

1. The Lilly Grant Program- the Intergenerational Ministry
2. Evangelism's efforts to step up activities to bring new disciples to Saint Mark
3. Legacy Giving Program
4. Find new opportunities to be active in missions and outreach

At our most recent COS meeting, reports were given on the progress of three of these focus areas. Disciple Bob Graves, who is leading our legacy giving initiative, reported that his committee is fully staffed with a diverse and excited cadre of fellow disciples. He stressed that legacy giving is different than endowments. Endowments are generally donated by people while they are still living and given to a specific ministry of the church. Saint Mark currently has twelve endowments valued at around \$600,000 that annually generate around \$48,000 of revenue for the church, the great majority (\$41,000) of which goes to the Marvin's Kids ministry. Legacy giving, on the other hand, is donating money to the church after you die, and go on to be with our Lord, by making Saint Mark a beneficiary of your estate in your will and/or trust documents, which Bob stated is "YOUR FINAL ACT OF CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY". Bob's team has come up with five steps to move this program along, namely:

1. Conduct an anonymous congregational survey to find out how many disciples already have legacy giving in their estate documents.
2. Share existing UMC legacy giving brochures with the congregation.
3. Sponsor a lunch and learn event which will include guest speakers to answer questions on how to incorporate legacy giving in your estate documents.

4. Include legacy giving articles in the Heart Beat and via grapevine.
5. Perhaps create an honor roll of disciples who have donated to the church by way of legacy giving.

Disciple Melissa Stevenson, co-chair of the Evangelism team, reported on the substantial progress her team has made, namely:

1. Flyers were mailed to every household in the church neighborhood highlighting our Lenten activities and inviting them to attend.
2. Bought pens with Saint Mark information on them. Melissa encouraged us to get a few then promptly lose them so a stranger might find them and learn about Saint Mark.
3. Keep the visitor bags going, and include the new pens, a map of our campus, and information on our Child Development Center (CDC) ministry.
4. Highlight Evangelism during our April 19 Ministry Celebration Moment.
5. Melissa stressed the importance of all disciples to wear your name tag to church so visitors can recognize you as a member of the church. Also, please do your best to greet visitors before and after the service to encourage them to return.
6. When we have one combined Sunday service, you may be asked to wear a colored ribbon to denote which service you normally attend so disciples that don't recognize you will know why and will hopefully introduce themselves.

7. Provide a free meal at our Recharge Wednesday fellowship to visitors who accompany a member of the church, so invite your friends to join you!

Disciple Melissa Higgs reported on our effort to find new opportunities to be active in mission and outreach by highlighting the April 18th Great Day of Service which you should all know about since it has been well advertised in the Heart Beat and the Sunday church bulletins. Please sign up and join the fun!

The new Intergenerational Ministry was not reported on at this COS meeting, but we all are looking forward to our first Lunch and Learn event on April 12th after the traditional service, where our team will report on what they have learned so far.

I hope that you have found this Lay Leader message to be informative and perhaps inspirational. We have many wonderful things going on at Saint Mark, being done by many wonderful disciples. I plan to provide you a report like this after every COS meeting so that you can stay informed and perhaps want to join in the excitement!

Peter Salis, Lay Leader