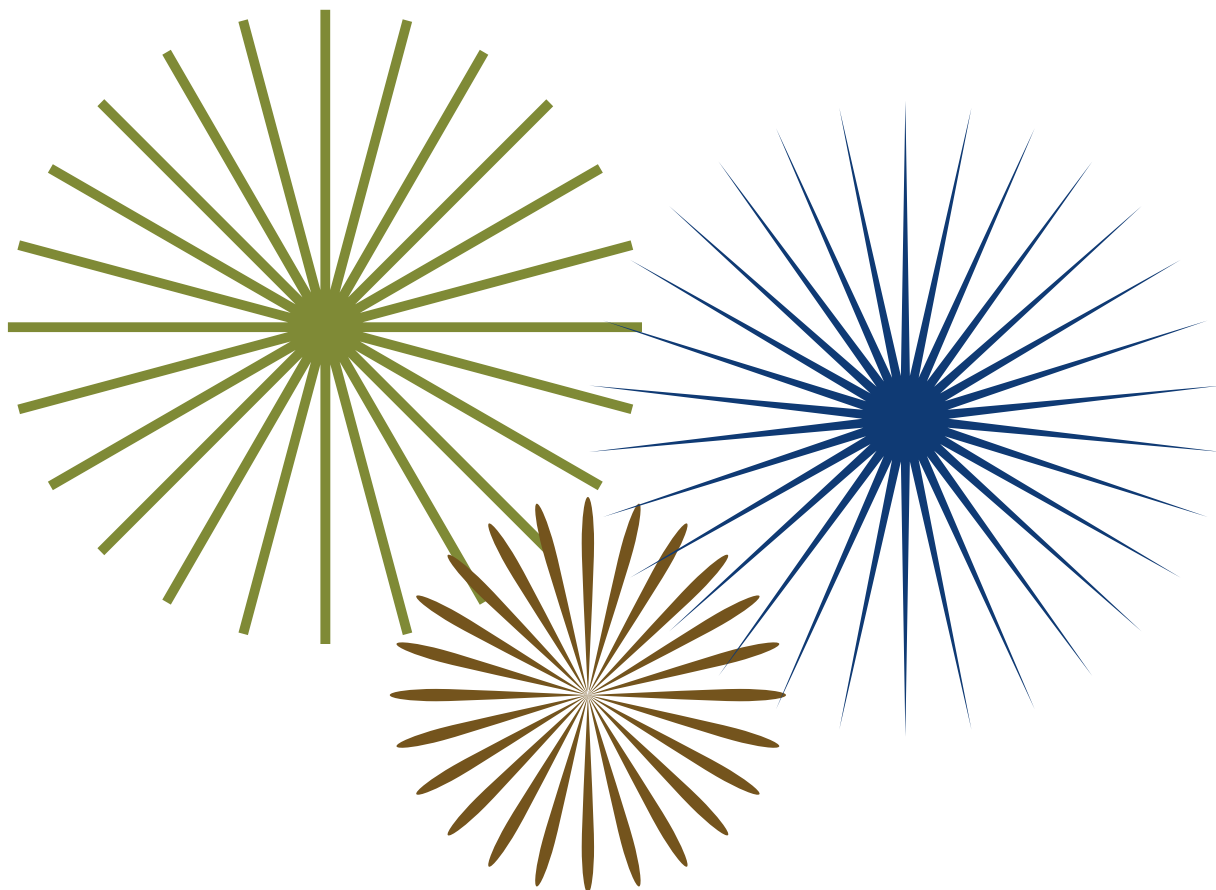
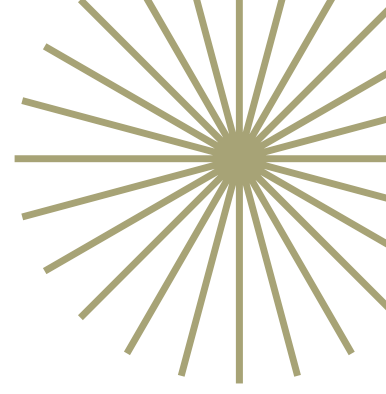


# IDEATION GUIDE

Designing something new can be challenging! We can get stuck in a rut and the creative juices just aren't flowing. This tool is designed to help you look at the different areas of your church and see where you might have opportunities to do more. It won't provide you with answers, but rather give you areas to reflect where God may be leading you to focus on.





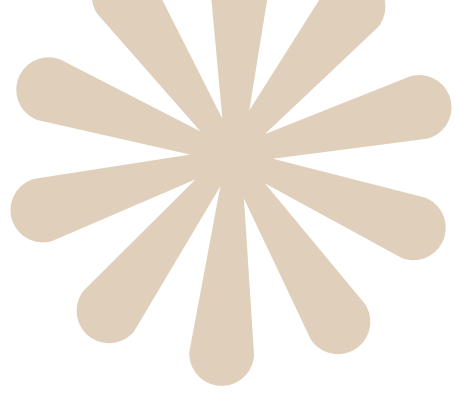
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*Matthew 28:19-20 (The Great Commission): "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

# WHAT ARE YOU GRIEVING?



As you begin to do a close reflection of your church and ministry, you must first acknowledge some painful parts. Be honest with yourself and think about what is causing you and/or the church hurt?

*in your church?*

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*in your community?*

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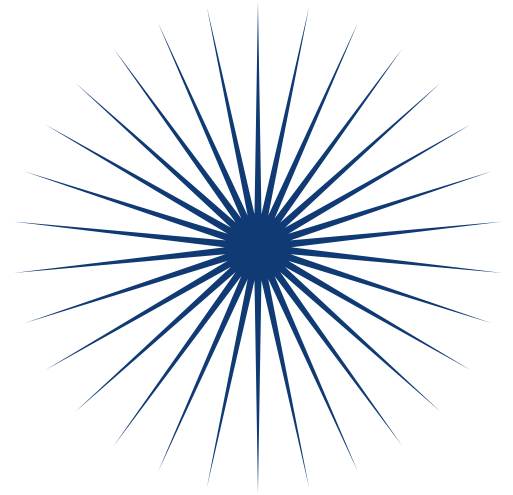
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# WHAT ARE YOU CELEBRATING?



Just as there might be things that have caused some pain, there are other things that have brought you joy. Reflect on those things that have gone well recently.

*in your church?*

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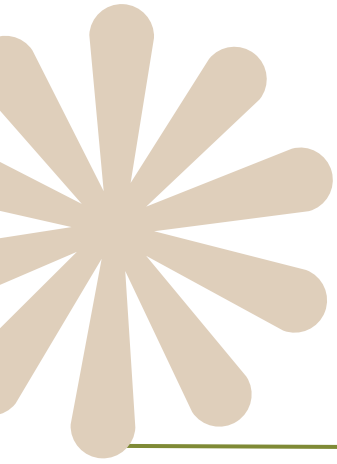
*in your community?*

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# PRAYER TIME

What are you praying to God for right now?

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As you listen to God, what is He telling you right now?

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Where do you see God moving in your community?

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How do you think you can be a part of what God is doing?

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# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



What are you building in your church?  
Is your focus on the building or people?

Jesus was all about building relationships with his disciples and with all people. Let's examine how you are building relationships with different groups of people.

*In the church*

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



*In the Community*

## How does the community see your church?

Jesus was all about meeting the needs of the people in the community. Let's examine how you are building relationships with different groups of people outside of the church.

1

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2

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3

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4

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5

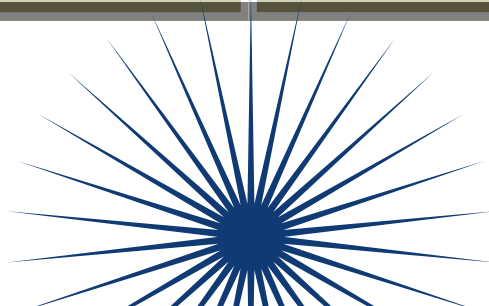
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# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

With whom are you engaging with and how?

<p>the marginalized</p>	<p>emerging generations</p>
<p>multiple generations</p>	<p>other focus groups</p>





# HOW DO YOU INTRODUCE PEOPLE TO CHRIST?

Check all that apply and describe how below each bulletpoint.

## In action:

by meeting needs

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advocating for justice

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addressing poverty, inequality or traditionally underserved

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other

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## In words:

share faith journey

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events

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door -to-door

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prayer

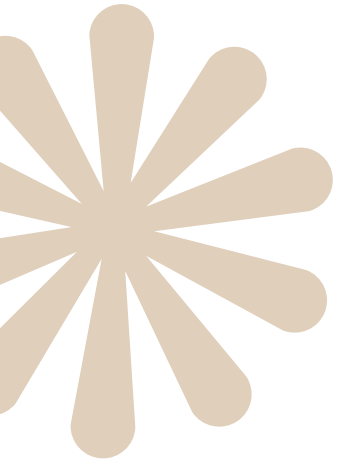
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other

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# HOW ARE YOU HELPING PEOPLE GROW IN CHRIST?

What opportunities are you providing to deepen people's faith for all ages:

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How are you equipping and encouraging new leaders to serve in and outside the church?

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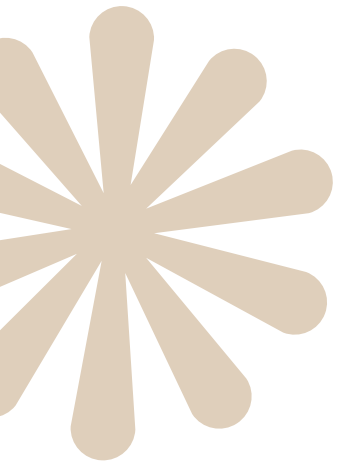
What age groups are you targeting to grow leaders?

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# WHAT IS THE CULTURE OF THE CHURCH?

Your church's culture teaches people what to think and how to live. Circle the top 5 best attributes below that define your current culture of your church.

mission oriented      community focused      growth oriented

open to change      small group focused      Inclusive

building relationships      radical hospitality      pastor led

laity led      radical hospitality      an abundance of volunteers

Circle the top 5 worst attributes of your church that may be a part of your current church culture?

not community focused      not welcome to people that are different

building focused      resistant to change      inwardly focused

pastor led      Church is only on Sundays      stuck in the past

not inclusive      not open to new things



What are some gifts/skills that people in your congregation have that can be used to do ministry? (i.e. preaching, teaching, caregiving, praying, listening, etc) List name of person and gift/skill.

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What other gifts/skills might people in the congregation have but aren't typically used in their service to the church? ie. related to their vocation and other activities outside the church. (speaking other languages, organizing, crafting, sports, etc.) List name of person and gift/skill.

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What are some passions/interests that people have in your congregation that can be used to do ministry? (i.e. gardening, hiking, quilting, organizing, etc)

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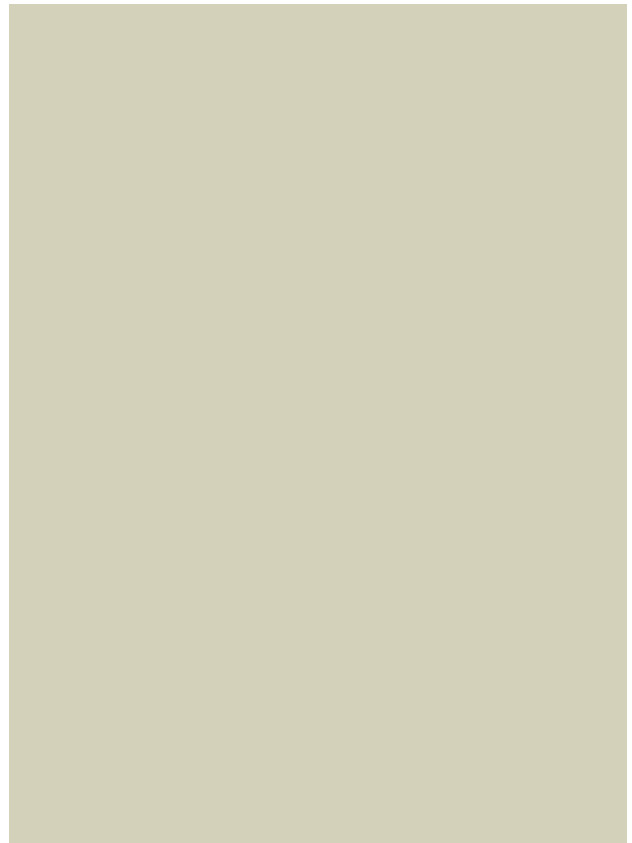
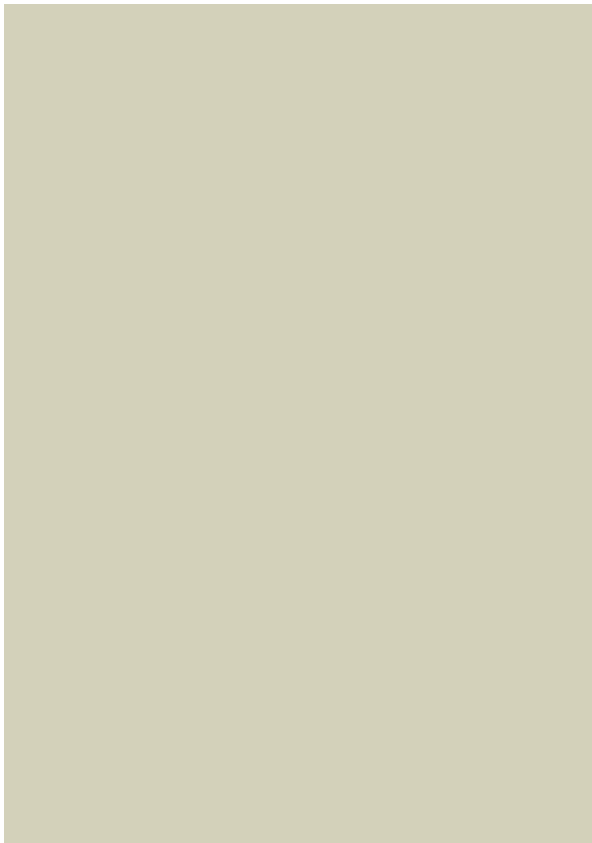
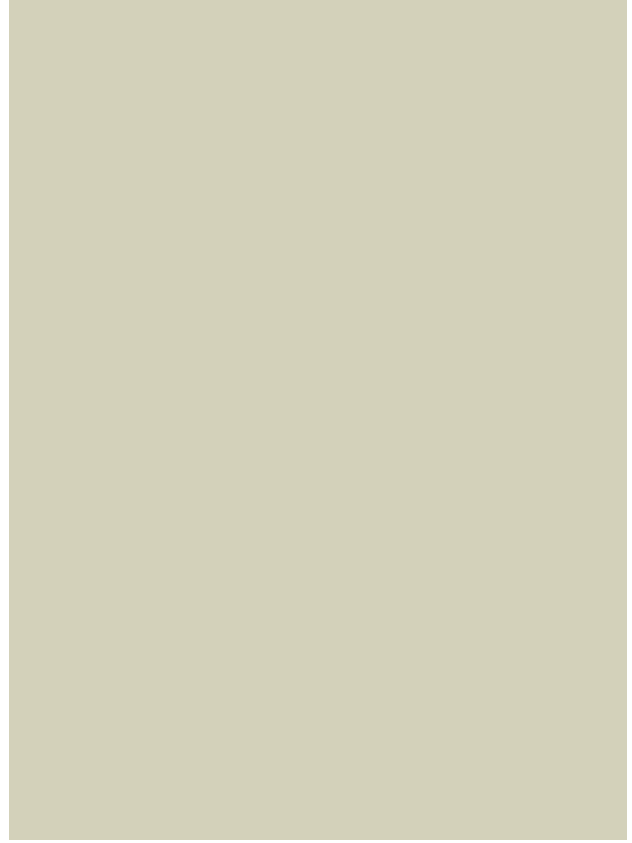
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After reflecting on these questions, what are some areas that God may be leading you to focus on? Write down ideas in the boxes below.



West Ohio Conference  
**Fresh Starts**   
**& New Beginnings**

We are excited to help you dream and move forward in your own faith journey and in the ministries of your church!

If you need assistance in developing your dream, please don't hesitate to contact Brad Aycok at [bradaycock@wocumc.org](mailto:bradaycock@wocumc.org) or Terri McClain at [tmcclain@wocumc.org](mailto:tmcclain@wocumc.org). We are here to help you move your dreams forward!

“In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.  
~Acts 2:17