

MISSIONAL FAITH FORMATION

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Religious Diversity



Missional Faith Formation

Missional faith formation expands and extends the church's presence through outreach, connection, relationship building, and engagement with people where they live—moving faith formation out into the community.

- ❑ Moving worship and faith formation into the community
- ❑ Opening programs to everyone – VBS
- ❑ Life skills: parenting, careers, training, mentoring
- ❑ Small group programs on a variety of topics
- ❑ Community-wide service
- ❑ Community events: arts, music, theater

The Wesley Playhouse



www.freshexpressions.org.uk/stories/playhouse



Service in the Community



A **Third Place** gathering space in the community, offers hospitality, builds relationships, hosts spiritual conversations, provides programs and activities, and nourishes the spiritual life of people.

PLANT A LIFETREE CAFE

What if you could create a comfortable place and time for people to gather weekly to explore life and faith?

What if it looked and felt like the kind of place you typically meet a friend for food and drink and fun? What if the atmosphere encouraged conversations, questions, and personal stories? What if the conversations about life somehow led to an ah-ha of God's real presence and his genuine love?

Those questions led to the creation of Lifetree Café. Now each week people gather in cozy venues to explore life and faith. The hour-long Lifetree Café experiences feature real stories of real people, guided conversation, time to build relationships with new and old friends, laughter, fun, spiritual insights, and opportunities to serve.

Lifetree Café offers a casual physical environment, warm hospitality, a safe place for questions and doubts, and an encouraging atmosphere for participants to share their own stories.

Lifetree stories dig into the big and little stuff that shapes our lives. Family. Friends. Fears. Busyness. Balance. Money. Materialism. Health.

"I felt welcomed the minute I walked in the door... and my opinions we're welcomed too. Thank you Lifetree Café."

"I found myself sharing things I've never shared with anyone before."

"My wife and I like to come here as a date night out."

Learn more about planting a Lifetree Café in your community by visiting Discover.LifetreeCafe.com.



Missional Faith Formation

Missional faith formation provides pathways for people to consider or reconsider the Christian faith, to encounter Jesus and the Good News, and to live as disciples in a supportive faith community.

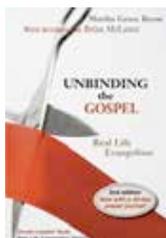
Pathway: The Alpha Course

- Introduction Dinner: Is there more to life than this?
- Week 1: Who is Jesus?
- Week 2: Why did Jesus die?
- Week 3: How can we have faith?
- Week 4: Why and how do I pray?
- Week 5: Why and how should I read the Bible?
- Week 6: How does God guide us?
- Week 7: How can I resist evil?
- Week 8: Why & how should we tell others?
- Week 9: Does God heal today?
- Week 10: What about the Church?
- Weekend: Who is the Holy Spirit?

Pathway: Our Lady of Soledad Parish

- *Mini-Retreat 101: "Catholics Alive!"*
 - "What does it mean to be a follower of Christ?"
- *Mini-Retreat 201: "Alive and Growing Spiritually!"*
 - Maturing in the Catholic faith
- *Mini-Retreat 301: "Alive and Gifted!"*
 - Discerning how to serve God in ministry
- *Mini-Retreat 401: "Alive in the World!"*
 - Living as witnesses for Christ, as contagious Catholic Christians
- *Mini-Retreat 501: "Alive to Praise God!"*
 - Catholic worship and the sacraments

Pathway: Unbinding the Gospel

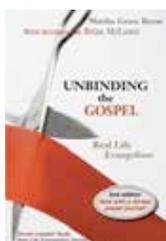


Step One. Church Leader's Study: *Unbinding the Gospel*

Step Two: All-Church Saturation Study: *Unbinding Your Heart: 40 Days of Prayer & Faith Sharing.*

- six-week, church-wide, small group E-vent!
- pray each day's scripture and prayer exercise and work with a prayer partner
- study a chapter of the book with their small group
- worship with sermons, music, and prayers centered on the week's chapter

Pathway: Unbinding the Gospel



Step Three: An Experiment in Prayer and Community: *Unbinding Your Soul.*

- a no-obligation experience of substantial spiritual discussion, prayer and community for people who aren't connected with a church
- church members invite their friends into a four-week small group experience with short study chapters, an individual prayer journal, prayer partner activities, and group exercises.