

## **The purpose of the vestry retreat . . .**

Define how we define "Building Christians for Service"

Gain an understanding of sources of abundance

Prioritize 3 T's to mission

Focus on mission

Develop a unity of purpose

Chart 2003

. . . All while listening to God's guidance!

(Higher Purposes:

- increase tithing,
- growth of St. Peter's)

## I. Stewardship

Define: Developing our gifts and the abundance God gives us and using them for God's glory.

Goal: Building a culture of stewardship at St. Peter's.

1. Create an abundance of financial resources

Priority <sup>1</sup>	Cost			Initiatives
	Time	Talent	Treasure	
2	M	M	M	a. develop biblically based vocational programs for adults, youth, and new members in stewardship and tithing.
1	H	L	L	b. Have parish-wide involvement
3	H	L	L	c. Everyone meets or exceeds the tithe.
	M	H	H	d. Mentor those who need help designing a plan of financial giving.
	H	M	L	e. Effectively communicate our needs, hopes and dreams

2. Everyone gives of their time and talent in some way.

	H	H	M	a. Conduct spiritual gifts survey.
	M	M	L	b. Match people to ministries and
3	H	M	L	d. Educate and train them for service.

3. Commission active local, national, and global outreach programs.

2	H	M	L	a. identify needs.
	H	M	L	b. plan and prioritize and provide resources.
	M	M	L	c. identify leaders and participants.
	M	M	H	d. implement
	M	M	L	e. assess the program

## II. Worship

Define: Unite ourselves with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, hear God's word, offer prayer and celebrate sacraments.

Goal: to involve every person who would come in a life of worship.

1. Provide a mix of worship services that uplifts and fills us with the Holy Spirit.

1	M	M	L	a. Provide abundant opportunities for lay participation in worship.
	L	M	L	b. identify the desires of congregation to fulfill the objective.
	M	M	L	c. Include the needs of children and youth in the above.

### III. Christian Education

Define: Ongoing study and development of our faith and equipping Christians for service.

Goal: To provide the tools, resources and relationships to discern where we are in our continuing Christian journey, and provide learning opportunities that appeal to all.

#### 1. Gain mastery of the content of the faith.

	H	M	M	a. Regularly scheduled educational opportunities.
	L	M	H	b. Outside educational opportunities.
	?	H	L	c. Preaching
	L	L	M	d. Visiting speakers
	L	L	M	e. Literature to encourage learning
	M	M	L	f. Bible study for working parents

#### 2. Integrate faith in secular activities. (See Initiatives from Objective 1.)

3	H	M	M	a. Retreats – coordinators
	M	L	M	b. Retreats – participants
	L	L	M	c. Library Resources – Christian World View

#### 3. Train educators and others for their ministries. (See Initiatives from Objective 1.)

	M	L	L	a. Utilize diocesan Christian Ed resources.
1	M	M	L	b. In-parish teacher training session, regularly scheduled.
	M	H	M	c. Develop courses for lay ministry.

#### 4. Stimulate quest to know and grow.

1	M	M	M	a. Establish expectation of membership.
	M	M	L	b. Publicize educational opportunities.
	M	L	L	c. Prayer team for Christian Ed.
				d. Preaching

#### 5. Growing cadre of ministers who mentor others.

	M	M	L	a. investigate acquisition of formal curriculum program.
	H	H	L	b. culture that teaches and allows mentoring.

### IV. Evangelism

Define: Spreading the Good News

Goal: To prepare and equip a ministry of evangelism and send it forth into the world.

<<Commission>>

#### 1. Make St. Peter's known.

1	M	M	M	a. media, PR, advertising
	M	L	M	b. direct mail

	M	H	L	c. web site, especially with Diocese
1	M	M	L	d. neighborhood visits, door-to-door, caroling
	L	L	L	e. ecumenical cooperation

2. Evangelism leadership team.

1	L	L	L	a. Becoming a Contagious Christian
	L	L	L	b. So You Think You Can't Stand Evangelism
	M	M	L	c. Identify T & T in parish
	H	H	M	d. Training the trainers (consultants? Conferences?)
	M	M	L	e. Training trainees

3. Welcome and incorporated new members

1	M	M	L	a. Sustain new member ministry/ mentors (Healy program)
	H	H	M	b. ALPHA (leader)
	H	L	L	c. ALPHA (participant)

4. Church resources used by community  
See Transition Report.

5. Educate membership

	M	H	M	a. Christian Ed – leaders
	M	L	L	b. Christian Ed – participants
	M	H	L	c. Liturgical formation, preaching

**V. Parish Life**

Define: Bringing a sense of family to the church through:

- a. sharing chores
- b. communication
- c. playing together
- d. helping each other (see Pastoral Care)

Goals:

1. Effective communication
2. Be inclusive in sharing chores, communication, and playing together
3. Foster leadership.

Objective 1: Create communications vehicles to reach all.

	L	M	L	a. Good News electronic option
1	M	L	L	b. communications tree (e-tree and phone)
				b1: every Friday announcements (e-tree only)
	M	M	H	c. newspaper column (multi-church?)

Objective 2: build a leadership pool

2	H	H	H	a. ministries build future leaders
				a1. (separate initiative?) dedicate vestry position for a teen
	L	L	M	b. encourage Cursillo
	M	M	L	c. groom successors
1	M	M	L	d. youth as teachers

## VI. Pastoral Care

Define: Parish family working together in ministering to those in need.

Goals:

1. Identify, design, strengthen and communicate programs to address those specific needs of our parish family.
2. Strengthen current programs
3. Create a safe and loving haven within St. Peter's for this care.

Objective 1: Identify programs people want to have as recipients and providers

1	L	M	L	a. time and talent survey
0	L	M	L	b. tracking requests for help
3	M	M	L	c. discerning spiritual gifts

Objective 2: Provide lay ministries to support the rector

0	H	H	H	a. re-start Stephen ministry.
0	M	M	L	b. LEM's for homebound.

## VII. Staff and Daily Operations

Define: The professional and volunteer teams that function in divers ways to support the ministries of the church.

Goal: Grow teams to support expanding ministries in the Church and provide them with support.

4	L	M	H	1. Full-time youth minister/assistant pastor
	L	L	M	2. Special events sexton
	L	L	H	3. Part-time stewardship/development program director
	L	M	M	4. Networked computers
	L	L	H	5. Paid nursery positions to cover all duties.

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<sup>1</sup> Priority refers to a process where each vestry member indicated which goals they felt to be most important. Items with the highest numerical value represent the highest priorities.