

ST. MATTHEW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
FIVE STAR MINISTRIES
2020 CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS and GOALS & STRATEGIES
approved by Executive Council 6-16-20

Living God's Love; the following resolution establishes the ministry focus of the Five Star Ministry Teams. The items listed under each Team reflect the expected activities for the ministry team for the coming year. This Continuing Resolution is required per Section IV.E of the By-Laws and is subject to an annual review.

The Five Star Ministry Team Leaders are encouraged to meet together periodically and share common thoughts and needs. As a vibrant congregation we must be flexible and adaptable to new ministries, programs, needs and services that are not specifically defined in the above Five Star Ministry Teams.

Congregational Life Ministry

The Congregational Life (Shepherding) Ministry is responsible for coordinating the worship life, prayer ministry, fellowship and service opportunities of the congregation.

The Team shall perform the following administrative tasks:

- Submit a written monthly and annual reports to Executive Council
- Serve as liaison to the Executive Council for
 - Worship Ministry
 - Alter Guild
 - Stephen Ministry
 - Parish Nurse
 - Prayer Ministry
 - Shepherding Ministry
- Perform an annual review of membership including:
 - Verify the Pastor's membership report to the Synod
 - Review and follow up on the Friendship Books
 - Update the Spiritual Gifts Inventory of the Congregation

2020 Goals and Strategies

- 1) Enhance and Strengthen our spiritual growth and relationships with God and each other
 - a) Establish a Shepherding Team to:
 - i) Identify individual member's spiritual gifts to achieve greater congregational involvement
 - ii) Share these gifts with 5 Star Ministry Teams and Church Staff so members can be contacted and invited to utilize and share their gifts
 - b) Refine a system for tracking active/inactive members
 - c) Investigate ways of making inactive members more active

Congregational Life Team members: CL Team Leader Cindy Rickly, Jan Sullivan, Jill Heck, Melody Costello, Lisa Burke

Communication Evangelism Ministry

The Communication Evangelism Ministry Team is responsible for coordinating and promoting internally and externally the church activities directed at reaching out and witnessing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world.

The Team shall perform the following administrative tasks:

- Meet monthly as a team and with other groups within the church as needed to effectively communicate the ministry of St. Matthew.
- Submit a written monthly and annual report to Executive Council
- Provide resources to encourage and equip the members of St. Matthew to effectively share their faith with friends, family, and neighbors.
- Recommend to ministry teams all media available for communications.
- Oversee and manage the website, social media and other communication media.
- Work with congregation and staff (rostered and non-rostered) as it relates to the church database.
- Promote St. Matthew in a variety of creative ways and help to lead consistent identity branding of St. Matthew.
- Help leverage the church database, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, website by working with the congregation and staff.
- Initiate internal and external promotion and coverage of special events.
- Guide and help to edit church communication content.
- Assist ministry teams and provide resources to reach out to visitors and prospective members.
- Coordinate the periodic preparation of a photo directory.

2020 Goals and Strategies

- 1) Foster more collaboration, teamwork and advanced planning to better inform the congregation and the community of all the amazing worship services and ministry events throughout the year
 - a) Create a calendar of events on google doc to share with members
- 2) Foster a “come and see” attitude within the congregation by informing and equipping our members with tools they can use to invite family, friends and neighbors to our unique services, fellowship and community outreach events.
 - a) Develop invitation postcard ministry
 - b) Develop multi-media methods that are personalized and tailored to the various demographics within the congregation.
- 3) Obtain a new digital signage that is esthetically pleasing and functional
 - a) Update and finalize proposal, identify memorial funds, present to EC for approval and transition the existing sign to the new sign by November 1, 2020.

Communication Evangelism Team members: CE Team Leader Lisa Burke, Melody Costello, Rex Rickly, Brian Harris, Larry Mohler (audio support)

Small Group Ministry

The Small Group Ministry Team Leader will seek to provide opportunities for the post high school adults and families of St. Matthew to meet together for study and discussion.

The Team shall perform the following administrative tasks

- Meet bi-monthly or as needed with small group study and/or fellowship leaders.
- Integrate new members into the life of the congregation.

- Coordinate adult education opportunities (Sunday morning and weekday Bible study groups).
- Plan adult or family fellowship events on a monthly basis.
- Expand and encourage in home Bible studies.
- Seek to form new groups as the need arises.

2020 Goals and Strategies

1. Build and strengthen our spiritual relationship with each other
 - Work with the Congregational Life Shepherding Team to develop shepherding care groups of 12 people each to communicate and stay in touch with members
 - Work with Communication Team to actively invite people to events using new methods of social media and printed postcards
 - Bonfire, Trunk or Treat night in the fall
 - Spooky Scavenger hunt with a Pumpkin contest in the fall
 - Ann Gregory paint night
 - Men's Football game, beer exchange with devotional
 - Cookie exchange – 1st Sunday in December
 - Develop new ways to welcome new members – add a LGL mug to the new member packet
 - Better use of Realm software to tract members and use their gifts
2. Deepen our knowledge of the Bible and Christ
 - Women's devotional night in July
 - Develop a Men's devotional evening
 - Develop regular devotionals monthly
 - Work with Pastor Bill and Deacon Lindsay to develop a monthly bible study.
 - Develop virtual bible study course

COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH MINISTRY

The Comprehensive Youth Ministry- Team leader is responsible for all ministries related to the youth of St. Matthew (Infants through High School) and the surrounding community.

The Team shall perform the following administrative tasks:

- Meet as needed with Christian Education Personnel (Sunday School Leadership, Youth Leaders, VBS leaders and Confirmation Coordinators for planning purposes.
- Work with youth groups to plan activities and programs
- Work with music personnel to encourage youth participation
- Assist with special opportunities for youth
- Assist with reaching out to the youth in the community.

2020 Goals and Strategies

1. Service Projects that could encompass all youth and or a specific appropriate age activity. These service projects can also be intergenerational activities
 - Go and Sing at Medina County Home
 - Make up kits for Homeless
 - Make up kits for Women's Shelter
 - Make blankets

- Serve at food Kitchens- as well as (Operation Homes) - plan meal and spend time with those involved in that program.
- Combine youth groups from other churches to raise awareness of the homeless.
- Take a collection of school supplies and fill back packs.

2. Church Involvement.

- Have each of the Sunday School Classes sign up and help with greeting the parishioners before church services.
- Encourage the youth to be a reader, assist with communion, play an instrument or sing and write a prayer and if they feel comfortable reading it during the prayers.

3. Luther League

- Create a Covenant
- Junior Board- This would mirror the Executive Council.
- Have those youth that do not have an officer position. Connect them with a Five Star Ministry Team.
- Once a month set aside an evening and have a potluck with the youth and leaders and use this time as a way to check in and do a service project, play games and continue to foster those relationship building (bible study ex)

4. Luther Middles

- Plan activities for this group.
- Service Projects – was mentioned above (Inclusive that all youth can participate)
- Fundraisers- This would allow them to be self-sustainable and not require a lot of money from the budget.

5. General Goals/Strategies-

- Senior Recognition- Reception
- First Communion - Reception
- Confirmation- Reception
- Young Adults- Meet with Deacon Lindsay to form that relationship when they are home for the Holidays and during the summer. This will continue the bond that was formed before they left for College. This would also include past Youth Members that have not had the opportunity to meet Deacon Lindsay. To connect with them and start building those relationships.
 - a) Have coffee
 - b) Go out to Dinner as a group
 - c) Group Activity- Disc Golf, The Foundry (just ideas)
- Youth Leaders/Sunday School Teachers- Have fellowship time as a group to have some fun and get to know each other better outside of the Church
- Update the Website and include all involved with youth to help with that as well as the youth themselves as many would have wonderful design ideas
- Souper bowl of Caring- This would involve all youth and could be an intergenerational activity

- Intergenerational Activities-
 - a) Have Confirmation Sponsors and youth usher for a service
 - b) Families sign up and encourage them to help with Ushering/Communion and even doing the readings.
- Plan Activities for families of youth to do something.
 - a) Drive in Movie in the parking lot.
 - b) Service Project.
- Have more youth led worship service
- Encourage parents while their youth is in Sunday School to have their own time with each other and sharing Joys, Junk and Jesus.

Social Concern Ministry

The Social Concerns Ministry Team is responsible for coordinating and promoting the social ministry of St. Matthew which includes celebrating diversity, supporting our neighbors locally and globally, promoting social justice and being good stewards of God's creation.

The Team shall perform the following administrative tasks:

- Meet monthly or as needed with a social ministry team
- Submit a written monthly and annual report to Executive Council
- Maintain persons for our involvement with Operation HOMES.
- Oversee our Transitional Housing Ministry.
- Maintain contact with the Risk Management Team
- Develop and evaluate, communicate and encourage a variety of social ministry opportunities for the congregation to learn, support, and become involved in the Social Concerns Ministry Activities
- Support ELCA social ministries.

2020 Goals and Strategies

1. Celebrating Diversity

- Black History Month recognition and worship service (done)
- Bishop Allende to speak May 14 about immigration and welcoming the stranger (scheduled, but subject to coronavirus restrictions)
- LGBTQ information session at Medina Library (inform congregation) "Diversity and Inclusion: What Does it Mean to be LGBTQ" May 6th @ 7pm
- Resources (books and videos) listed on the Social Concerns Ministry page on St. Matthew's website regarding diversity
- Researching the possibility of becoming a Reconciling in Christ church which focuses on publicly welcoming the LGBTQ+ community

2. Supporting Our Neighbors Locally and Globally

- Operation HOMES
- Transitional Housing
- Noisy Offering bimonthly with donations to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, ELCA Global Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, etc
- Assisting Transitional Housing residents and local community residents during the coronavirus pandemic by purchasing gift cards to local grocery stores, and promoting a Noisy

Offering collection of gift cards for the congregation to join in. Gift cards to be mailed to the church. (done)

- Bishop Allende to speak on May 14 about immigration and welcoming the stranger (this is both celebrating diversity and supporting our neighbors)
- Stuff the Bus via United Way to collect schools supplies in summer
- Gods Work Our Hands in fall with cluster churches (scheduled)
- Ronald McDonald Pop Tab Collection in coordination with Thrivent in late winter

3. Promoting Social Justice

- Inform members of the movie and book “Just Mercy” (done)
- Place resources list (books and videos) on the Social Ministry page of St. Matthew’s website regarding social justice

4. Good Stewards of God’s Creation

- Continue Styrofoam egg carton collection
- Recognize Earth Day in church service in April

Social Concerns Team members: SC Team Leader: Carla and Bob Maas, Jen Knaggs, Rachel Knaggs, Bruce Reed, Warren Benditz, Darine Prok, Helen Graf, Sandy Andrews, Jim Frame, John Baker,