

## Assimilation – New Members and Current Members

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### Why is This Important to Us?

- ◆ We do a good job with adult instruction but we're kind of done with them then-get them involved in the church.
- ◆ Relationships are so important – ongoing
- ◆ Members could realize what they're missing by not being involved.
- ◆ Get people involved and keep people involved.

### Assets on Which to Build

- ◆ Faithful Friend – match up person with active church member for 6 months, but hard to find match
- ◆ List of members with facts about them
- ◆ New member class
- ◆ Gift inventory
- ◆ Boards present information to new member class
- ◆ Spiritual gifts inventory – self assessment
- ◆ New member bios
- ◆ Time & Talent survey
- ◆ Faith basics class and then new member class (info re: church, spiritual gifts, time/talent survey, board present information)
- ◆ Contact new member within a month and match needs of church and new member interest
- ◆ Outreach committee and separate assimilation committee

**Assets on Which to Build (cont.)**

- ◆ After matched to ministry, checked on for one year
- ◆ Christ Care for small group Bible study
- ◆ Discipleship 101 – Past the faith basics (Christ, Greenfield AZ)
- ◆ Assimilation meeting of leaders (boards, committees)

**Other Discussion of Significance**

- ◆ Shut-ins can be praying; shut-ins often feel they can't do anything.
- ◆ Walk through Prayer – in church facilities prays over ministry.

**Recommendations**

- ◆ Ablaze web site – check on assimilation
- ◆ Current members need to reach out
- ◆ Faith basics for all new members even from other LCMS congregations
- ◆ Need to get new members in small group study
- ◆ Stop Dating the Church by Josh Harris – short easy read
- ◆ Elders workshop – Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> Trinity, Atchison will also deal with assimilation
- ◆ Introduce small groups through Purpose Driven Life – develops on going relationships
- ◆ Small groups can be organized by activity and/or bible study
- ◆ Invite people to come to small group no matter if they can only come a few times
- ◆ Ask people to commit for only a few weeks
- ◆ Start ministries with prayer and prayer going during meetings
- ◆ Prayer meetings
- ◆ Equipping the Church - workbook