

## Four Mile Church Pillars

### Pillar 7. Make Disciples (disciple-maker/mentor/developer)

- a. FMC is committed to taking our next steps towards Christ together in discipleship
- b. FMC is a church committed to an exponential growth paradigm through Christ-centered discipleship
- c. FMC identifies people who possess the gift of discipling others in Christ
- d. FMC promotes a curricular focus integrated across the full ministry spectrum: LR = plan, MR = adjust, SR = execute
- e. FMC promotes the establishment of mentorship relationships: everyone mentors both up and down across the church
- f. FMC appreciates that spiritual formation & spiritual growth happen on both sides of the mentor-mentee relationship
- g. FMC elders/pastors ensure all curricular, Biblical, musical, & theological material are consistent w/ reformed theology
- h. FMC development focuses as much on being and doing as it does on structured content delivery

### Relevant Scripture

1. Rom 12: 1-2 (The Message), So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.
2. Acts 2:42-47, And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.
3. Rom 12:3-8, For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.
4. 1 Cor 12: 27-31, Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts.
5. Eph 4: 11-16, And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

6. Matt 28:19-20, Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

7. 2 Tim 4:2, Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

8. John 13:34-45, A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

### **Reformed Theological Tenets**

1. ECO Tenets: We are not elect for our own benefit alone. God gathers His covenant community to be an instrument of His saving purpose. Through His regenerating and sanctifying work, the Holy Spirit grants us faith and enables holiness, so that we may be witnesses of God’s gracious presence to those who are lost. The Spirit gathers us in a community that is built up and equipped to be light, salt, and yeast in the world. Christ sends us into the world to make disciples of all nations, baptizing in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that Christ has commanded us. We are now in service to God’s plan for the fullness of time: uniting all things in heaven and earth to Himself. To this end, we preach Christ, calling all persons to repent and believe the gospel.

2. ECO Polity - Nature and Purpose of the Church: The Church is visible whenever two or more are gathered in Jesus’ name. The congregation is composed of members of the body of Christ who have covenanted together to engage in the mission of God in their particular context, with Jesus Christ as Head. Each congregation should strive to be a tangible, if provisional, demonstration of the Kingdom of God. Congregations exist in a variety of forms yet have these ends in common: sharing the Good News of reconciliation to God in and through Jesus Christ, gathering people for divine worship and nurturing relationships for spiritual accountability and mutual ministry, all the while making disciples to be the sent people of God in the world.

### **Recommended Books:**

1. Chan, Francis. Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples
2. Rainer, Thom. Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples
3. Hull, Bill. Conversion and Discipleship; The Disciple Making Pastor, The Complete Book on Discipleship
5. Ogden, Greg. Transforming Discipleship: making Disciples a Few at a Time
6. Bruce, A.B. The Training of the Twelve
7. Spader, Dann. Four Chair Discipling
8. Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. The Cost of Discipleship
9. Coleman, Robert. The Master Plan for Evangelism

### **Venues to Implement the Pillar**

1. Before and after worship services
2. During expressions of our faith
3. In our everyday ordinary life, modeling Christlikeness in our actions

4. Volunteer at the Center or other similar venues where mentoring and discipleship opportunities are available
5. Volunteer with student ministry and children's ministry

#### **Platforms & Exercises to Develop the Pillar**

1. Find someone who you look up to in this pillar to serve as your mentor - meet with that person every other week
2. Serve as a mentor for someone else - meet with that person every other week
3. Assign people a different book in the Bible and ask each person to read through that book over the next week and identify areas where God gives direction on Scripture about how we are to disciple others. Use this list in subsequent weeks as a way for each person to share what they've learned from Scripture with the others in this pillar.
4. Participate in one of our 9:15 Sunday classes
5. Develop a list of daily devotional material for members of this pillar to use: PDT, New Morning Mercies; Reiners, Seeking God's Face; Canlis, Theology of the ordinary.
6. Identify movies, videos, and other instructional material from RightNow Media and YouVersion App or other sources that deepen key tenets of our faith
7. Read ECO Tenets
8. Read the Heidelberg Catechism
9. Be able to describe the Red Dot Transformation graphic