



**Who** is making disciples in our church?



**How** many disciples are multiplying our church?



**Where** are we a transforming presence by disciples making disciples?

## 2nd Level Questions FAQ

### **Q: What is the purpose of the three core questions?**

**A:** Wesleyan Church leaders have been looking to narrow our focus to the most important things for us to measure. Many statistics are influential, but having a place to start is important. If these three areas improve dramatically throughout our churches, other dramatic improvements will occur as well, making all of us more effective in fulfilling the mission for which God has sent us.

### **Q: I understand the three core questions, but why the additional questions under each?**

**A:** The second level of questions help define the measurements that can contribute to or are triggers for the three core questions.

### **Q: When should I begin to track these statistics?**

**A:** These statistics will be requested when the local church statistical report is due in the spring of 2019. It will help for you to begin to think, plan and minister accordingly in the coming year.

### **Q: Is this redundant to the local church statistical report we will complete in the spring of 2019?**

**A:** The three core and second level questions will be incorporated into the 2019 local church statistical report. In fact, the local church statistical report is being: a) reorganized around the three core questions, and b) simplified to reflect the statistics that have the most long-term value about the health of our congregations.

### **Q: What qualifies for the number of disciples who are making disciples in our church (#1/WHO)?**

**A:** The Wesleyan Church has developed a list of five prompts to evaluate your discipleship model which can be found here: [wesleyan.org/discipleship](http://wesleyan.org/discipleship). If your church has instituted a process of discipleship that you believe is making disciples, then continue its use.

Note that this question tracks the individuals involved in making the disciples, not the "participants" or those "being disciplined." An increase in true disciple-makers, will inevitably result in an increase in disciples.

**Q: Does this change how we track conversion?**

**A:** No. This only helps clarify that the journey does not end with conversion.

**Q: Who was involved in the shaping of these new measurements in The Wesleyan Church?**

**A:** General Superintendent Wayne Schmidt initiated this process upon taking office in 2016, as he called us to prayerfully prepare for the movement of God. This call included a request of leadership to develop “new measures” to ensure TWC is doing what God is calling us to do. The Executive Cabinet and District Superintendents were involved in a long process of evaluating options and clarifying focus for new measurements. The core questions each church asks themselves should include these three questions which get at the heart of our work together to respond to God’s grace.

**Q: Why is membership included as a second level of questions?**

**A:** With the membership changes of 2016, this is a season of opportunity for each church to intentionally integrate membership into their unique discipleship model. Wesleyan membership now includes a requirement for discipleship that was missing in the past and an annual renewal to keep it fresh. We must find a way for membership to be a meaningful part of the life of a disciple in our churches.

**Q: Am I to track names or numbers for #1/WHO?**

**A:** It will be helpful for your church to have these names for your own work, but the statistical report will only ask for a number.

**Q: What qualifies as “sending someone to plant a church?” Just the: a) planter, or the b) whole leadership team, or c) all those sent to be starting core attendees?**

**A:** The answer is c) all those sent to be starting core attendees. Every soul sent out to start a church as a core attendee is a significant investment for a sending church. This sending investment should be encouraged, honored and celebrated appropriately.

**Q: What is the difference between a new campus and a church plant, and why are they tracked separately?**

**A:** A new campus is under the direct authority and structure of the sending church, and is not its own separate church. It is important to track a new campus and a church plant separately so our multiplication is tracking apples-to-apples comparisons, and also to encourage fully autonomous and exponentially multiplying church plants to fill the diverse and growing gap between the culture and the gospel, on top of adding to what we already have started. We celebrate both, but note that each has a different role in mission effectiveness.

**Q: For missionaries, ministry and multiplication training, are we tracking only Wesleyan institutions or all?**

**A:** Track all institutions, as all are significant. Of course, our Wesleyan institutions have a special place in our hearts and in our investment for doing the work of mission, ministry and multiplication within The Wesleyan Church.

**Q: How do I track the ZIP or postal codes mentioned in #3/WHERE?**

**A:** The statistical report will track how many and the specific ZIP or postal codes where your church has disciples making disciples. You do not have to have an entire ministry, service or new

church starting in that location (although they would be included). You do, however, need to track anyone you have who is engaging in discipleship in your identified locations. To help your people evaluate if they are truly making disciples, see the prompts to evaluate your discipleship model: [wesleyan.org/discipleship](http://wesleyan.org/discipleship).

**Q: These questions might require significant changes in our ministry planning. What are the expectations of churches and what resources are there to help churches make that change?**

**A:** Resources will be provided by the end of 2018 to assist a local church in planning for growth in each of the areas of the three core questions. It is expected that most churches are already thinking about these areas in everyday life and ministry, and these questions just help give terms and measurement areas for the work to which you are already called.

**Q: Should my church be setting goals related to these areas going forward?**

**A:** That is our hope. The 2019 local church statistical report will provide our statistical baseline in each of these areas, as we work more intentionally to celebrate every time a disciple makes a disciple and the church multiplies itself until The Wesleyan Church has a transforming presence in every ZIP code.