



The following is the finding aid for the Mathaetai Institute of Discipleship collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted. [Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)

**Mathaetai Institute of Discipleship
Records, 1986-2003
MC 155**

Access
Open/unrestricted

Historical Note

The Mathaetai Institute of Discipleship was an adult lay formation program for Milwaukee parishes that existed from 1988 to 2002. The Institute was initially conceived of by a group of religious education directors in 1985 and presented as a concept to parishes in 1987, and eight parishes joined the initial planning committee. The word *mathaetai* in Greek means “disciples,” and the Institute was at first intended to create parish leaders, eventually moving to a more general goal of well-formed parish members. The Institute hosted year-long formation for adults involving speaker presentations, small groups, workshops, retreats, and experiences such as visiting a synagogue. At its height, the Institute included 19 parishes and served about 1,300 participants, but it came to an end in 2002 due to low parish and member enrollment and lack of financial viability.

Scope and Content *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

This collection contains administrative and financial records; materials related to the planning of the Institute, including the exploratory position paper and responses; materials relating to formation activities, including the general sessions, electives, discernment, internship, mentoring, and retreats; and other miscellaneous records. Some materials of note are a calligraphed charter with the signatures of the original board members (in Box 1 Folder 2), sample leader and participant manuals, and a VHS tape which provides an introduction to the program.

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders have been arranged alphabetically. “B” is an abbreviation for box and “F” is an abbreviation for folder. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 1	F 1	Alumni Events, 1995-2002
B 1	F 2	Board Members, 1988-2000
B 1	F 3	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1988-1989
B 1	F 4	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1989-1990
B 1	F 5	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1990-1991
B 1	F 6	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1991-1992
B 1	F 7	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1992-1993
B 1	F 8	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1993-1994
B 1	F 9	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1994-1995
B 1	F 10	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1995-1996
B 1	F 11	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1996-1997

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 1	F 12	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1997-1998
B 1	F 13	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1998-1999
B 1	F 14	Board Minutes and Agendas, 1999-2000
B 1	F 15	Board Minutes and Agendas, 2000-2001
B 1	F 16	Board Minutes and Agendas, 2001-2002
B 1	F 17	Budgets and Financial Statements, 1988-1997
B 2	F 1	Budgets and Financial Statements, 1998-2003
B 2	F 2	By-Laws, 1988-2000
B 2	F 3	Commissioning Service Mass Bulletins, ca. 1998-1999
B 2	F 4	Coordinating Team Members and Mentors, 1988
B 2	F 5	Coordinating Team Manual, 1989
B 2	F 6	Coordinating Team Manual: Discernment and Internship, ca. 1988-1990
B 2	F 7	Correspondence with Other Lay Ministry Programs, 1989
B 2	F 8	Development/Marketing Task Force, 1988-2002
B 2	F 9	Discernment and Internship, 1988-2000
B 2	F 10	Formation Elective Sessions and Participants, 1988-1999
B 2	F 11	Formation Session Schedules and Speaker Lists, 1989-2002
B 2	F 12	Formation Task Group, 1989-1998
B 2	F 13	Lay Ministry Planning Inspiration, ca. 1988
B 2	F 14	Liturgical Cloths
B 2	F 15	Mathaetai Manual (originals), 1995
B 2	F 16	Mathaetai Manual, 1995
B 3	F 1	Mathaetai Manual (originals), 1999
B 3	F 2	Mathaetai Manual, 1999
B 3	F 3	Mentoring, 1992-2000
B 3	F 4	News Clippings, ca. 1988 and 2002
B 3	F 5	Participant Packets, 1988
B 3	F 6	Participant Names, Individual, 1988-2000
B 3	F 7	Participant Names, Parish, 1995-2002
B 3	F 8	Planning Team Minutes, 1987-1988
B 3	F 9	“Position Paper on Ministerial Formation for Adults” and Responses, 1987
B 3	F 10	Promotional Materials, 1988-2002
B 4	F 1	Reports to Parishes, 1995-1999
B 4	F 2	Retreats, 1989-2001
B 4	F 3	Sample Participant Program, 2001
B 4	F 4	Task Force for the Development of Lay Ministry, 1986
B 4	F 5	<i>Today's Parish</i> Magazine Articles on Mathaetai, 1996
B 4	F 6	VHS tape, MAOHTA'I Introductory Video