

The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 1A

In order to address **the lack of clarity surrounding the essential elements of discipleship** as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church **reclaim our Wesleyan core of deep relationship and connection to the broader church, evangelism, and service through our means of grace.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 1A

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will **have a culture of call that is vibrant, multilayered, with both clergy and laity. We would be seeing our church growing with a unified vision of discipleship. We would see a church that is focused on making disciples, not members.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 1B

In order to address ...

The gap in creating meaningful relationships and opportunities for leadership, spiritual formation and flourishing between generations, at various levels of the church and outside of the church...

as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church...

Accompany younger generations (inside and outside the church) in the power of the Holy Spirit toward their emotional, spiritual, and physical flourishing grounded in Jesus.



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 1B

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will... *be a more Christ-like people, a more faithful church, and a more flourishing world through...*

- **New Pathways of Leadership** - Balancing a reduction of bureaucracy and maintaining accountability.
- **Participation at all levels** - Younger Generations participate at all levels in the church.
- **Spiritual Disciplines** - known for our spiritual disciplines being both “being” and “doing.”
- **Reverse Mentorships** - Younger generations mentoring the older generations.



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 1B

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will... *be a more Christ-like people, a more faithful church, and a more flourishing world through...*

- **More Wesleyan Monasteries** - Intentional communities that equip individuals for community engagement and spiritual formation.
- **Social Movement Chaplains** - That provide accompaniment to communities outside of the church.
- **Intentionally Listening To All Voices** - Worldwide
- Focus of resources to everything named above.
- Goal of 3.5% of people in all areas engaged in all the work above.



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 1C

In order to address **the need to be in full connection and relationship with all people, sustain one another, and mitigate harm** as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church **create multiple immersive formation that model the life and ministry of Jesus Christ; such as young adult connection gatherings, virtual reality models, and cross cultural and multi accessibility experiences with the expectation of strengthening equitable connection and intercultural competence.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 1C

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will **look diverse, feel like belonging, smell like a shared table, taste like the richness of different cultures, and sound like many generations learning from one another.**



The One Recommendation Covenant Group: 2A

In order to address **the stagnation and rigid complacency in our current structure and discipleship models** as our Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church **For the Council of Bishops to champion a pilot program where the churches, ministries, and conference entities of at least one Annual Conference in each region is invited to design and implement at least one creative venture relating to any of the following: innovative children and youth discipleship, intentional bi-vocational ministry, and redesigned models of theological or administrative formation.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 2A

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will **be a relevant and adaptable movement with an empowered laity who prioritizes future generations to carry out the vision of making disciples of Jesus Christ.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 2B

In order to address **"the current leadership structure of the United Methodist Church is not equitable across the connection, and we have been and are apathetic to the ramifications of this reality"** as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that the United Methodist Church **invest in a system of empowerment and mentorship that encompasses redistribution of resources, culture of call, and leadership development.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 2B

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that the UMC in 2050 will **be a thriving, grace-centered, equitable, and just church faithfully planning for the next seven generations, and fully represented by empowered and diverse young leaders from across our local communities and worldwide connections.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 2C

In order to address the worldwide UMC is disconnected and focused on saving itself and needs to serve a hurting world as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church recommit to “the world as our Parish” through forming and nurturing Christ-like leaders who intentionally build global relationships and holistically share resources.



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 2C

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will.....

be a globally connected Church that is leading in serving a hurting world



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 3A

In order to address **and deconstruct the harmful injustices of colonization** as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church **embraces new forms of communal discipleship that relinquishes structures, assets, buildings systems and cultures in order to co create with the neighbors Jesus called us into ministry with across the world.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 3A

In 2050, the UMC as grounded in the love and teaching of the living Christ will have established itself as a radical change maker and loving neighbor so that people will know the fullness of their sacred worth and embody a resilient discipleship that cares for creation and community.



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 3B

In order to address because there are several interconnected global crises posing significant threat to life globally, young people are experiencing collapse awareness and widespread hopelessness. The local church has not historically addressed these issues with urgency so young people are left alone to cope with these inside and outside of the church as a Named Reality....



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 3B

....our Covenant Group recommends that The UMC **each region supports 10 new locally rooted circles that engage young people in responding to the global crises confronting humanity. These circles are Christ-centered and grounded in spiritual practices that support grief, action, courage, and repair.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 3B

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will..... **Have reformed itself into a network of people who are known for acts of care and solidarity that assist people to navigate a collapsing world with younger generations in the lead.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 3C

In order to address “**an impactful church holds evangelism, discipleship, and justice together**” as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church **provide contextual resources for evangelism and discipleship that will encourage local churches to identify and empower lay people, cultivate their call, give them permission, and to reach others for Christ**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 3C

If this one recommendation is begun,
we believe that The UMC in 2050
will.....

**exist and thrive, de-centering
clergy to focus on lay-led ministry**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 4A

In order to address **the ways we are funding maintenance more than mission, in isolation for the means of survival** as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church practice **Creative Collaboration for the Sake of the Mission.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 4A

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will.....**be a healthy, sustainable, and truly missionary movement, so intentionally connectional, radically inclusive, and responsive to its communities that it becomes a captivating means of grace, unrecognizable to the church it is today yet unmistakably faithful to its Wesleyan call.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 4B:

In order to address the fact that **we misallocated resources by overfunding maintenance and underfunding innovative ministries for younger generations and marginalized communities** as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church:

- **Acknowledge that we have not always been faithful stewards of the gifts that have been entrusted to us**
- **Repent and move forward from these wrongdoings.**
- **Create contextually relevant and appropriate tools and focusing questions to steward resources in service of our vision at all levels of our church.**

So that our resources are liberated from institutional preservation toward an intergenerational worldwide church that loves boldly, serves joyfully, and leads courageously.



The One Recommendation – Future work Covenant Group: 4B: Stewardship Younger Generation

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will **be a united, diverse, intergenerational church of deeply formed disciples.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 4C

In order to address the unfaithful stewardship of our story, organization, and God's resources, we recommend that The United Methodist Church continuously reimagine our structures and resources to align with our Wesleyan identity and God's mission, in a changing, diverse worldwide context.



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 4C

We believe this recommendation will ensure that in 2050, The UMC will **be nimble enough, resourced enough, and courageous enough** to meet the world's deepest needs and to participate in the ongoing work of God, with love and joy.



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 5A

In order to address the reality that we have not lived into our baptismal vows to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in all the ways that it presents itself and our current structure does not meet the needs of the emerging worldwide church. As a result the training, development, and sustainability of ministry leadership has been neglected as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church Reexamine, reclaim, and recommit to living out our baptismal vow as the primary vow and centralizing relationships and worldwide connections. This may look like restructuring and developing ministry leadership, small group worldwide covenant groups, baptismal vow pilgrimages and be adapted in contextualized ways.



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 5A

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will....
be better connected, not centralizing the United States, and live into Beloved community, and live as active witnesses.



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 5B

In order to address the need for young people to be connected to each other and the Church as well as the exclusion of younger generations from meaningful leadership and decision-making spaces as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church allocates significant church resources, spaces, and opportunities to impact the life of people under 18.



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 5B

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will **be a more inclusive, equitable and Christ-centered worldwide connection where all generations belong, lead and live out the gospel together.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: 5C

In order to address **Equity under pressure: authoritarianism, tribalism, far-right movements, economic inequality, racism, discrimination, sexism, etc.** as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church **create a short liturgical prayer, to be prayed monthly in every UMC around the world, that invites reflection and confession over the thoughts and behaviors that makes authoritarianism, racism, and tribalism possible. The UMC would develop supporting resources for local churches.**



The One Recommendation – Future work

Covenant Group: 5C

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will..... **Is known globally as a church that resists evil, injustice, and oppression in all forms that they present themselves.**



The One Recommendation

Covenant Group: Virtual

In order to address the concern of limited churches in the urban areas and losing members leaving rural churches for cities as a Named Reality, our Covenant Group recommends that The United Methodist Church build a strategy for urban church planting while strengthening our rural roots:

- Link rural and urban congregations
- Plant city and campus ministries
- Equip young adults to lead
- Include Deaf people and people with disabilities fully



The One Recommendation – Future work Covenant Group: Virtual

If this one recommendation is begun, we believe that The UMC in 2050 will.....be known by its people, not its buildings: a diverse, connected church where people find refuge and are sent with purpose.

