

# Wesleyan Higher Ed.

One of The Most Intense Extended Transformative Discipleship Programs in the Church.

Dear Wesleyan Parents,

As Christian parents we know the deep joys, sharp pains, and legitimate fears involved in raising of children who will commit their lives to loving God and others. We also know that in the “blink of an eye” our children move out of our hands and homes and into the world. We shift from being in relative control of their lives to, at best, being occasional consultants. All the while we continually pray that God will guide them and bring transformative people into their lives.

Throughout their young lives we partner with our churches, pastors, and fellow parishioners to be a “Christian village” to help raise disciples. Together we invest hours of formal discipleship—Sunday school, worship services, Bible studies, youth groups, and camps.

Then, they graduate and move on to college or career. If into a career, we pray they find a quality church that will continue to build upon and leverage our spiritual investment in their lives. If off to college, well, that is a completely different challenge.

Choosing the college route requires parents to ask themselves important questions: What will she study? How much will it cost? Where should he live? Will she be safe? Which school is the best? Who will be his professors? Who will become her friends? The list goes on.

There is one other vital question, which is often asked too late. What school will leverage the spiritual investment in my child’s life and lead them beyond a career to a lifelong calling of serving God?

There may be many good answers to that



question. But for The Wesleyan Church, there are five great answers: Houghton College, Indiana Wesleyan University, Kingswood University, Oklahoma Wesleyan University, and Southern Wesleyan University.

Our colleges and universities are arguably the most extensive and intense discipleship program in our church. Obviously our colleges are not just big churches filled with 18 to 22-year-olds. Their sole job is not just making disciples. They are institutions of Christian higher education that offer numerous degrees to traditional students and adult students of all ages. If they did not provide a quality education and accredited degrees they would be a failure. But if they did not make their students more like Christ that would be a failure as well. *Consider the following “formal program” for Christian formation on our traditional campuses.*

Clearly these numbers don’t take into account the informal and invaluable impact of being formed by a Christian family, friends, and congregations, nor the fact that God has ordained his Church as the primary conduit for experiencing grace.

Furthermore, not everyone can or needs to go to college and for those who do, the primary reason is to get an education. If you only want Christian formation and discipleship there are many cheaper ways to get it. But if you are sending your son or daughter to college and to a Wesleyan school, they will not only get a quality education, they will also experience one of the most intense and transformative discipleship programs of their lives, and that is priceless.



## Average Wesleyan Church 1st - 12th Grade



## Wesleyan College / University Traditional Freshman-Senior

### Average Hours of Formal Christian Formation / Discipleship Per Week

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Worship                                  | 1 ⌚ |
| Sunday School                            | 1 ⌚ |
| Bible Study, Small Groups, & Youth Group | 1 ⌚ |

Average Hours A Week: 3 ⌚

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Chapels                       | 3 ⌚ |
| Bible & Theology Classes      | 1 ⌚ |
| Dorm Devotions & Small Groups | 1 ⌚ |

Average Hours A Week: 5 ⌚

### Average Days of Residential Christian Community Per Year

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Christian Camp (5th-12th) | 5 ⭐ |
| Other Retreat (5th-12th)  | 3 ⭐ |

Average Days A Year: 8 ⭐

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Spiritual Emphasis Weeks (Spring & Fall) | 6 ⭐   |
| Christian Residential Community          | 224 ⭐ |

Average Days A Year: 230 ⭐