

Learning Program in Evangelism

Expectations

The Evangelist will be able to tell his or her faith story, to develop a congregational plan for evangelism and train others in evangelism.

The Evangelist will complete the ETS one-year learning program in order to be recommended for licensure.

Knowledge

1. Basic familiarity with the Bible, theology and church history.
2. Familiarity with programs of evangelism within the church such as Magnetic Church, Start Up/Start Over, Alpha, etc.

Skills

The Evangelist will be able to articulate their faith story to another and

1. Develop a congregational strategy for church growth and recruitment
2. Able to train others in evangelism

Assignments

The student in Evangelism shall complete the assignments as described below. The development of each assignment, including the scope, topic and goals for each, shall be discussed, supervised and evaluated by a supervising priest and documented on the form provided, including a timeline for accomplishing the assignments by June, 2009.

Read the four texts on the required reading list and one additional book from the additional resources list and show adequate knowledge of text in reflection papers

AND

Design and lead a Bible study series of at least 4, 45-minute classes in your congregation about Evangelism

AND

Plan and lead a three-part workshop series on telling your faith story.

AND

Develop one of the programs listed below as a seven-month project in your congregation. Include at least 2 other members of your congregation or regional ministry as team members. Present three incidents to your mentor group on the experience and write a reflection paper on one incident, due in March:

1. Evaluate your congregation as a welcoming church and make recommendations to your vestry
2. Develop and implement a process for evangelism in your congregation
3. Attend a program on evangelism (ETS weekend, Magnetic Church, start Up/Start Over, Alpha, etc.), reflect on how learning could be utilized in your church. Develop a plan, make recommendations to your vestry and begin implementation.
4. Develop and implement a plan for new member incorporation, including developing a brochure as an introduction to your church

The written plan shall be presented to the mentor group and the mentors shall concur with the plan by October 2008. Incidents arising from your ministry shall be presented at least three times over the course of the year in your mentor group. Consideration of the incidents and the feedback your group gives you shall be used in the theological reflection paper assigned in March.

In the final paper of the year, consider these issues: Did you accomplish your goals? What roadblocks did you encounter? How did you respond to these challenges? Where did you seek support? What faith issues arise? What are the system and power dynamics in your team and community which influenced your ministry?

BOOK LIST:

Required Reading:

1. Oswald, Roy m& Leas, Speed B. The Inviting Church. Alban Institute, 1987. (read before weekend)
2. Weeks, Andrew D. Welcome, Tools and Techniques for New Member Ministry. Alban Institute, 1992. (bring to the weekend)
3. Dawn, Marva J. Reaching Out Without Dumbing Down. Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1995 (read before weekend)
4. Lewis, C.S. Surprised by Joy

Evangelism 2008-2009

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Additional Resources

1. Cottrell, Stephen, and Croft, Steven. Emmaus: The Way of Faith. National Society, Church Publishing, Bible Society: London, 1996.
2. Schwab, A. Wayne. When the Members are the Missionaries. Member Mission Press: Essex, NY, 2002.
3. Werning, Waldo J. 21st century Disciples with a 1st Century Faith: Discipling. CSS Publishing (workbook edition), 1995.
4. Nash, Robert N. 8-Track Church in a CD World: The Modern Church in a Postmodern World. Smyth and Helwys, 1997.
5. Sitze, Bob. Your Brain Goes to Church: Neuroscience and Congregational Life. Alban Institute, 2004.
6. Fryer, Kelly A. A Story Worth Sharing: Engaging Evangelism. Augsburg Fortress Press, 2004