIPLESHIP AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN THE NWOS

Where are we going as a synod? Congregations transforming into centers of discipleship

Challenge: What's the difference between a church member and disciple of Christ?

Matthew 28:18-20 - The Great Commission:

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Where do you begin?

Year 1: Leadership Development, Bible Study, develop the same language through which to live and learn as a community; have crucial, hard conversations.

Read and study the Book of Acts – catch the Spirit of the first church

- ***From Members to Disciples: Leadership Lessons from the Book of Acts***, Michael Foss, 2007

Read and study a book on being and making disciples. One suggestion: ***Building a Discipling Culture***, Mike Breen and the 3DM Team, 2011

- Model built on Jesus's rhythm of life and how he made disciples; takes seriously the Great Commission
- "If you make disciples, you always get the Church. But if you make a church, you rarely get disciples." Mike Breen

Year 2: Leaders begin mentoring new leaders/disciples making disciples; develop and begin short-term mission strategy

Year 3: Focus on second generation leaders and disciples; implement mission and begin developing a vision and strategy for the future

Prayer Resources: Nehemiah Bible Study, Grounded in Prayer by Brent W. Dahlseng

Scripture Resources: Sermon on the Mount Bible Study, Read the Bible in a Year; Monthly Bible Study/Devotions

Compelling Mission Resources: Acts Bible Study, A Field Guide for the Missional Congregation, Richard Rouse & Craig Van Gelder

2021 Year of Generosity: check out resources at www.nwos-elca.org

DISCIPLESHIP MOVEMENT IN THIS SYNOD

Where God is calling us and what God is calling us to do through the crucified and risen Christ:

Equip Leaders for Ministry - Ephesians 4:11-12

(Paul) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Develop Disciples - Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Vitalize Parishes for Outreach - Acts 1:8

(Jesus) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Nurture New Communities for Transformation & Renewal – Romans 15:20-21

(Paul) "Thus I make it my ambition to proclaim the good news, not where Christ has already been named, so that I do not build on someone else's foundation, but as it is written, 'Those who have never been told of him shall see, and those who have never heard of him shall understand.'"