

The Commitment of Institute for Discipleship

Greetings, friend!

In line with the strategic plan implemented in July 2025, The Institute for Discipleship is dedicated to providing Christian resources and education that build disciples and strengthen ministries.

Across the three areas of the Institute, campus programs support the work of Southwestern College through faith, ministry, and education-enhancing projects. The BeADisciple Study App overcomes the hurdles of schedule and distance, opening the way for participants to hear God's call through Scripture and form intimate connections through online meetings and 24/7 interactive technology. The online, computer-based courses found at BeADisciple.com offer opportunities for church and ministry leaders to gain skills and confidence as they engage with knowledgeable instructors and ministry-minded peers.



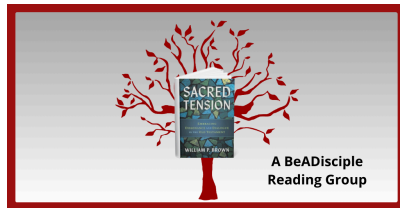
This newsletter shares information about upcoming courses at BeADisciple.com – if you're new, welcome! And if you've been a fan of our courses for a while, we appreciate you.

In the coming days of Holy Week and the celebration of Easter, from the IFD staff to you, may God's peace be with you.

Lori Richey

P.S. Could your church invest in the lives of children and young adults this summer? Find out more about hosting Project Transformation at your church by clicking below.

Project Transformation



Join Our New Reading Group: 'Sacred Tension'

This six-week course is for those who want to read William P. Brown's book *Sacred Tension: Embracing Dissonance and Dialogue in the Old Testament* in community with long-time BeADisciple instructor Rev. Beth Perry and other learners. The course will provide a schedule for reading the book so you can read and reflect on the material throughout the week, then share your reflections with others through Discussion Board posts. Starts April 6 - click [here](#) for more information.

Check Out the Group

We Still Need Your Help!

Personal connection is the BEST way to engage others in the resources available at BeADisciple. If you'll be attending your upcoming Annual Conference gathering this spring or summer, have taken at least one course with us in the last couple years, and are willing to wear an "Ask Me About BeADisciple" button and hand out flyers, we need your help! Please let us know by filling out the form at [this link](#). Once we receive your interest form, you'll receive an invitation to a brief Zoom training session to give a sneak peak of the materials we'll send, along with an opportunity to ask questions.



A big shout out to those who have already agreed to spread the good word about BeADisciple from the following conferences. We appreciate you! Representatives have volunteered from Missouri, North Alabama, North Carolina, New York, West Ohio, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Western Pennsylvania.

Enroll in Upcoming Lay Servant Ministry Courses

Each of these courses has been approved by Discipleship Ministries as an advanced Lay Servant Ministries course, but enrollment is not limited to those needing LSM credit. All learners are welcome.

Beginning April 6

Embracing Personal Prayer

Called to Preach (Friday Zoom)

Called to Preach (Saturday Zoom)

Beginning April 13

Leading Public Prayer

Class Leaders: Recovering a Tradition

Loving People and Planet in the Name of God

Beginning April 20

Afire With God: Becoming Spirited Stewards

Leading Worship (Friday Zoom)

Beginning April 27

Leading Missional Small Groups

Life Together in the United Methodist Connection

Beginning May 4

From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon (Friday Zoom)

From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon (Saturday Zoom)

Lay Pastoral Caregiving

Leading Bible Study: Biblical Interpretation

Beginning May 11

For the Common Good: Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts

Earn. Save. Give.

Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices

Beginning May 18

Teaching Sacred Tension in Local Congregations

Come to the Waters

Living Our United Methodist Beliefs

Certified Lay Ministry Courses Continue

If you are seeking certification as a **Certified Lay Minister** in the United Methodist church, check out these upcoming dates. Be sure to read the **CLM page** for pre-course requirements, which include passwords for the advanced modules.

These CLM Modules are enrolling now:

CLM Module 1: Call and Covenant for Ministry (April 27 - May 10)

CLM Module 2: The Practice of Ministry (May 18 - June 7)

CLM Module 3: Organization for Ministry (April 27 - May 10)

CLM Module 4: Connection for Ministry (April 20 - May 3)

Wesley Academy Offers Theologically Rich Courses

The Wesley Academy for Advanced Christian Studies — created in partnership with Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. — has created courses and educational materials that are theologically rich and deep. Anyone — lay or clergy — can enroll in any of the courses available from the Wesley Academy, and if desired, can earn a certification in Advanced Christian Studies. For more information, click **here**.

These Wesley Academy courses begin soon and are enrolling now:

April 6 - May 29: Journey Through the Psalms

April 20 - June 12: Methodist Identity: Our Beliefs

May 4 - July 3: Religion and Science: Pathways to Truth

May 11 - July 17: N.T. Wright's Simply Christian

May 18 - June 26: Leading Like Nehemiah

See All Courses Enrolling

BeADisciple.com

Wesley Academy

CLM Modules

LSM Courses



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