STRENGTHEN YOUR CONGREGATION

The General Board of Discipleship offers a variety of tools that can help you assess your strengths and give you focus. Need some help deciding which one is best for you? Contact Help@GBOD.org. Find more information about these resources at www.gbod.org/strengthen.

Burning Bush

Building A Congregational Plan for Disciple-Making http://www.gbod.org/du/burningbush/

Spiritual Gifts Assessment

Helps individuals identify their God-given gifts for living faithfully as Christian disciples http://archives.umc.org/interior.asp?ptid=1&mid=2268

Equipped for Every Good Work

Building a Gifts-Based Church http://www.upperroom.org/bookstore/description.asp?item_id=155088

FaithQuest

A Journey Toward Congregational Transformation http://www.gbod.org/faithquest/

Church Vitality Indicator

Assessment and discernment tool that helps identify and build upon your church's strengths. http://www.cvindicator.com/

Fifty Characteristics of Disciple-Making Congregations

We asked, "What are the characteristics of a United Methodist congregation that is successfully engaged in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?" Here's http://www.gbod.org/worship/



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Prayers for Strength



The joy of the Lord is your strength.

—Nehemiah 8:10

January 2010

Prayers for Strength • January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 31 God, I pray that you will be the stronghold of my life. Psalm 27:1					1 God, strengthen my faith. Nehemiah 8:10	2 God, strengthen my resolve to be a witness to the great things you have done in my life. 2 Corinthians 12:10
3 God, help me find meaningful ways to use my spiritual gifts in connection with the gifts of others in my church. 1 Corinthians 12:7	4 God, help strengthen my focus. Show me where to spend my time and direct my energy. Isaiah 30:21	5 God, may the new year bring strength and renewal to those who feel tired and weak. Isaiah 40:29	6 God, remind me that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13	7 God, give me the strength to continue when I feel like giving up. Isaiah 40:31	8 God, prevent me from focusing on my shortcomings and weaknesses and instead look toward me strengths. Deuteronomy 33:25	9 God, help me overcome doubts and accept that I can rely on your grace. 2 Corinthians 12:9
10 God, help my congregation discern our strengths and how to use them to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:19	11 God, prevent me from taking my personal acheivements too seriously—or my failures. Deuteronomy 8:17	12 God, strengthen my relationships with my friends, with my family and with my faith community. Proverbs 18:24	13 God, strengthen my committment to my local church and to ministry, Psalm 121: 1-2	14 God, help me to understand and respond to needs of people around me. Philippians 4:19	15 God, make me strong and courageous. Joshua 1:9	16 God, when I am freightened remind me that Jesus Christ is bigger than anything I will ever face. Isaiah 43:1-2
17 God, thank you for carrying our burdens and giving us rest. Matthew 11:28	18 God, give me the strength to make difficult decisions and the wisdom to make good decisions. Psalm 32:8-9	19 God, grant me patience, even when I'm dealing with what feel like impossible situations. Galatians 6:10	20 God, help me accept my limitations and to be grateful. Psalm 46:1	21 God, lead me to a deeper understanding of your word. Ephesians 6:10	22 God, when I am lonely help me find a connection and feel understood. Ephesians 3:16-17	23 God, help me face the storms in my life. Mark 4:28-29
24 God, thank you for the strength I find as part of the body of Christ. Ecclesiastes 4:12	25 God, rather than waiting for others to respond, show me how to connect with people who need faith. Exodus 4:13	26 God, teach me to trust you and to sometimes let go of my own need for control. Jeremiah 29:10-11	27 God, when I am feeling sorry for myself, remind me that your desire is for me to live abundantly. John 10:10	28 God, allow me to accept help when I need it. Psalm 22:11	29 God, I pray that you will guard my heart and mind. Philippians 4:6-7	30 God, when I feel lost, unloved, and misunderstood, remind me that I am precious in your eyes and you love me. Psalm 37:24