

GATHER, GROW AND GO
A VISION FOR OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP
ALL SAINTS CHEVY CHASE

SUMMARY

WE WILL GATHER OUR PARISH IN FRIENDSHIP. WE WILL DO THIS THROUGH SMALL GROUPS, DINNERS, COFFEES, SPECIAL SERVICES, BIBLE STUDY, GROUP COMMUNITY SERVICE EFFORTS, PRAYER GROUPS, AND GROUPS BASED ON SHARED INTERESTS.

WE WILL GROW INDIVIDUALLY AND AS A PARISH BY OFFERING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PRAYER FOR PARISHIONERS AT EVERY STAGE OF THEIR JOURNEY AS CHRISTIANS, FROM BIBLE BASICS TO DEEPER STUDY OF SCRIPTURE AND THEOLOGY.

WE WILL GO AND SERVE OTHERS. WE WILL SERVE THE **UNDERPRIVILEGED IN OUR COMMUNITY** THROUGH EXISTING AND NEW INITIATIVES. WE WILL ALSO SERVE OUR OWN, BY STRENGTHENING OUR COMMITMENT TO CARE FOR **MEMBERS OF OUR OWN PARISH** .

THERE WILL BE OVERLAP IN THE THREE COMPONENTS OF OUR VISION. GATHERING TO COOK FOR A HOMELESS SHELTER WILL PROVIDE FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE. A NEW BIBLE STUDY OFFERING WILL PROVIDE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FRIENDSHIP.

WE SHOULD OFFER EDUCATION FOR PARISHIONERS AT ALL STAGES OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION. WE SHOULD OFFER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS THAT ALLOW FOR PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS AND ALL AGES.

GATHER

Gathering is about building relationships. Christ commanded us to love one another.

- The first place to gather is Sunday worship. How do we better meet the worship needs of our parish? Family worship? Combining the 9:00 and 11:5 services?
- New member welcome
- 50 plus youth group
- Alpha
- Youth groups: middle school and high school
- Young marrieds
- Singles
- Special events for the elderly
- VBS
- Families with young children

GROW

- Provide opportunities for growth at all stages of the Christian journey.
- **Bible study:** We already offer groups for men, women, and moms.
Examine what additional Bible study offerings we need. What about Bible 101: an overview of the Bible for “new Christians”?
Are we meeting at times that accommodate everyone who desires study?
- **Prayer:** Ideas for “advanced” prayer and even fasting.
Teaching new Christians how to pray
- Adult baptism, confirmation, Christianity 101 and church history classes
- Sunday school: do we have the resources to serve all ages ?

GO

As Christians, we have a responsibility to serve others. We currently have several initiatives, but the blessings of the Kingdom Campaign compel us to do more.

I. Helping others

Current local partnerships and projects:

- Blessed Bag Ministry
- Central union Mission
- Angel Tree project

Current Global partnerships and projects:

- Dominican Republic
- Rwanda
- Uganda
- Congo
- All Saints partnerships with Sending Agencies for missionaries

WE NEED TO DO MORE:

- Adopt a faith based womens shelter
- Adopt a school
- Little Lights DC -tutoring and mentoring for kids in DC housing projects
- Care for international/refugee families

II. Taking care of our parish family

Current efforts to love and care for parishioners in need:

- Elizabeth Stuckle's visiting ministry
- Clergy visits to parishioners
- Parish prayer list

What more should we be doing?

- Create parish "families" so that everyone is cared for?
- Organize rides to services and events
- Meals for those in crisis
- Emergency cash help

THE KINGDOM CAMPAIGN CAN LEAD US TO TAKE THE NEXT STEPS

- Resources for staff to coordinate community service
- Resources for staff to coordinate small groups, social events and youth programs
- Additional clergy so that there that we can meet pastoral needs of the parish
- Additional clergy to develop and implement new Christian education programs

ACTION:

- **IDENTIFY A SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE THAT WILL ENGAGE THE PARISH AT ALL LEVELS OF TIME, INTEREST AND AGE**
- **DEVELOP A BROCHURE EXPLAINING "GATHER, GROW, GO" TO SEND WITH THE PLEDGE CARD MAILING**
- **ANNOUNCE AT LEAST ONE NEW CHRISTIAN EDUCATION INITIATIVE**
- **ANNOUNCE ONE NEW FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE, OR STRENGTHEN AND PROMOTE AN EXISTING INITIATIVE(S)**

PLEASE NOTE THAT MANY OF THESE IDEAS ARE ALREADY IN PROGRESS: THE SUNDAY LUNCHES, THE 50 PLUS YOUTH GROUP, THE FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE, THE VISITING MINISTRY

IN MAKING THE CASE TO THE PARISH FOR THE KINGDOM CAMPAIGN, WE NEED TO PACKAGE WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE IN PLACE, AS WELL AS ANNOUNCE NEW IDEAS!