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Dear Friends,

Thank you for your interest in serving on one of our **Next Steps Teams** at Auburn UMC. We are partnering with ***Spiritual Leadership, Inc.(SLI).*** They have been walking alongside us as we begin the process of Loving, Learning, and Leading together. This type of passionate spiritual leadership has already begun with our Leadership team and Missions team. We are ready to expand with two additional teams and are seeking those interested in playing a key role in helping Auburn UMC Love God, Love Neighbor and make Passionate Disciples of Jesus. We are taking applications for the following 2 new teams:

1. REACH/RELATE: Ministries that show the love and hope of Jesus outside the walls of the church for the purpose and ministries that welcome and encourage people into our Christ-centered community through relationships with Jesus and the church.

**2) GROW: Ministries that equip others on the journey toward becoming more like Jesus.**

These teams are designed for:

* People captivated with the idea that they can make a difference
* People willing to invest significant time in making that difference
* People seeking to use their spiritual gifts and passions to help Auburn UMC achieve our Vision of becoming a church community helping people follow Jesus and love one another

These teams will spend their time:

* Working to become passionate spiritual leaders (becoming like Jesus) who are Loving, Learning, and Leading together in covenant
* Creating transformative environments where persons can be and can make disciples
* Developing a Ministry Action Plan (MAP) answering:
	+ How do we best utilize our resources to build ministries that show the love and hope of Jesus outside the walls of the church?
	+ How do we become even better at welcoming and encouraging people into our Christ-centered community?
* Committing to bringing transformation to both the church and the Auburn community by putting the MAP into action

Together these teams, in loving support, will hold each other accountable for spiritual growth and leadership development. As they join in worship, prayer, and conversation, they will help Auburn UMC develop specific steps for ministry and mission.

For this type of team please expect a time commitment of **4 hours per month for 12 months** along with preparation for each meeting. We are planning to launch these two teams in January, 2023. Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to apply. **Should you choose to apply, please complete the enclosed form and return it no later than December 15, 2022 to Sarah Goolsby, sarahg@aumc.net.** Once all applications are received, our Leadership Team will participate in discerning the makeup of each of these next 2 teams.

In Christ,

Cory

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# “Next Steps” Team Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following 2 teams would best fit your passion to serve? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1) Reach/Relate: Ministries that show the love and hope of Jesus outside the walls of the church for the purpose of connecting people to our Christ-centered community and Ministries that welcome and encourage people into our Christ-centered community through relationships with Jesus and the church.

2) Grow: Ministries that equip others on the journey toward becoming more like Jesus

**1. Please describe your relationship with Jesus.**

**2. What strengths and spiritual gifts do you believe you have for the building up of the body of Christ? How have you used these gifts?**

**3. Describe your sense of God’s purpose for Auburn UMC?**

**4. What is the church’s responsibility to the un-churched community?**

**5. Please describe a time you faced a challenge as a member of a team. What was the challenge and how did you overcome it?**