

GETTING IN POSITION TO THRIVE 2.0

TIME TO “UPGRADE” OUR POSITION

2012 Ministry Year

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

www.GoServe.net



One year ago, we adopted a mission strategy called “Getting in Position to Thrive.” Let’s quickly review what that means for us.

“GETTING IN POSITION”

When someone gets in position good things can happen! In sports, an offensive player who gets in the right position can score or make a positive impact for their team. A defensive player who gets in the right position can stop an offensive surge and also make a positive impact for their team. Likewise, an individual who puts forth the time and energy to do their finest at school, work or elsewhere will find themselves in the very best position to succeed and thrive!

Being “in position” is very important for the success of any church’s ministry.

A church that is “in position” will change lives, reach out, welcome and assimilate new people, be a beacon of care, inspire and receive strong financial support, and be able to seize new opportunities for mission.

At Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we are continually improving our position. Here are some positive signs of this progress in 2011:

Worship attendance is up 13.2% this year (projected to be around 475/week in 2011)

168 New Members have joined in the last 12 months

A growing number of adults are participating in adult education

A variety of fellowship events for people of all ages and household dynamics and diverse interests have connected people in fun and meaningful ways

We refinanced the mortgage

Youth Ministry Programs are expanding

We’ve filled important staff roles with gifted persons who are making a difference

We have more people involved in intentional caring ministry efforts and Social Ministry projects.

... and much more!



WE NEED TO KEEP GOING ! WE NEED YOUR HELP TO UPGRADE OUR POSITION IN 2012. Help us thrive and become the church God is calling us to be!

Six Intentional Plans to UPGRADE our Position for Greater Success in Mission in 2012

1) REACH OUT TO NEW PEOPLE

In the last 12 months we have received 168 New Members as Pastor Dave, our Senior Pastor, continues to make Evangelism visits a top priority—meeting with individuals in their homes, at coffee shops, and in his office. We hosted two large outreach events— “Bring A Friend Sunday” in February and a community movie night of the newly-released film, “Soul Surfer” in July. Our Facebook Ministry and Youtube Channels have grown significantly in 2011 and help to spread the word about important events and ministries.



In 2012, our newly formed Evangelism and Marketing Team will be meeting regularly to 1) overhaul the web site, 2) strengthen internet access to our church via search engine listings, 3) coordinate our social media outreach efforts, and 4) help us pay attention to how we can proactively reach out and invite others. The opening of the ICC makes Good Shepherd very accessible to Olney and other communities in the eastern part of the county. We plan to start reaching out and raising awareness along the ICC corridor.



2) CONNECT OUR ADULTS TO GROUPS

When people get involved beyond worship, their sense of belonging grows, whether that is through an **education group** or a **fellowship/service group**. A wonderful addition to our ministry has been Pastor Ted’s adult education programs this year. A huge number of people have become weekly participants in his classes, thus “getting in position to learn.”

We are excited for his 2012 schedule of classes. Simultaneously, we will start more Sunday morning discussion groups, as well as non-Sunday learning opportunities.

Our Parish Life and Fellowship Committee will continue to strengthen and spark new groups to engage and provide entry points for involvement. Since the spring of 2011, the PLF Committee launched a Running Group and a Cycling Group; and planned a “Dinners for Eight” program, after church lunch opportunities, and a Washington Nationals outing, just to name a few. Our adults crave the chance to learn, make friends, and be surrounded by people to encourage them on the journey of faith. As we upgrade our ministry, we will make sure that we continue to provide these opportunities to connect with others.

3) HELPING PEOPLE FIND THEIR PLACE

In a large church, it is important to help members find a place where their gifts can be used most effectively. When people are not engaged, it can be easy for them to walk away from participation and disengage from the life of the church. Our goal is to get people “ACTIVATED” or actively participating in an area of ministry. **In 2012, Penny Risen’s role will be**



revised as she becomes our **Director of Communications *and Connections***. Penny's knowledge of the church and strong work ethic will help us implement and oversee a mentor program for new members, help new members develop friendships, learn their gifts and talents, get them involved in the programs and ministries of the church (beyond worship), and to track their involvement closely during the first year of membership. She will also work to monitor the involvement of all members and personally contact members to share opportunities for them to get involved. **We have also budgeted additional funds to hire a part time support person for the Communications and Connections Ministry .**



4) YOUNG FAMILY & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In 2011, we started a monthly gathering for young families which has included many of our newer members. Plans are being made to start a parenting group for those with Middle School and/or High School youth.

The addition of David Shaffer as our Director of Youth Ministry has been a catalyst for energizing youth participation. Elementary youth events and special family opportunities will

continue. In 2012, Middle School and High School youth groups will be meeting weekly with the help of our Senior Seminarian and other support leaders. Senior High youth will attend the National Youth Gathering in July .

A full summer program will continue to be provided for Elementary, Middle, and High School youth-reinforcing that we offer “year round ministry.” We will have two summer interns to support summer ministries and keep our youth involved. Additional monies have been dedicated to add more staff as needed to further strengthen Youth Ministry efforts in 2012.

5) FORMALIZE THE CARING MINISTRY NETWORK

In a church of 1,000+ members, we know that “care happens” but. . .we also know that some caring needs can and will fall through the cracks. Thus, we have and will keep doing the following: We started a monthly Fellowship Group at Asbury to connect with our members who live there. We started a “Friendly-Calling” ministry to reach out to members through which we’ve learned of prayer needs and concerns, and also seen some members reconnect to the church as a result. In 2012, we will recruit and train at least a dozen new Friendly Callers.

The addition of Pastor Ted Schneider as our Support Pastor has also enabled us to connect with more of our Senior Members and those who have special visitation needs. In 2012, we will commission a new group of Stephen Ministers to provide one-on-one care.

We believe that the more people we can provide care for- the more we strengthen the community and keep people engaged and connected.



6) *KEY* -- FULLY FUND THE MINISTRY!

Here are some important pieces of information you should know:

a) **Our 2012 Budget is \$1,350,000**

b) The ongoing Mortgage of \$326,076 is included in the Budget.

c) We believe that there is an abundance of financial resources in this congregation which can and will make it possible to collectively meet and exceed our ministry needs! We have a long way to go however! Many of our members give generously. Far too many, however, give little or nothing. This disparity prevents us from funding the type of ministry we want and need at Good Shepherd. Consequently, staff resources are stretched beyond reasonable limits; and lay and clergy leaders are often challenged to fulfill ministry objectives with less than full funding. In 2012, we need each and every household to participate -- taking steps to help us increase the collective financial giving so that we can "thrive." We need to do this so that we can continue to move forward in mission, meet our financial obligations, nurture our members, spark new programs, and reach new people.

d) The 2012 Ministry Year Budget calls for a **10% increase in Benevolence expenditures**. We seek to be a witness of generosity to those in need in this community and beyond, for other churches and for our denomination.



The 2012 Ministry Budget builds in funding for the new initiatives that will help our church grow, will enable us to be externally focused, and will bless our shared life together. These have been mentioned earlier in this brochure. The budget can be simply illustrated this way:

Personnel	\$582,851
Mortgage	\$326,076
Property	\$160,250
Benevolence	\$ 105,600
Administration	\$ 49,000
"All Else"	\$126,223

Total Amount Needed in 2012 \$1,350,000

(\$112,500 per month)

THIS IS OUR NEW BASELINE!

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU IN 2012

We need every household of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to get involved and offer a financial pledge in support of the 2012 Ministry Year Budget. We need each member to demonstrate their commitment and we ask that each pledge of financial support represent the very best of your ability. Below is what we hope for:

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN REGULARLY TO THE MINISTRY YEAR BUDGET

Here's Your Challenge: "Upgrade" your offerings in 2012 to the best of your ability. In doing so, you are showing that you recognize the need for each household to do their part to fully fund the ministry of 2012.

Example: A household who has been giving \$2600/year (\$50/week) to the Annual Budget might challenge themselves to "upgrade" to a new starting point- perhaps \$3900/year (which is \$75/week), \$5200/year (which is \$100/week), or even more if you are able!



FOR THOSE WHO ARE NEW TO THE CHURCH IN 2011:

We had you in mind when we expanded our facility and ministry. Help us reach others like you in the days and years to come. Recognize that our need for ministry in 2012 is \$1.35 million.

Here's Your Challenge-- From the beginning, designate a specific percentage of your income to be given to the church's ministry and make a pledge for 2012 on Commitment Sunday, October 30th (or on any of the Sundays in November/December). From then on, challenge yourself to be as generous as possible and grow each year. Many sacrificed to expand the mission which has embraced you. Will you sacrifice to make sure that we reach others?

FOR THOSE WITH LITTLE OR NO PATTERN OF GIVING

Here's Your Challenge- We want to see 100% of our households give and participate according to their means. If you have given, try and give a little more if you are able. If you have never given, start now! Your participation in giving will be a powerful sign to others and will give the whole church joy and confidence. Make a pledge for the 2012 Ministry Year and fulfill it. It will make a difference in your life and in the lives of others!



COMMITMENT SUNDAY
Sunday, October 30th

Please bring your pledge card to Worship that day or
mail back to the church at your earliest convenience.
We want 100% participation!

**Pledge cards will be mailed to each household during the week of October 23.*