

The Bulletin

Join us as 100 percent of our congregations become 100 percent vital and thriving

Bishop explores theology of home

“When I look at Scripture, when I look at the canon, from Genesis to Revelation, I can’t see anything except liberation.” – Bishop LaTrelle Easterling

On the first Thursday of the month, Bishop LaTrelle Easterling talks with spiritual thought-leaders about “some of the deepest things they know” in her podcast, Thursdays at the Table.

“The future for me lies in the questions, not the answers,” said the bishop. In September, she lifts up a number of provocative questions that she explores with her guest, the Rev. Dr. Willie Jennings. Jennings is a theologian who is seeking to creatively reimagine people’s thoughts on race and cultural identity.

In this conversation, the bishop and Jennings unpack ideas about whiteness as a way of being in the world, about the importance of learning one another’s stories, and what it means to open oneself to the work of the Holy Spirit.

Explore more about how the struggle for justice is merging with radical hospitality to create a church and world filled with hope, surprise, and very good news in this month’s Thursdays at the Table podcast at www.pdcbbc.org/thursdays-at-the-table.html.



We are called to live a vital faith

Every United Methodist church in this region has been challenged to become 100 percent vital, embracing the four pillars of Seeing All the People, Deepening Discipleship, Living and Loving Like Jesus and Multiplying one’s Impact.



See all the people

Vitality can often mean broadening one’s faith and stepping out beyond the well-defined traditions to imagine and embrace new relationships and partnerships with those outside the church walls. Seeing All the People drives us to build authentic relationships that create belonging as everyone feels known and valued as children of God.

When we listen with love in our hearts to the community’s voice -- one conversation at a time -- especially with those on the margins, the Holy Spirit changes us and inspires us. Discipleship begins with relationship, and relationship begins with seeing – with the heart – all the people in our churches and beyond.

As your church grows in vitality, consider:

The author Victor Hugo wrote, “To love another person is to see the face of God.” How will you reach out this week, to someone new and listen to their story? How is “seeing all the people” an essential part of your faith?



Budgets tell God's generous story

United Methodists are connectional – we know God can do more through us serving together. Our connection includes our budgets – living statements of the way we choose to use the financial gifts that God provides to serve our congregations, communities, and the world.

In the fall, your church sets its budget for the coming year. A portion of the money collected will go to support mission and ministry beyond the local church in regional, national and international arenas. These mission shares, sometimes called apportionments, empower us to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

Did you know that when you give, you support an extraordinary range of ministry. Your generosity will, among many other things:



and inspire and equip local faith communities to offer the hope of Christ.