



THE ACADEMY DISCIPLER

NEWSLETTER FOR TEACHERS AND FACILITATORS

September 2011

Dear Teachers and Facilitators,

It is hard to believe that September is already here. I hope that you all have had a great summer and are enjoying these final days of vacation. I hope that you are also excited about the coming year.

It is once again time to launch fall classes for the Academy of Discipleship. Our theme for our fifth anniversary year is "Training Disciples...Transforming the World." Please see my reflections on the new theme in the recent [AUMC Witness](#).

There is a lot of information included in this letter, including our forthcoming Convocation and Small Group Conference webcast. Your attention to these matters will be greatly appreciated.

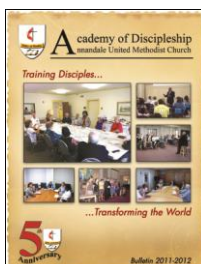
Please read below for more information on the following:

- ❖ Sep-Oct Sign Up for Academy Table in Wright Hall
- ❖ Sep 11 Lunch and Learn Information Session
- ❖ Sep 18 Academy of Discipleship Convocation
- ❖ Sep 25 Fall Sermon Series/Teacher Needed for Disciple 1
- ❖ Oct 8/9 Small Group Ministry Conference - Webcast

As always, you can find news and other information on the [Academy web page](#).

Blessings,

Cynthia



NEW! ACADEMY OF DISCIPLESHIP CLASS BULLETIN

Pick up your copy on Sundays or click [here](#) to see it online.

Click [here](#) to register for classes online.

ACADEMY TABLE IN WRIGHT HALL – SIGN UP!!

The Academy table will be present on Sundays in Wright Hall from Sep 4 to Oct 2. We will be providing class information and registration. This is also an opportunity for teachers and leaders to spread the word about your classes. **We hope to have two people at each time slot.** You may sign up for Sundays by replying to this e-mail. The schedule is as follows:

Academy Table Coffee Hour	9:30	12:15
Sep 4	Margaret Vaughn	Maribeth Day
Sep 11	FULL Bill Iwig Marie Cavanagh Julie Montgomery	Maribeth Day
Sep 18	FULL Bill Iwig Molly Wilmarth Richard Robinson	
Sep 25		
Oct 2		



LUNCH & LEARN INFORMATION SESSION

Sunday, Sep 11, 2011 at 12:30pm

Lunch & Learn is an opportunity for congregants to learn more about Academy classes and small groups. We will advertise this opportunity in the bulletin. Additionally, we invite leaders and teachers to be present to answer questions about your classes.



FIFTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION - Sunday, Sep 18, 2011

The Academy of Discipleship Convocation will take place on Sunday, September 18 at 8:30 and 11:00am worship services. Please also invite your class or small group to attend the Convocation Workshop at 9:45am in the sanctuary. Our Convocation Speaker is Professor Amy Oden, Dean and Professor of History of Christianity at Wesley Theological Seminary.

- 8:30/11am – Convocation Speaker
– Disciple Recognition
– Prayer of Blessing for Teachers
- 9:45am – Workshop with Speaker for all adult classes

TWELVE – SMALL GROUP MINISTRY CONFERENCE WEBCAST

Sat, Oct 8, 9am-12pm; Sun, Oct 9, 12:30-3pm

“Twelve” has been synonymous with small group Christian community since Jesus gathered with his disciples in the upper room in Jerusalem. This conference, presented by Saddleback Church, offers small group ministry training featuring leaders from across the country working with ministries of all sizes. For more information about the conference, visit the website at www.saddleback.com/conferences/twelve/.

We are purchasing a site license for AUMC to participate in the Webcast. We invite adult leaders and teachers to view the conference on the above dates as we plan to grow our small group ministry at AUMC.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In addition to the conference, the Academy will offer two leadership development opportunities both starting on Sunday, Oct 2, 2011:

Leading Life-Changing Small Groups will provide training for starting and growing a small group.

Coaching Life-Changing Small Group Leaders will train experienced small group leaders to serve as coaches for both new and continuing leaders. This class will be led by Richard Robinson. Our goal is for every teacher and leader to have a coach to connect with and care for them on their journey.

TEACHERS NEEDED – Disciple 1 for Sunday School

Disciple has created a new Sunday school version of Disciple 1 Bible study. The class includes the usual in-depth bible study with a one-hour class format. We are looking for a teacher to lead this class on Sundays at 9:45am beginning Sunday, Sep 25.

FALL SERMON SERIES

We have two new sermon series coming this Fall. Classes and small groups are invited to join these studies or people may follow along individually:

Three Simple Rules – Sep 25-Oct 9, 2011

In [*Three Simple Rules*](#), Rueben Job offers an interpretation of John Wesley's General Rules for today's readers. This simple but challenging look at three commands, "do no harm, do good, stay in love with God," calls us a deeper relationship with God.

The Apostles' Creed – Oct 30-Nov 20, 2011

This study will cover both the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed and help participants learn how the church came to adopt a set of beliefs that we still proclaim today. For a text, I am recommended Justo Gonzales, [*The Apostle's Creed for Today*](#).

Look for updates in the "For Teachers" section on the [Academy web page](#).



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Visit the [Academy of Discipleship](#) online.