



CHIMES: SPECIAL EDITION

Central United Methodist Church

*Connecting with God,
Connecting with Others,
Changing our World with Christ's Love*

September
18, 2016

Connecting with God

- * Worship
- * Faith Formation
- * Central Connect Groups
- * Spiritual Practices (such as prayer, reading the Bible, simplicity, etc.)
- * Sharing our stories
- * Leadership

Connecting with Others

- * Central Connect Groups
- * Events with Community
- * Hospitality
- * Sharing our stories
- * Age Related Ministries
- * Leadership
- * Invitation
- * Trunk or Treat

Changing Our World with Christ's Love

- * Local & Global Missions
- * Service Project
- * FISH Food Pantry
- * Good Sam Financial Assistance Program
- * Social Justice & Action
- * Generosity
- * Sharing our stories

My family went camping at the end of August with friends who have two children ages 3 and 6. At the beginning of the weekend neither of them could ride a bike. At the end of the weekend they were both riding a bicycle (with no training wheels)! What did it take? Hard work, determination, patience, willingness to get back up after falling down, a few bumps, scrapes, and bruises, and dedication. Over the last 9 months a team of dedicated, hard working, determined, and patient people prayed, researched, wrestled, brainstormed, created, and crafted a Faith Growth Pathway as a guide to provide an intentional pathway for the faith journey. We worked with a talented graphic designer who took our vision and created a stunning visual. Each individual circle in the visual pathway has an icon. Take notice as you will begin to see these icons to help connect many of the ministries of the church back to the Faith Growth Pathway.

We encourage you to attend worship on Sunday, September 18th at 8:30am or 9:55am to learn more about the Faith Growth Pathway and find out how it can be a guide for you on your faith journey. Please also feel free to contact any of the members of the team if you have questions or want to learn more.

With you on the journey,

The Faith Growth Pathway Team:

Gordy Gillette
Kristen Gillette
Andy Gustafson
Pam Gustafson
Andy Henwood

Sarah Klein
Vanessa Marks
Rev. Rich Peacock
Rev. Kathy Pittenger
Myke Robson

Connecting with God

Personal Spiritual Practices

Planting

I am learning about daily devotions and praying to find those that I want to practice.
I read the Bible from time to time.

Nurturing

I am practicing some spiritual devotions occasionally, including reading from the Bible.
I am learning about STER (Scripture, Tradition, Experience, Reason)

Shaping

I am using spiritual devotions regularly.
I also use other resources to understand the Bible at times.
I use STER to make decisions.

Sharing

I am revising my spiritual practices.
I can share with others how I connect with God through spiritual practices.

In Community

I attend worship at least once a month.
I say the Lord's Prayer during worship, grace before meals and prayers in the morning and/or at bedtime.

I attend worship on Sunday mornings at least twice a month.
I share Biblical and/or Christian stories with my family/friends.

I participate in worship every week unless sick or out of town.
I participate in faith formation opportunities.

I provide worship leadership and/or other service on Sundays.
I help organize faith formation opportunities.

Connecting with Others

Individually

Planting

I aim to accept others, including those whose color, status, etc. are different from mine.

Nurturing

I go out of my way to be hospitable to members and guests in our church.

Shaping

I listen and try to help others with their spiritual questions, joys, and concerns.
I share my faith through personal testimony/story.

Sharing

I invite others to worship and church events.
I share my faith with others through invitation and witness.

In Community

I participate in a Central Connect Group for faith formation and/or spiritual growth.

I participate in a class about the Bible, church history, spiritual practices, basic theology, ethics, etc.

I am deepening my Biblical literacy.
I am open to being trained in church leadership.

I am a leader in a Central Connect Group.
I am open to training others for leadership in church administration, education, etc.

Changing Our World with Christ's Love

Generosity of Time, Talents, and/or
Financial Gifts (TTFG)

In Community
(Evangelism, Mission Trips,
Service Projects, Social Action)

Planting

I like to hear how my church meets the needs in the community.
I like to hear stories from others about how they have been changed by either giving or receiving.
I contribute with some Sunday offerings, at Christmas and Easter.

Nurturing

I commit to share my TTFG regularly.
I help a neighbor or a charity with my TTFG occasionally.
I can share a story about my TTFG.

Shaping

I make an annual commitment and give in proportion to my income.
I share my TTFG regularly.
I am a member of a church committee or team.

Sharing

I make an annual commitment and give in proportion to my income at a tithe (10%) and beyond.
I share my TTFG regularly.
I am inviting others to be a member of a church committee or team.

I learn from the church about caring for others in the community.
I help in the community in the fields of arts, academics, athletics, politics, charity, etc.
I am learning how to apply Christian ethics and faith in my work world.

I participate in community service through church ministries occasionally.
I am learning how to apply Christian ethics and faith to local and political issues.

I participate in community service through church ministries regularly.
I invite others to try a variety of serving opportunities outside the church.
I assist the church to advocate for peace and justice for all.

I participate in ongoing service beyond the walls of the church including short-term mission experiences.
I recruit and equip leaders for ministries and missions.
I participate in a community peace and justice group.

Want a Deeper Faith But Not Sure Where to Start?

The team that created the Faith Growth Pathway will be hosting "FGP Beta Groups" of people who are eager to deepen their faith using this pathway. The "FGP Beta Groups" will meet in October and then the group will decide how often they want to meet for support and accountability (generally every 4-8 weeks). If you are interested in finding out more about the "FGP Beta Groups" or you just want to know more about the Faith Growth Pathway, please contact anyone on the team or call the church office.

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