

## **Western Jurisdiction Episcopal Discernment Process**

*July 12 Discernment Zoom*

### **Questions for Individual Reflection:**

1. Why did you come to this Discernment gathering today? Who is encouraging you to consider a call to the episcopacy?
2. What do you perceive to be your gifts for the office of bishop? What do you think are your shortcomings for the work of a UMC bishop?
3. Name 2 or 3 experiences in ministry you have found most satisfying. What do they have in common; how are they unique?
4. What do you imagine would be the hardest part of being a bishop? What would be the most joyful? What impact could your election have on your family or your friends?
5. What is your vision for ministry in the Western Jurisdiction – what would you hope to create, influence, or encourage in the next quadrennium?
6. Knowing we will be electing 3/5s of our entire College – what possibilities does this open up for a new way of being a bishop in the West? How easy would it be for you to share responsibility for your area with one or more other bishops?
7. List 3 to 5 practices you regularly use to care for your own mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health.
8. Who are 5 people you regularly turn to for support when faced with stressful situations at work or in your home life? Which of them do you trust to tell you truth when they see you going in the wrong direction?
9. What is your biggest fear in entering into this discernment process?
10. How are you most likely to hear the Holy Spirit's wisdom as you continue discerning your call to ministry and whatever form it may take?
11. Who will you share these reflections with to get their input and response?

