

## Family Ministries Planning Grid

As you plan your ministry with your family ministry team, it is important to identify the results you hope to see and the strategies that will help you achieve those results. Below is some detailed information and a planning grid that will help you with this process.

You may use the following grid or develop your own as you seek to live into the mission of the United Methodist Church as stated in ¶122 of *The Book of Discipline*:

We make disciples as we:

- proclaim the gospel, seek, welcome and gather persons into the body of Christ;
- lead persons to commit their lives to God through baptism by water and the spirit and profession of faith in Jesus Christ;
- nurture persons in Christian living through worship, the sacraments, spiritual disciplines, and other means of grace, such as Wesley’s Christian conferencing;
- send persons into the world to live lovingly and justly as servants of Christ by healing the sick, feeding the hungry, caring for the stranger, freeing the oppressed, being and becoming a compassionate, caring presence, and working to develop social structures that are consistent with the gospel; and
- continue the mission of seeking, welcoming and gathering persons into the community of the body of Christ.

To better remember and understand the core process as written in ¶122, think in terms of **H.O.P.E.**—**H**ospitality, **O**ffer Christ, **P**urpose, and **E**ngagement.

**H**—Hospitality: How will your ministry proclaim the gospel, seek, welcome, and gather people into the body of Christ?

**O**—Offer Christ: How will you lead people to commit their lives to God through baptism by water and the spirit and profession of faith in Jesus Christ?

**P**—Purpose: How will you nurture people in Christian living through worship, the sacraments, spiritual disciplines, and other means of grace, such as Wesley’s Christian conferencing?

**E**—Engagement: How will you send people into the world to live lovingly and justly as servants of Christ by healing the sick, feeding the hungry, caring for the stranger, freeing the oppressed, being and becoming a compassionate, caring presence, and working to develop social structures that are consistent with the gospel?

The grid on page 2 is designed to help you with this process.

<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>Offer Christ</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Engagement</b>
<p>Example: When we offer hospitality to visitors . . .</p> <p>Result: . . . families feel welcome, and they participate in worship</p> <p>Plans: 1. We will train greeters every six months to be welcoming to families. 2. We will invite persons of all ages to lead in worship</p>	<p>Example: When we share Christ's love with families in our community . . .</p> <p>Result: . . . families increase participation in church and feel welcome in the faith community</p> <p>Plans: 1. We will host a weekly community meal 2. We will host a weekly tutoring program</p>	<p>Example: When we nurture persons in Christian living . . .</p> <p>Result: . . . families attend worship more regularly and seek ways to deepen faith at home</p> <p>Plans: 1. We will hold a worshiping-together seminar for families with toddlers 2. We will host a weekly family play group at the church 3. We will call families with new babies</p>	<p>Example: When we engage families in ministry outside the church walls . . .</p> <p>Result: . . . families develop deeper commitment to serving others and respond through increased outreach</p> <p>Plans: 1. We will host an intergenerational outreach ministry project each month 2. We will connect with our local elementary school and find ways to offer help and support</p>

<b>Offer Hospitality</b>	<b>Provide Opportunity</b>	<b>Develop Purpose</b>	<b>Work toward Engagement</b>
<p>We will offer hospitality to [audience/community]</p> <p>With this desired Result:</p> <p>Using these Plans and Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>	<p>We will offer Christ to [audience/community]</p> <p>With this desired Result:</p> <p>Using these Plans and Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>	<p>We will nurture [audience/community]</p> <p>With this desired Result:</p> <p>Using these Plans and Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>	<p>We will engage families in ministry outside the church walls</p> <p>With this desired Result:</p> <p>Using these Plans and Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>