

Making Disciples Project

(Ordination requirement-2020.2024 BOD ¶335.7) “...presented a project that demonstrates fruitfulness in carrying out the church’s mission of “Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”.

To further this mission, as candidates for ordination in the Dakotas Conference you are being asked to report on a significant disciple making initiative you have led during your time as a Provisional Member of the Dakotas Conference. Please consider the questions you will be asked to respond to in your report prior to selecting a specific initiative, keeping in mind the assessed needs of those within the area of your unique ministry setting. This report should be no fewer than five (5) pages long double-spaced.

The following are suggested project possibilities, but you are free to choose any project that you have already initiated or will be initiated during your provisional residency period:

- Launching a new worship service.
- Starting a new church or satellite ministry.
- Launching a major outreach project to address a social justice issue.
- Beginning a small group ministry to reach un-churched people.
- Leading a mission trip.
- Leading a long-term Bible study, targeting a new population.
- Starting a new member class where people were intentionally led to a profession of their faith and were integrated into the life and work of the congregation.
- Leading a confirmation class from start to finish.
- Directing a major musical or theatrical production in which the public were invited to participate.
- Starting a new music ensemble for potential new Christians.
- Leading a small group or team to deepen their spiritual development so as to nurture and grow others in their discipleship.

The report should share responses to the following questions and statements:

- **What is your understanding of making disciples for Jesus Christ?** (Answer this question using Biblical references and personal reflection.)
- **Describe the specific initiative you led during your provisional residency in which you were intentional about making disciples.**
- **Why did you decide to initiate this ministry?** Keep in mind the following questions in your response: What was the vision for this initiative? How did you determine and communicate the vision? How does this ministry help make disciples of Jesus Christ?
- **What was your role in this ministry?** How did you engage new leaders in the initiative? How did you train and equip them? How did you celebrate the successes and debrief the mistakes? How did you and your leaders grow as disciples and in your ability to make disciples?
- **What was your budget for this initiative? How did you fund this ministry?**

- **Describe how you reached out to the community, and especially to people not currently involved in a faith community.** What worked well and what did not? What would you do differently next time?
- **Provide specific examples of fruitfulness for this initiative, such as:** How many new disciples were made? How many professions of faith occurred because of this ministry? How is this ministry being sustained today? How did those participants grow in their discipleship?
- **What did you learn overall from this initiative about making disciples?** What specifically would you do differently if you were to teach or lead this again?
- **How did you care for yourself during the project?** How did you grow spiritually? How are you a different disciple now than you were before?
- **Include evaluations from the following persons on your leadership in this project and the impact it had on the church's ability to improve its mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ:**
 - Your supervisor.
 - An additional person, such as the chairperson of the Administrative Council or SPRC.
 - A participant in this Making Disciples Project.