

CALLED TO FRUITFULNESS



Purpose

Called to Fruitfulness honors those who have been Ordained in the United Methodist Church to a lifetime service in ministry. Called to Fruitfulness provides professional development for clergy in the Indiana Conference to better equip them to become “fruitful leaders who lead vibrant congregations that will transform their mission field and the world.”

When successful, Called to Fruitfulness will accomplish these two focuses:

- Participants will be (holy and wholly) engaged so that they will be cultivated to bear fruit in their ministries;
- The Indiana Conference will honor clergy so that they will be cultivated for fruitfulness in ministry.

Process

Clergy are invited to participate in an eight-month process of personal and professional assessment on the anniversary of their full connection ordination in five-year intervals. This process will cultivate a culture of affirmation for responding to the call and an eagerness to continue to be developed, which includes four integrated phases:

1. Recognition

- The Bishop will write a letter of personal invitation to those recognized as part of the Called to Fruitfulness class to participate;
- The Bishop along with Leadership Development will recognize all anniversaries that fall within the scope of Called to Fruitfulness as part of the Annual Conference report, and at Clergy Covenant Day.

2. Renewal & Reflection

- Two (2) two-day retreats to reflect on previous work, training and development, and renewal of call;
- One (1) one day session set apart for further development;
- The Bishop’s proclamation to congregations to formalize the recognition and the clergyperson’s participation in Called to Fruitfulness.

3. Resourcing & Alignment

- A commitment to review personality traits, performance reviews, and create new goals to be lived out.

4. Rejoicing

- A worship celebration at Clergy Covenant Day, affirming those who have participated and successfully completed Called to Fruitfulness;
- Several opportunities will be given for those who participate to provide a statement of support for the work and process of Called to Fruitfulness.