

# Church Libraries Making the Shift to Today's Church Cultures

## Listening Guide

### Description

Emerging church libraries are embracing the uniqueness of their churches. Let's consider the shifts five of these churches are making with their libraries. These shifts can be idea starters for all of us.



### A. Logistics

1. Did you find the listening guide?
2. This Listening Guide includes lots of cross referencing in blue that takes you to handouts following this listening guide. At the end of each handout you will find a link back to your place in the listening guide. If a link does not have a page number, it takes you to a website.
3. Keep in mind emerging church libraries come in all sizes.
4. Please mute when you are not talking due to background noises.
5. When you want to talk, unmute yourself and talk and/or wave.
6. Thank you for being with us today! And thanks to those of you who will be watching the recording of this webinar in the future.

### B. Five emerging church libraries who all started small

#### 1. Emmanuel, Lexington, KY: Ron Edmondson—Sending Center

- a. **Shift in Alignment to the culture of the church: missions focus**
- b. Facts and Trends Article: [How to Transform Your Church Library](#).
- c. Pictures of the Sending Center. Click [here](#).
- d. What words do you use to describe the culture of your church?

#### 2. Taylors Baptist, Taylors, South Carolina—the Connection Center

- a. **Purpose shift: room of books to a gathering place**
- b. This change was part of a building program. This library was in the center of the campus so they took down several walls and opened it up . . . all the time.
- c. Small groups meet there; 30 minutes on Sunday the whole church family fellowship here.
- d. Their story and a link to pictures are on page 5: [Connection](#)
- e. What other kinds of purpose need shifting with libraries?

#### 3. Central Baptist, Decatur, AL—The Serving Center

- a. **Shift in collection perception: Fiction only to Balanced collection—fiction and nonfiction.**
- b. All church librarians will tell you that fiction is by far the most used types of books/DVDs.
- c. Why?

- d. Is your pastor recommending nonfiction during sermons?     \_\_\_ **Yes**   \_\_\_ **No**
- e. Is the collection perception a struggle for you and your church? \_\_\_ **Yes**   \_\_\_ **No**
- f. See the list of the services provided by The Serving Center on page 6 with a link to pictures. Click here: [SERVING](#).

**4. First Baptist, Natchitoches, LA: The Disciple Making Library**

- a. **Shift in location perception to user convenience.**
- b. This church has several locations both inside the building and in places in the community. Click [here](#) for pictures on the Church Librarians Network.
- c. Consider the location as a multipurpose room like you do Fellowship Hall.
- d. If one location is not convenient to all age groups, consider cart(s)/booktrucks to take books/DVDs to those age groups that will never come to your one location.
- e. Hope Ferguson is a very creative leader.
- f. How do the location issues play out for you?

**5. Forest Hills Baptist Church, Nashville—The Enrichment Center**

- a. **Shift from division (mine) to collaboration (ours)**
  - 1) Proposed alignment description was sent to the Elders for their consideration. They approved it as presented to them. See page 7: [Proposal](#)
  - 2) The new team immediately collaborated with the church staff.
  - 3) As the Enrichment Center team and church staff developed the plan, they updated a few actions. Click here: [Mission](#) (See page 8-9).
  - 4) The church staff provided lists of items they recommended for the collection.
  - 5) On the shelves, recommendation slips tell who recommends what items. See [picture](#).
  - 6) Stations are being developed for parents, marriages, new believers, evangelism, etc.
  - 7) Four Engagement Coordinators for adults have successfully started [Topic](#) of the Month strategy (see pages 10-11). Engagement Coordinators will be selected for youth, children, and preschoolers to handle the carts and other actions.
  - 8) Are you dealing with a situation where the church staff and the library team are unable to collaborate with each other?
  
- b. **Purpose shifted from a room of books to a gathering place--multipurpose**
  - 1) Puzzle—jigsaw puzzles are a great hit in the Enrichment Center. Purpose is to bring people together for conversations that have potential for spiritual reflection. See [picture](#).
  - 2) Legos are provided on a low table for children. Same purpose as the jigsaw puzzles.
  - 3) Write Stuff—a place for people to write about their spiritual experiences, prayer thoughts, favorite verses, something they learned during group Bible studies, their faith stories, and even marriage proposals. See [picture](#).
  - 4) Groups can meet in the Enrichment Center for Bible study and fellowship.

- 5) To see other pictures, click [here](#).
  - 6) Do you have multipurpose rooms in your building now?
- c. **Success Measurement shift from number of collection items to spiritual growth—Kelley’s 8 signposts.**
- 1) The Enrichment Team has 2 sub-teams:
    - a) The **Collection sub-team** handles all the duties regarding the collection and circulation.
    - b) The **Engagement Coordinators** literally engage their audiences to experience the Enrichment Center—Topic of the Month, Book Clubs, Story times, Collection Development, public relations, and so on. The list is endless and varies by age group.
  - 2) Both sub-teams use the 8 signposts as guides in planning and selection.
  - 3) The church is using the 8 signposts as guides and measurement tools. The Enrichment Center team will collaborate with the church leaders in regard to the measurements.
    - a) [Creating a Discipleship Pathway](#) by Michael Kelley
    - b) [Discipleship Pathway Assessment](#)
  - 4) Are you figuring out how to measure spiritual growth?
- d. **Shift in Location Perception**—carts/booktrucks will take the age group collections to their locations in the building which will be done by the age group Engagement Coordinators.

### C. Summary of strategic ways these churches are transforming libraries

1. Alignment to the culture of the church (Immanuel, Lexington)
2. Room of books to a Gathering Place (Taylors First Baptist; Forest Hills)
3. Collection Perception: Fiction to a balance of fiction and non-fiction (Central, Decatur)
4. Location Perception to user convenience (First Baptist, Natchitoches, LA; Forest Hills)
5. Division (mine) to collaboration(ours) (Forest Hills)
6. Success measurement: number of collection items to spiritual growth—Kelley’s 8 signposts (Forest Hills)

## **D. How to transform the current library team to a disciple making center/social library**

1. Identify where you are going with a disciple making center/social library.
  - a. Consider the mission, vision, and core values of your church.
  - b. Instead of a place in your building, consider your ministry as an experience with Jesus where your pastor, church staff, and authors disciple people.
  - c. Consider “What is a Disciple Making Center/Social Library”. See pages 12-13 ([DMC](#)).
  - d. How would you explain the [Difference](#) between your church’s current library and a future disciple making center? See page 14 for suggestions.
2. Select actions to carry out the mission, vision, core values, and disciple making process of your church.
  - a. Has your church leadership team developed an action grid with your church’s mission/vision words as column headings?
  - b. See sample on pages 15-16 for a [Disciple Making Center](#).
3. Rethink the team set up with the current team members.
  - a. How would your current team members like to continue serving?
  - b. Consider two subteams: Collection and Circulation Focus; Engagement Focus
4. Evaluate Needs
  - a. Is the location of the DMC convenient for people?
  - b. Do people and families have time to explore the collection when they come to church?
  - c. Is the collection automated? Church libraries can do the same things public and school libraries do with Open Public Access Catalogs. Checkout items online and pick them up when they are in the building. See page 17-18: [AUTOMATION](#)
  - d. Looking for funding to keep the collection fresh? Consider affiliate programs with [Amazon](#) and [Christian Books](#). Grants from [Aldi stores](#) and other retailers.
  - e. Are the team members using customer service attitudes and skills?
  - f. Are the team members diverse in age and gender?

## **E. Be prepared**

1. Communication Challenges
  - a. Church staff may assume library team is not open to change. Library team may want to help the church staff, but they need to be specific in ways to offer their help.
  - b. Lack of respect often compromise communication between men and women as well as among the generations.
2. Lots of Behind the Scenes Work
  - a. Lots of people love this kind of service.
  - b. Software saves lots of time and energy. Worth the money for multiple reasons.
  - c. Since church budgets are limited, consider designated giving, grants, and affiliates.

## **Connection Center: Taylors Baptist Church, Taylors, South Carolina**

When Taylors First Baptist Church began renovation in 2016, the desire was to create an open area where folks could meet, greet, and have a cup of coffee. That created a challenge for the library volunteers since the materials would be unattended except on Wednesdays and Sundays. Our plan included going back to the card-pocket-date due slip method in which anyone could self-checkout an item. (Information is later entered into the computer by a library volunteer.) DVD's are filed by subjects (i.e., CE, PG, BIB, etc.) and CD's are filed by the author's last name, then shelved on a "rolling rack" (available Wednesdays and Sundays); otherwise, they are stored in our locked workroom.

Shelf space was an issue since the area was to have several table/chairs venues, plus a large coffee bar in one corner. Books in poor condition or ones that had not been checked out in several years, or duplicate copies were not kept. Many were donated to local shelters, plus we held a "give-away" for several weeks for members. North Greenville University was happy to receive several Bible Commentary sets.

The criteria used was 2010 or newer books are in the Main Library; older ones (including series by Jenkins, Kingsbury, Morris, etc.) are stored in a downstairs room set up like the main library. Those books have original spines and numbers (no pockets/cards) and are checked out using a manual method.

We purchased a Concourse product that allows members to use their home computer to browse items in our library. More members are "checking us out" for their reading pleasure and study needs. Many who previously did not visit the library have become avid readers and ask for suggestions of authors they would enjoy. In order to make the library more usable, several "subject" areas were created (such as missions, leadership, prayer, parenting, marriage, etc.) for specific interest.

The Connection Center houses weekly and monthly periodicals, current prayer lists, plus church-produced study guides. Continued interest is also created by the inclusion of monthly articles and book reviews in the published and web available church newsletter.

The Connection Center is an information hub for members and visitors. It has also become a place for intimate groups, fellowship before Bible Studies, and other campus meetings. We also provide specific Leadership/Life Group publications and books recommended by our ministers. Average weekly attendance in Life Groups is 1300; worship is 1550.

Pictures of the Connection Center in Taylors First Baptist Church, Taylors, SC are available on the Church Librarians Network. Click [here](#).

Susan Tyler

Judy Dorn

**Back to page 1: [Taylors](#)**

## **THE SERVING CENTER: Central Baptist Church Decatur, Alabama**

The following ministries are in addition to the regular responsibilities of a church library. These are performed by a full-time volunteer team leader, a four-day a week paid assistant and ten team members who meet for workday every Wednesday. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. with additional hours on Wednesday evenings and Sundays. The library is open to the public. All of the following is done with the outstanding support of pastor and church staff.

1. Bible repair complete with leather covers at no cost for anyone anywhere
2. Card ministry with free handmade cards of all types for small groups
3. Card ministry making up to 500 Christmas cards to send to Veterans hospitals
4. Cataloging, processing, putting in computer program the pastor's library
5. Church history collection of items for church historian who is a team member
6. Church tablecloths are processed and circulated for church functions
7. Circulation Mature Living, Home Life, Parent Life, and devotional magazines
8. Collection center for Sunday School literature and devotional magazines for overseas ministry
9. Copy machine for those who need copies for their church work
10. Covering paperbacks books with KAPCO for special sales and individuals
11. Die-cutting open to the public with nine machines and over 700 dies
12. Display cases of more than 250 dolls from around the world
13. Homebound ministry in providing bags and items for distribution
14. Homeschool ministry of various types to all families both inside and outside the church
15. Kindergarten helps and activities in Noah's Ark Room
16. Lamination for entire church
17. Lost and Found for entire church
18. Mission trips in preparation of various packets and other materials
19. Missionary newsletters prepared and mailed for missionaries
20. Preparation of all materials for annual November library conference
21. Providing stands of all types and numbers for display items on tables, etc.
22. Providing laminated center pieces for dining hall tables for decoration
23. Sale and registration of all small group disciple making books
24. Sale of all tickets for church events such as banquets, conferences, etc
25. Saving money by refilling markers and buying glue and paints by the gallon
26. Spiral binding for the church
27. Supply Center for the entire church—a list of supplies may be found by going to the library website [cbcd.booksys.net](http://cbcd.booksys.net) and then clicking on "display" and then "visual"
28. Tract Distribution for tracts outside the library
29. Vacation Bible School helps in preparing materials and crafts—team members not working in VBS attend regular schedule for performing any needed helps
30. Village Academy (pre-school day program) helps and activities in Noah's Ark Room
31. Volunteer to help anyone who needs assistance with any project
32. And we will serve a cup of coffee, apple cider or hot chocolate with our Keurig!

Click [here](#) for pictures.

Back to page 1: [Central](#)

# FOREST HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

## Library New Direction Proposal Approved

A multipurpose ministry that helps Jesus' disciples walk a pathway of lifelong discipleship.

### **The Mission of the FHBC Disciple Making Resource Center (working title)**

The FHBC Disciple Making Resource Center glorifies God by **inviting** people into a relationship with Jesus and **investing** in their spiritual growth, therefore **increasing** His Kingdom through fully-devoted disciple makers.

### **The Strategy**

Starting points to be implemented over the next five or more years.

1. Feature books and media related to sermon series and Sunday School/small group topics.
2. Replace some items in the current collection that fail to align with the mission of FHBC with Bible, discipleship, evangelism, missions, and self-help non-fiction, fiction, and biographies for all ages.
3. Provide Book Clubs for all ages.
4. Include toolboxes or stations that will contain tools for target groups including New Disciples, Sharing Christ, Families, Equipping Leaders/Teachers, Missions, and Faith Stories.
5. Use a Disciple Making Resource Center Newsletter for the purpose of promoting what is going on in and through the Center.
6. Add eBooks to the collection.
7. Promote the use of RightNow Media.
8. Become a purchase point for event tickets as well as materials and learner guides for DiscipleLife use and individual use.

### **Ministry Title**

Create a title for this ministry that captures the essence of this new direction in the life and culture of Forest Hills Baptist Church.

**Back to page 2: [collaboration](#)**

01/31/2019

# FOREST HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

## Nashville, Tennessee

### The Enrichment Center

A ministry that helps us walk a pathway of lifelong discipleship as we invite people to Jesus, invest in spiritual growth, and increase His Kingdom.

#### The Mission of The Enrichment Center

The Enrichment Center glorifies God by **inviting** people into a relationship with Jesus and **investing** in their spiritual growth, therefore **increasing** His Kingdom through fully-devoted disciple makers.

**The Strategy:** Starting points to be implemented over the next five or more years.

1. Feature books and media related to sermon series and Sunday School/discipleship topics.
2. Build a library collection to align to the mission of FHBC with Bible, Enrichment, evangelism, missions, self-help, non-fiction, Christian fiction, and biographies for all ages.
3. Provide Book Clubs for all ages.
4. Include enrichment toolboxes/stations that will contain tools for target groups including new disciples, single adults, men, women, families, leaders/teachers, missions, evangelism, and faith stories.
5. Use a newsletter for promoting what is going on in and through The Enrichment Center.
6. Add eBooks to the collection.
7. Become a purchase point for event tickets as well as Bibles, books, and learner guides for DiscipleLife use and individual use.

#### The Pathway of Lifelong Discipleship

The following discipleship signposts will be used to determine the enrichment actions, books and DVDs selections, and the collection organization. (Based on Michael Kelley's "Signposts of Enrichment Pathway," see page 11)

1. Help people engage the Bible.
2. Help people obey God and die to Self
3. Help people serve God and Others
4. Help people share Christ
5. Help people exercise their faith
6. Help people seek God
7. Help people build relationships
8. Help people live unashamed.

#### Our Prayer

Father, enrich us to tear down the walls that separate us from the communities that surround our church family as we build bridges to people who need a Savior and to a community of fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.



The Enrichment Center, continued

These eight characteristics bridge the gap between FHBC and our communities and world. These characteristics or attributes enable us to invite, invest, and increase. The Enrichment Center will visibly connect with these attributes as they are used in our Worship, Sunday School, and DiscipleLife ministries.

**Bible Engagement:** Transformation can be recognized when our minds are sharpened by the Bible, our perspectives are shaped by the Bible, and our actions are directed by the Bible.

**Obeying God and Dying to Self:** Transformation can be seen when we progressively set aside earthly delights for kingdom priorities. Discipleship is the process of obedience to the One who is in authority over us rather than conforming to another's idea of what is appropriate Christian behavior.

**Serving God and Others:** Transformation is evident when personal needs and even dreams are set aside for the needs we see in others.

**Sharing Christ:** Transformation is evident when we talk about the Source of transformation in our lives. Maturing believers know that speaking about the message is a necessity alongside the need to live out the effects of the gospel.

**Exercising Faith:** Transformation is seen in believers when we exercise courage in our lives, characterized by faithful obedience to God's will.

**Seeking God:** Transformation is seen when our desire is to know God more deeply and experience His work more fully.

**Building relationships:** Transformation is occurring when relational maturity is evident in our lives. Our faith is personal, but it is not intended to be private. Our horizontal relationships should develop just as our vertical relationship with God does.

**Live Unashamed:** Transformation is evident when believers are unashamed in presenting their lives as being aligned with Christ. 2 Timothy 1:8

These attributes of discipleship are the signposts of the discipleship pathway. In other words, these are the characteristics that ought to be present, in increasing measure, in the life of someone who is growing toward Christlikeness. Based on the booklet *Creating a Discipleship Pathway* by Michael Kelley.

Back to page 2: [collaboration](#)

April 2019

## **Enrichment Center: Topic of the Month**

Coordinated by Julie and Kye Hudson; Allison and Martin Spears

Begins January 8

Times Vary | The Enrichment Center and The Connection Center

The Enrichment Center, formerly known as the church library, wants you!

We are thinking outside the box by providing topical resources for exploration and discussion to encourage and support the people of FHBC and the community. Our intent is to enrich the individual reading experience by exploring these topics together because books and life are meant for sharing.

Four topics will be explored for the winter/spring semester by using books, podcasts, and videos. The first 3 weeks of the month, there will be independent review of the resources. The last Wednesday of the month we will meet and share what we learned with rich discussion and encouragement.

### **Winter and Spring Topic Schedule:**

**January:** DEMENTIA -- Learning More and Walking Through the Impact of this Disease

**February:** LOVING YOUR CHILDREN -- Daughters, Sons, Special Needs, Grown Children Deconstructing their Faith, and LGBT Children

**March-April:** WHEN LOSS CRASHES IN -- Death, Divorce, Jobs, Dreams, Hopes

**May:** Recommended Reading/Summer Reading Lists/ Local Authors

<b>Month</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Select Your Resource(s)</b>	<b>Reflection Gathering Dates</b>
January	Dementia	January 5 or 8	January 29 @ 6:00 P.M. The Connection Center
February	Loving Your Children: Daughters, Sons, Children with Special Needs, and Grown Children Deconstructing Their Faith, and LGBT Children	February 2 or 5	February 26 @ 6:00 P.M. Locations to be announced

March-April	When Loss Crashes In: Death, Divorce, Jobs, Hopes, Dreams	March 1 or 4	April 29 @ 6:00 P.M. The Connection Center
May	Recommended Reading/Summer Reading Lists/ Local Authors	May 3 or 6 (ongoing through the summer)	At your favorite Summer reading spot!

Let us know your questions:

- Email [enrichment.center@fhbc.org](mailto:enrichment.center@fhbc.org)
- Catch us in the halls!
- Stop by the Enrichment Center

Back to page 2: [collaboration](#)

## **What is a Disciple Making Center (DMC)?**

*A multipurpose ministry that helps Jesus' disciples walk a pathway of lifelong discipleship.*

- 1. A ministry bathed in prayer.**
  - A. A small group of people who pray for those organizing and implementing the Disciple Making Center model. (all church sizes)
  - B. This group receives specific prayer requests and concerns from the Disciple Making Center team. (all church sizes)
  
- 2. A ministry that supports and assists the church's age level disciple making programs and actions that help believers navigate their faith journeys as they walk the pathway of discipleship.**
  - A. Provide books and media related to small group/Sunday School and sermon topics including self-help needs, Bible helps, Christian Fiction, Biographies. (all church sizes)
  - B. Promote Love for the Written Word emphasis in the church. (all church sizes)
  - C. Host book clubs for men, women, youth, children by using club titles that fit the disciple making process of a church. (all church sizes in appropriate ways)
  - D. Provide a Disciple Making Center newsletter. (all church sizes)
  - E. Host salons/events. (medium and larger churches)
  - F. Sell church events tickets and group study guides. (medium and larger churches)
  
- 3. A ministry deliberately aligned to the church's mission statement and disciple making process in fostering transformational opportunities for people.**
  - A. Disciple the library team and users. (all church sizes)
  - B. Classification and Cataloging (all church sizes)
    - 1) *Dewey Decimal system* for classifying disciple making books and media to align to the church's disciple making process.
    - 2) *Sears Subject Headings* for connecting books and media to the church's disciple making process.
    - 3) *Software* to use in classifying and cataloging disciple making resources and reporting.
  - C. Collection Development (all church sizes)
    - 1) *Selecting* books and media in alignments to the mission, vision, and disciple making process of the church.
    - 2) *Processing* books and media to prepare for circulation.
    - 3) *Repairing* books and media.
    - 4) *Weeding* the collection as needed on an ongoing basis.
    - 5) *Circulating* books and media to meet the needs and interests of customers.
  
- 4. A ministry location or locations in the church facilities for all the disciple making information, tools, and resources that catalyze and equip ministries to serve disciples on their journey pathway.**
  - A. Select a visible location that is in the traffic flow of the most people of all ages. (all church sizes)

- B. Present the collection on appropriate shelving. (all church sizes)
- C. Handicapped accessible. (all church sizes)
- D. Furnish sofa and comfortable chairs for one-on-one discipleship conversations and include coffee, tea, cocoa near the conversation area. (medium and larger church sizes)
- E. Organize and manage multisite libraries on the church campus for youth, children, and adults). (medium and larger churches)
- F. Provide appropriate stations that connect to the church disciple making process (medium and larger churches):
  - 1) *Sermon Series and Sunday School/Small Group Station*: Books and media related to the current sermon series and the Sunday School/Small Groups topics to encourage and equip individual disciples along their journey pathway.
  - 2) *Share Christ (Evangelism) Station*: Tract rack and books for believers to use with non-believers.
  - 3) *New Disciples Station*: Books, media, and magazines to use with new disciples of Jesus.
  - 4) *Family Station*: Parenting resources including Sunday School leaflets for parents to read with their children as they arrive on Sunday mornings then pray about the morning together.
  - 5) *Faith Stories Board or Station*: A typewriter, laptop, recording device, or notebook with blank lined pages for people to record their spiritual journey experiences through words and pictures.
  - 6) *Equipping Station*: Resources focused on equipping disciples to serve within the church family, the workplace, the neighborhoods, their homes, their communities, and the world.
  - 7) *Service Engagement Wall*: Racks and/or laptop that contain information brochures about all the ministries within the church as well as those sponsored by the church in the community and world.
  - 8) *Missions Station*: Resources focused on equipping disciples for their mission in live and for serving in mission fields at home and abroad.
  - 9) *Self-Help Station*: Specific books and media to encourage disciples to use with people in their neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, and families.

**5. A ministry that is unique to each church culture and context.**

- A. Create a title for the DMC that is unique to the culture and context of a church to reflect the church's mission, vision, and disciple making process. Samples: (all church sizes)
  - 1) *The Service Center*
  - 2) *The Connection Center*
  - 3) *The Sending Center*
  - 4) *The Pathway*
  - 5) *The Bridge*
  - 6) *The Equipping Center*
- B. Connect the library to the discipleship program in churches that are program-driven. (all church sizes)
- C. Accept the church library as a hub for supporting all the disciple making actions in churches that are process driven. (all church sizes)
- D. Fill the gaps resulting when churches do not have the infrastructure for disciple making small group opportunities such as sponsoring book clubs. (smaller churches)

Back to page 4: [transform](#)

## What is the Difference?

	<b>Church Library Ministry</b>	<b>Disciple Making Center (DMC)</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	The Church Library Ministry model carries out the mission of the church by providing information through media for evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and worship.	The DMC model is a multipurpose ministry that helps Jesus' disciples walk a pathway of lifelong discipleship.
<b>Scope</b>	To distribute resources to the church for the continuation of Christianity through the generations.	To engage disciples of Christ to become disciple makers who continue Christianity through the generations.
<b>Alignment</b>	To the church's mission and vision statements	To the church's disciple making process, mission, and vision.
<b>Measures</b>	Size of collection and number of users	Number of people disciplined through the ministry
<b>Services</b>	Provide leadership development resources, teaching helps, and media equipment for worship, Sunday School/small groups, and ministry teams.	In addition to the church library services, the hub of all that a church does in making disciples.
<b>Space</b>	Location of the collection for members to check out books and media	In addition to the collection, the go-to place in the church building for disciple making
<b>Location Name(s)</b>	Church Library	Fits the culture of the church and aligns to the church's disciple making process, mission, and vision
<b>Perception</b>	Shelves of books	Shelves of books with a disciple making purpose

Back to page 4: [transform](#)

## Disciple Making Center (DMC) Starting Points

A Disciple Making Center starts with prayer and your church’s disciple making process

**A. Launch: Disciple Making Center Prayer Team**

**B. Identify: Current Disciple Making Process for your church**

**C. Establish: An intentional Disciple Making System**

This system or systems include the programs and strategies fit your church

1. Small Groups for all ages including Sunday School, weekday groups, home groups.
2. New Disciples Strategy
3. One-on-One or Triad Disciple Making strategy
4. Worship
5. Evangelism
6. Assimilation

**D. Organize: The Disciple Making Center**

* Connect	Grow	Serve	Go
Self-Help Books and Media	Christian Fiction Collection	Books and Media related to sermon series and small group topics	Books and Media related to evangelism and missions including biographies
Book Clubs for all ages	Materials and resources for small group use and individual use	Equipping Station	Equipping Station
Newsletter	New Disciples Station	Faith Stories Station	Engagement Wall
Events/Salons	Family Station	Engagement Wall	Share Christ Station

\*Insert your church’s disciple making process.

### Disciple Making Systems

The four disciple making systems show how the actions carried out by the Disciple Making Center connect to and support the mission and vision of the church. No church is expected to do all of these actions. They are intended to be idea starters.

**A. Ministry and Evangelism System**

**(Entry Points for the Nones, Dones, Seekers, New Disciples)**

1. **“Side Door” through Self-Help Books and Media:** A special area focused on Christian self-help books and media. Church members encouraged to recommend this area or specific books and media to people in need in their neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, and families.

2. **Book Clubs for all ages:** Organize a variety of book clubs through the year that church members would use as side doors to invite their unchurched friends, coworkers, neighbors, and family members. These might be sponsored by the DMC to meet in the DMC or in homes or coffee shops.
3. **Salons/Events:** These are events that take place in the Disciple Making Center such as authors and other speakers. Or in the worship center sponsored by the DMC.

## **B. Discipleship Process System**

1. **Discipleship = Learn and Obey leads to spiritual growth:** Curriculum materials and support of all the other ministries plays key roles in the Discipleship Process.
2. **New Disciples Toolbox:** An area of the DMC that provides books, media, and magazines to use with new disciples of Jesus Christ including resources like the *Disciple Path*.

## **C. Spiritual and Worship System**

1. **Sermon Series and Small Group Related Books and Media:** A special location to display and make available books and media related to the current sermon series and small group topics. Encourage disciples to spiritually feed themselves beyond the weekly sermons and small group sessions.
2. **Faith Stories:** A venue for individuals to share their faith stories. Could be a simple notebook with blank and lined pages for disciples to record their spiritual journey experiences through words and pictures.
3. **Family Station:** Provide the Sunday School leaflets for parents to read with their children as they arrive on Sunday mornings then pray about the morning as families then go to their groups.
4. **Newsletter:** A weekly subscription online newsletter from the Disciple Making Center with quotes based on the current sermon topic of the week and announcements of the DMC events and new additions.

## **D. The Mission of Jesus Christ System (John 20:21)**

1. **Equipping Station:** A corner of the DMC focused on equipping disciples of Jesus Christ for service within the church family, the workplace, the neighborhoods, the homes, the communities, the world.
2. **Engagement Wall:** One wall of the Equipping Workshop features racks that contain information brochures about all the ministries within the church as well as those sponsored by the church in the community and world. In front of the wall rests a laptop that has all sorts of information about mission opportunities.

Back to page 4: [transform](#)



## LIBRARY AUTOMATION SOFTWARE

### What to look for . . .

1. Is it user friendly?
2. Will it handle all types of media?
3. Is there a place for all the information you want to keep up with?
4. Minimum computer requirements?
5. What functions will it accomplish?
  - a. Password – workers/users
  - b. Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC)
    - 1) Easy word search
    - 2) Search by author, title, subject, and/or key word
  - c. Mediagraphy
  - d. Cataloging
  - e. Circulation
    - 1) Check in/check out
    - 2) Reserve
    - 3) Print receipt
    - 4) Statistics reports
    - 5) Overdue/fine notices
    - 6) Form letters – standard and create your own
    - 7) Patron reports
    - 8) Control by media type and/or teacher class
    - 9) Override control
    - 10) Assign special due date
  - f. Other reports
    - 1) Accession list
    - 2) Holdings report
    - 3) Title list
  - g. Inventory
    - 1) Print shelf list
    - 2) Lost media report
    - 3) Use barcodes
6. Technical support available? Cost?
7. What kind of supplies needed and where to purchase?
8. Will it accept Dewey Decimal System or the Library of Congress call numbers?
9. Can you use MARC records?

10. Conversion of current data?
11. Are there multiple locations?
12. Can you upgrade?
13. How often is the software updated with new features?
14. Add your own requirements...

### **Recommended Software for Church Librarians**

Concourse and Atrium Distributed by Book Systems, Inc.  
721 Clinton Avenue Suite 11  
Huntsville, AL 35801  
Website: [www.booksys.com](http://www.booksys.com)  
Email: [sales@booksys.com](mailto:sales@booksys.com)  
Phone: 800.219.6571

PC Catalog Distributed by Library Concepts  
P.O. Box 330001  
Ft. Worth, TX 76163-0001  
Website: [www.LibraryConcepts.com](http://www.LibraryConcepts.com)  
Email: [Info@libraryconcepts.com](mailto:Info@libraryconcepts.com)  
Phone: 800.519-.7537

Back to page 4: [Evaluate](#)

## **Resources**

**Website: [Church Librarians Network](#)**

**Morlee Maynard, Church Library Ministry Specialist**

**Email: [churchlibrariansnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:churchlibrariansnetwork@gmail.com)**

**Phone: 615.618.9459 (leave a voicemail for me to return your call)**