

Congregational “Net-Works”

Disciples are charged with casting nets for Christ. As “fishers of people” we are also charged with keeping our nets in order; at times our nets need mending. We are not in this alone; others have this task in communities throughout the mission center and we are connected by a web of fellowship, a network of relationship and covenant.

In an effort to better serve the congregations of the Inland West USA Mission Center we will be offering workshops and fellowship opportunities to different groupings of congregations or “Net-Works.” (For travel convenience as well as cultural similarities these Net-Works, in most cases, fall within old district boundaries.)

One Day Workshops in the Works

1. **Preaching** – John VanDerWalker and Jo Ann Fisher
Based on Fred Craddock’s book *Preaching*, this workshop will utilize a series of videos featuring Professor Craddock. Class participants will receive hands on opportunities and instruction for preaching from scriptural text. The spiritual discipline of sermon preparation and scholarly approach to sound exegetical processes will be taught. This class is suitable for anyone who is called on to preach.
2. **Aaronic Pastoral Care Ministry** – John VanDerWalker
This is a Temple School class that has been developed into a Power Point presentation which leads participants through the development of a theological grounding for pastoral care. This class can be taken for credit.
3. **Generosity, Our Response to God’s Grace** – John VanDerWalker
Although this class is still in the formative stages, the planned focus will be on how our response to God’s generosity is discipleship at the core, and the fact that as our discipleship deepens our generosity expands into the lives of others.
4. **Congregation witnessing** – Frank Young
This class will address the following:
 - a. How we can develop a witnessing culture.
 - b. A review of the *Core Values* of the Community of Christ.
 - c. Aid in identifying the strengths and weaknesses of congregations to better equip them for witnessing
5. **Church Planting** – Frank Young
This class will address the following:
 - a. Exploration of church planting concepts and why we do church planting.
 - b. Exploration of the prospect for a new church plant.
 - c. The “How to” of Church Planting.
6. **Children and Youth Friendly Congregations** – Jo Ann Fisher
How can congregations engage children and youth? This class is appropriate for priesthood, congregational leaders and all interested in working with children or youth. The class takes a very practical and honest look at how to integrate children and youth into congregational life
7. **Legal Issues And The Church . . . What Do When** – Jo Ann Fisher
In this workshop we discuss procedural guidelines for situations that could, and have, occurred in congregations. We will also discuss clergy self-care and how to find support for yourself and others through the legal process.
8. **Primary Camp How To** – Jo Ann Fisher
This course is suitable for anyone interested in working with or establishing a weekend camp for children aged 6 - 8. Questions on how to select a staff and location for the camp will be addressed. We will then review a three year curriculum. **Everything** for setting up a primary camp is included.
9. **TE 231 An Old Path Made New**- Dave Long
This Temple School class discusses the theology of stewardship, a historical overview, recent concepts of stewardship, Liturgy of Abundance and the myth of scarcity and, finally, “freely you have received, freely give.”