

TENDING THE SOIL

Resources for developing the *Whom Shall I Send: Fruitful Leader in Ministry* characteristics



Tending the Soil is a list of resources that can be starting points for clergy continuing education and professional development. The list is not exhaustive but ever expanding and changing. Many resources overlap and will be beneficial with more than one characteristic. We invite your contributions to the list. *Tending the Soil* can be used in the following ways:

- planning for personal growth and professional development
- providing additional ideas for creating development plans in the Bishop's Emerging Leadership Initiative, in the FLOURISH program, or other leadership development opportunities
- developing a plan of continuing education as a part of the annual assessment conversation with a pastor/staff-parish committee
- generating ideas for recommendations and requirements for candidates from BOM and DCOM

General Leadership Development Resources

- [WNC Leadership Development](#) website
- Each edition of [E-LEAD](#) focuses on a different aspect of leadership
- [WNC Leadership Development Facebook page](#)
- [FLOURISH](#): Reflect and Renew
- [Reynolds Program in Church Leadership](#) from the United Methodist Foundation of WNC.
- Emerging Leader Initiative (see your district superintendent)
- [Davidson Centre for the Professions - Clergy Program](#)

Ideas and Resources for Each Fruitful Characteristic

Serves out of a conscious and obvious relationship with Jesus Christ and a set-apart call to ministry

- Take time for Sabbath and spiritual renewal
- Work with a spiritual director, [Spiritual Directors by District](#)
- [School of the Spirit](#)
- [Academy for Spiritual Formation](#)
- [Life Around the Table](#)

- [Art of Spiritual Formation](#), Video clips from the North George Conference UMC

Has spiritual depth and is formed by the theology, history, and tradition of the Church as shaped by the Wesleyan and Methodist movement

- Be familiar with and read the journals, sermons, and commentaries of Methodist and Wesleyan leaders of diverse heritages and perspectives
- Utilize resources of United Methodist seminaries, [seminaries](#)
- Courses/Workshops in districts led by Dr. Jonathan LeMaster-Smith
- *The 2016 Book of Discipline*, Part III Doctrinal Standards and Our Theological Task
- [Study Leave for Ministry Professionals at Duke Divinity School](#)
- Selected courses at [Be A Disciple](#)

Is faithful in preaching and teaching the faith

- Participate in a WNC preaching cohort
- Use the abundance of online offerings (church services, TED talks) to examine and learn from others about the craft of preaching and public speaking
- Join a lectionary or sermon preparation group of peers
- [The Institute of Preaching](#) through Duke Divinity School
- [The Art of Better Preaching videos with Carey Nieuwhof](#)

Practices empathy and builds trust

- Develop self-awareness and emotional intelligence skills
- Participate in a Colleague Conversation
- [EQ-HR](#) The Center for Emotional Intelligence and Human Relations Skills
- Brene' Brown's [Unlocking Us Podcast](#) and [books](#)
- [Stanford University design school ethnography field guide \(download\)](#)
- [Emotionally Healthy Spirituality](#)
- [Boundaries with Dr. Henry Cloud](#)
- Engage in Counseling: [Sanctuary Counseling Group](#) or [Chrysalis Counseling and Consultation](#)
- [General Commission on Religion and Race](#) resources

Develops and leads from clear vision and goals

- [The Advantage](#) and other books by Patrick Lencioni
- Simon Sinek resources on "Why" [Ted Talk](#) and [book](#) and [field guide](#)
- [VITAL: Churches Changing Communities and the World](#) by Jorge Acevedo
- [Lewis Center for Leadership](#) at Wesley Theological Seminary

Focuses on collaboration and partnership with laity

- [Intentional Impact](#)
- [Multiply Your Church's Leadership Capacity](#)
- [Lay Ministries](#) from Discipleship Ministries
- Explore Spiritual Gifts Inventories to utilize in your congregation
- [Passion in Partnership](#)

Understands context and community

- Asset Based Community Development [book](#)
- [MissionInsite](#) report for your church
- [Quietly Courageous: Leading the Church in a Changing World](#) by Gil Rendle
- [Courageous Conversations](#), Discipleship Ministries

Values and promotes innovation and change

- [IDEO \(a non-profit design studio\)](#), [Acumen Academy \(School for Social Change\)](#), [Stanford University Design School](#), [Ministry Incubators](#), and [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#) offer courses, toolkits, and resources on innovation and change
- [Resilient Church Academy](#) offers skills and strategy training tracks
- [Leading Change in the Congregation](#) by Gil Rendle with exercises for leaders in each chapter
- [Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory](#) by Tod Bolsinger

Demonstrates agility and adaptability

- Search “Agility” in the [Conference Resource Center](#)
- [Agility Quiz](#)
- [Creating a Culture of Renewal](#)
- [Pastoral Transitions](#) Lewis Center for Church Leadership

Expresses curiosity and is committed to continual improvement

- [Why Curiosity Matters](#) in HBR
- [Flourish](#) and the Emerging Leader Initiative are programs of WNC that include assessments and goal setting to grow into a better leader
- Coaching

Has skills in management and administration

- [Stewardship in African American Churches](#)
- [Reynolds Academy for Ministry Management](#) through the WNC UM Foundation
- [General Council on Finance and Administration](#)
- [The Church Network](#)
- [United Methodist Foundation Local Church Administration](#)
- [Documents and Publications Conference Administration](#)

Recognizes conflict is inevitable and leads through it

- [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center](#)
- [Developing and Implementing an Outward Mindset](#) and other [Arbinger Institute](#) books and resources
- Plowpoint Ministries resource, [Longing to Belong: Learning to Relate as the Body of Christ](#)
- Assess your own leadership and conflict style at [DiSC Profile](#)