

NOTES**CELEBRATE JESUS GENERAL INFORMATION GUIDEBOOK****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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CELEBRATE JESUS MISSION

General Information

PREFACE

Celebrate Jesus Roots - In the 1980s the British Methodist Church perceived failure in their churches to live out the Great Commission. They planned a renewal event under the direction of the Reverend Rob Frost and called it Share Jesus. It was such a success they realized it was not an “event”, but a new evangelistic perspective in the churches. Share Jesus Missions continued in the United Kingdom on a yearly basis.

By 1998 Share Jesus had found its way to Florida. Share Jesus Missions took place in Orlando and Jacksonville (1999). Following these missions, a group of pastors and lay people heard God’s calling to form a new ministry to assist churches here in discovering this new evangelistic perspective. Celebrate Jesus Inc. began in 1999 and since then has overseen 22 missions throughout Florida. Over 230 churches from several denominations have partnered with mission teams to evangelize their communities, and well over 2,400 people have participated as missionaries.

The hallmark of a Celebrate Jesus Mission is clarity of the vision to intentionally move toward full obedience to the Great Commission. Celebrate Jesus is not about strengthening your church or ensuring its survival; it is about having a heart for the lost and the hopeless, it is about desiring for them to know Jesus, it is about recovering connection to your community. We are not to be so busy saving our own lives (trying to survive in the four walls of our churches), but we are to let go of ourselves (lose our lives) for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ... then and only then will life and vibrancy come into our churches.

Celebrate Jesus is an instrument to move you, your church members and your community farther along in your walk of faith with Christ. Celebrate Jesus encourages you through prayer and the leading of the Holy Spirit to envision and implement unique ways to invite, welcome, nurture, and disciple those who respond.

You and your church will be taking part in a growing, informal faith community defined and shaped by the Celebrate Jesus Mission experience. That community is defined in part by the following characteristics:

- ♥ In touch with the depth of the hurt of ordinary people
- ♥ Able to love those people
- ♥ Passionate to share Jesus with them
- ♥ Mobilized to primarily focus ministry outward to the community

After you have been on a Celebrate Jesus Mission you will see ministry and people through different eyes.

NOTES

Leaders for Host Church

Below is a list of leaders for your church's Celebrate Jesus Mission. Feel free to add other coordinators and/or committees needed by your particular church.

Key Leader:

Name: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Hospitality Coordinator:

Name: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Prayer Coordinator:

Name: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Follow-Through Coordinator:

Name: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Visitation Coordinator:

Name: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Block Party Coordinator:

Name: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

INTRODUCTION

Celebrate Jesus Mission is about people coming together in fellowship to share the good news of Jesus Christ. When your congregation invites a team to spend a week in ministry at your church, you enter into a partnership. The missions with the greatest, most long-lasting impact are those in which team members and church members work alongside each other in every activity. The mission is only a vehicle to **begin** the process of new growth; the real harvest happens after the mission as church families continue to minister to their communities.

Our prayer is that the week of mission will be one of transformation, seeing the power of the Holy Spirit influence and change lives.

PROMOTING THE MISSION CONCEPT

When you invite a Celebrate Jesus Mission team...

...fresh ideas, people, vision and energy bring about powerful changes in a short period of time.

...times of intense focus in ministry, relationships and prayer bear much fruit.

...team members and church members develop a warm fellowship during the course of the week, and the ministry to one another becomes an important part of the mission itself.

...Your congregation is an active participant – Celebrate Jesus Mission is about **shared** ministry. Your church members and our Celebrate Jesus leaders decide together areas of need and the development of goals for the mission. The Celebrate Jesus Mission team comes alongside your church members to help realize those goals.

A Celebrate Jesus Mission is a powerful tool for any congregation wishing to reach their community for Christ. We hope this booklet will provide comprehensive information in order for your church to be decisive about hosting a mission.

THE CELEBRATE JESUS MISSION DYNAMIC

A Celebrate Jesus Mission team is made up of 6-15 ordinary Christians of all ages, living in community for a week. The team partners with a host church and together they work to fulfill simple, yet powerful, objectives in front-line evangelism.

The team's purpose is to share Jesus with every person they meet. These ordinary people, by their boldness of faith and **reliance on prayer**, are used by God to accomplish extraordinary results.

The Celebrate Jesus team serves in a broader context as well. Individual teams, while focused on a particular local church, are in mission with other teams in a specific geographical area. This broader partnership brings an intensity of prayer and enthusiasm that energizes participants in real Kingdom work. Teams share the sense of God doing something in the mission, in their own lives and beyond.

THE KEY OBJECTIVES OF A CELEBRATE JESUS MISSION

Celebrate Jesus missions have been designed to fulfill three specific objectives throughout the planning, execution and follow-through stages of each mission.

I. Reach the Lost

Celebrate Jesus Mission is front-line mission work. During the mission week teams focus on reaching the lost. They share the love of Jesus with people who are outside the walls of the church and do not yet know Him. This outreach will bless Christians and edify the church.

The Celebrate Jesus Mission mandate is the Great Commission:

“Go make disciples.” (Matt. 28:19)

II. Equip Emerging Evangelists

Secondly, Celebrate Jesus Mission (CJM) serves to call out and equip emerging evangelists. People on a CJM team and partnering host church members have sensed a call from God to reach the lost. Many of them will be very new to the work of evangelism and may have never shared their faith with anyone before.

They have, however, committed themselves to be used by God in mission outreach and they want to learn.

❖ Pastors who have hosted teams in their churches and sent believers to serve on Celebrate Jesus Mission teams as team members have seen the Lord take the average John and Jane Christian and transform them into powerful, effective witnesses. The Lord takes the team members' faithfulness and the opportunities afforded to share their faith, and miracles happen. They discover that the Holy Spirit really is at work in evangelism. Their faith deepens profoundly, they find a boldness they never knew they had, and they experience joy as their spiritual lives take on new meaning. Their prayer life deepens as they rely on prayer and see that prayer really makes a difference.

III. Provide An Apostolic Model of Outreach Ministry

Celebrate Jesus Mission serves as an apostolic witness to the host church. CJM teams exemplify what the Lord intended for His church when He said, “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be my witnesses....” (Acts 1:8).

Celebrate Jesus Mission calls the church to make evangelism a top priority, to make room on the calendar for outreach, and to provide money from the budget for reaching the lost. Host churches discover that evangelism is not a daunting or fearful task.

**We model the belief that people must be connected
both to Jesus AND to the local church.**

Sample Schedule continued – we get prayer requests every time we go out!

When	Description	Location
Wednesday		
8:00 am	Breakfast	
9:00-10:00	Daily open devotions and communion – everyone welcome to join!	Chapel
10:00-11:30	Divide up: ½ to Health clinic to give out water and bus tokens; ½ to Apts. <i>Behind church</i> – Kindness evangelism/pick up trash	① County Health Center ② Pine Ridge Apts.
Noon	Group Lunch with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
1:30-3:00	Divide 3 ways ① Give out boxed lunches/drinks, bus tokens at the Day Work Center ② Drive by: Give pizza and soda to construction/utility workers ③ Community Pool/Skate Park: give out popsicles, water, invite teens to come Thurs. for Volleyball tournament & Goofy Olympics	① Downtown ② Local community ③ Hartfield Comm. Center
3:00-4:00	Quiet time	
Time TBA	Leave for Mid-Week Celebration	
Time TBA	Mid-Week Celebration	TBA
10:00	Showers	Church members' homes
10:30	Visiting Team Time – Prayer (Non-Negotiable)	Chapel
Thursday		
	<i>Morning OFF – sleep in today!</i>	
Noon	Lunch	Church hall
1:30-3:00	Divide 3 ways ① Give out boxed lunches/drinks, bus tokens at the Day Work Center ② Drive by: Give pizza and soda to construction/utility workers ③ Community Pool/Skate Park: give out popsicles, water, invite teens to come to Volleyball tournament & Goofy Olympics	① Downtown ② Local community ③ Hartfield Comm. Center
4:30-6:30	½ Teen Challenge Volleyball tournament ½ set up for Goofy Olympics	Hyde Park
6:30-8:30	Teen Goofy Olympics, Christian Rock band, free food	Hyde Park
9:00	Showers	Church members' homes
9:30	Visiting Team Time – Prayer (Non-Negotiable)	Chapel
Friday		
8:00 am	Breakfast	
9:00-10:00	Daily open devotions and communion – everyone welcome to join!	Chapel
10:00-11:30	Divide up: ½ to Health clinic to give out water and bus tokens; ½ going <i>door-to-door</i> to Apts. <i>behind church</i>	① County Health Center ② Pine Ridge Apts.
Noon	Group Lunch with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
2:30-4:30	Divide up: ½ will be providing a lunch for the teachers and giving school supplies as a way of being a blessing to them; ½ set up for community Block Party	① Orange Park Elem. School ② Hyde Park
5:00-8:00	Community Block Party (across from church)	Hyde Park
9:30	Showers	Church members' homes
10:00	Visiting Team Time – Prayer (Non-Negotiable)	Chapel
Saturday		
8:30 am	Church-wide breakfast with team and share glory stories	Church hall
Time TBA	Team Leaders, Team Pastors & Pigeons Debrief meeting	TBA
Time TBA	Closing Ceremonies and Testimony Service	TBA
Sunday		
	“Celebration Sunday” in all worship services!	

We always ask for prayer requests every time we go out!

Sample Schedule – we get prayer requests every time we go out!

When	Description	Location
Friday		
7 pm	Final Celebrate Jesus Prayer Gathering	TBA
Saturday		
Time TBA	Team Leaders, Team Pastors & Pigeons meeting	TBA
Time TBA	Commissioning Service; meet team and bring back to church	TBA
5:00	Team drops off their gear where they will be sleeping	Church rooms
5:30	Dinner; meet and greet visiting team	Church hall
7:30	Showers	
8:00	Visiting Team Time-Get to know one another (Non-negotiable)	Chapel
Sunday		
7:30 am	Breakfast	
8:30 & 11	Church services – Team Leader will be preaching	Church
10:00	Visiting Team attends Sunday School classes for a time of Q&A	Church
Following church	Everyone comes together for a potluck lunch and a get-acquainted time. Also, some training for the events of the week	Church hall
3:00-4:00	Following Training: Take cookies to Fire and Police stations, gas station....	Stations
4:30-5:45	Church dinner with debrief, sharing stories and teaching time	Church hall
6:00-7:15	We will all go out into the neighborhoods door-to-door	Whisper Wood – 250 homes
7:30-9:00	Ice cream with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
9:00	Showers	Church members' homes
9:30	Visiting Team Time – Prayer (Non-Negotiable)	Chapel
Monday		
8:00 am	Breakfast	
9:00-10:00	Daily open devotions and communion – everyone welcome to join!	Chapel
10:00-11:30	Divide up: ½ to Health clinic to give out water and bus tokens; ½ to Apts. across from church – Kindness evangelism/pick up trash	① County Health Center ② Lighthouse Apts.
Noon	Group Lunch with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
1:30-3:00	Divide 3 ways ① Give out boxed lunches/drinks, bus tokens at the Day Work Center ② Drive by: Give pizza and soda to construction/utility workers ③ Community Pool/Skate Park: give out popsicles, water, invite teens to come Thurs. for Volleyball tournament & Goofy Olympics	① Downtown ② Local community ③ Hartfield Comm. Center
3:00-5:00	Quiet time	
5:00-6:00	Dinner with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
6:15-7:45	We will all go out into the neighborhoods door-to-door	Whisper Wood – 300 homes
8:00-9:00	Ice cream with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
9:00	Showers	Church members' homes
9:30	Visiting Team Time – Prayer (Non-Negotiable)	Chapel
Tuesday		
8:00 am	Breakfast	
9:00-10:00	Daily open devotions and communion – everyone welcome to join!	Chapel
10:00-11:30	Divide up: ½ to Health clinic to give out water and bus tokens; ½ going door-to-door at Apts. across from church	① County Health Center ② Lighthouse Apts.
Noon	Group Lunch with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
1:30-3:00	Divide 3 ways ① Give out boxed lunches/drinks, bus tokens at the Day Work Center ② Drive by: Give pizza and soda to construction/utility workers ③ Community Pool/Skate Park: give out popsicles, water, invite teens to come Thurs. for Volleyball tournament & Goofy Olympics	① Downtown ② Local community ③ Hartfield Comm. Center
3:00-5:00	Quiet time	
5:00-6:00	Dinner with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
6:15-7:45	We will all go out into the neighborhoods door-to-door	Boca Place – 280 homes
8:00-9:00	Ice cream with debrief and sharing stories	Church hall
9:00	Showers	Church members' homes
9:30	Visiting Team Time – Prayer (Non-Negotiable)	Chapel

MISSION PLANNING TOOL QUESTIONS

If you choose to host a mission, you and your church leaders will begin the process of defining your mission goals through exploring these questions. The Planning Tool form will be provided to you by the Celebrate Jesus office.

1. Create a “Snapshot” of your congregation and church facilities

Statistics:

Describe the Ethnic Culture of the Church - Styles of Worship and Service
TimesAverage Worship Attendance - Number of small groups/Bible studies
How many youth/teens? Elementary Age? Nursery age? Retirees?

Church Campus Facilities:

Number of rest rooms - Shower facilities at the church? - Number and sizes of rooms available for week of mission

2. What is your mission field and where is your community?

Describe your community (immediate mission field) after prayer walking and discussing it among yourselves (***the conversation about this is a crucial part of the process***). Are there many retired folks? Children or teenagers? What ethnic groups live there? Are there new housing developments, schools, parks or apartment complexes near your church? Is the population in your area growing, declining or changing ethnicity? What else should be known about your area?

3. Who do you want to reach?

In prayer and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, who burdens your heart? i.e. for whom do you weep while in prayer?

Look for where God is already working.

To what group of people is God leading you?

4. What is the vision of your mission?

What needs do you see? What new ministries could your church offer to your community? In what ways can your church show your neighbors that you really care?

5. Does your church currently have any connections within your community? (i.e. community-wide Easter Sunrise Service, sponsoring the Boy Scouts, hosting Rotary Club meetings.)

6. How would you describe the Spiritual life of your Church?**7. How will you encourage and recruit your congregation to be involved in your mission?**

Members of every age and ability are needed!

8. Are there any potential roadblocks to your mission?

Are there any significant conflicts within the church, or between the church and the community?

Are there any special needs we can begin praying for immediately?

These important Planning Tool questions should be prayerfully discussed among a small group, ideally your mission leadership team.

Other topics for discussion: What “new climate” would God have us create within our church for the future? “Are we doing everything we can to establish Kingdom work that meets immediate needs and can bear fruit in the months/years to come?”

MEASURABLE/ACHIEVABLE GOALS FOR MISSION WEEK

After your leadership team has returned the Planning Tool, the Celebrate Jesus staff will schedule a consultation with your leadership team and pastor. This meeting usually takes place in February or March of the mission year. You will be provided a form at your consultation to state three (3) Measurable/Achievable Goals for your Celebrate Jesus Mission. These goals should be SMART Goals: specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-limited. You will need to pray through your goals; then determine 1) what preparations will need to be done **before** mission week, 2) activities that can be accomplished **during** mission week, and 3) follow-through activities **after** mission week is over.

- After seeking God’s direction, as a Host Church leadership team formulate your three Measurable/Achievable Goals to be accomplished during week of mission and steps to achieve them.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.

3 – 4 months before mission

- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Measurable/Achievable Goals due in CJ office.
- Order/purchase free gifts.
- Consider designing and ordering t-shirts for your church family and visiting team.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.

2 – 3 months before mission

- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Prepare to meet with Team Leader and Team Pastor.
- Flyers, prayer/contact cards, and other printed materials should be designed and ready for printing.
- Hospitality Coordinator begins preparing rooms and finalizing menus.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.
- Training fee due.

1 – 2 months before mission

- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Mission Week Schedule due in the Celebrate Jesus office.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.
- Are you ready for mission?
 - Free gifts ready?
 - Water bottles labeled?
 - Printing completed?
 - Donations received?
 - Door hanger packages prepared?
 - Maps and schedules displayed on walls and easy to read?
 - Meals planned?
 - Church campus clean and inviting?



“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Matt. 25:40

SAMPLE COUNTDOWN TO MISSION

(A general guideline; not meant to include every detail.)

Beginning about one year before Mission Week

- Covenant and fee due.
- Prepare and preach sermon series to sensitize and equip the church with passion for their neighbors who are not yet church-ed or saved.
- Stir the hearts of the church to give of their time out of passion for the lost; motivate them to be God's hands and feet.
- Continually communicate Celebrate Jesus Mission information to the church family.
- Implement regular prayer meetings and attend area monthly Prayer Gatherings.
- Initiate prayer walks in the neighborhoods.
- Pray and think through the finances for the mission:
 - Make budget for mission
 - Seek donations
 - To further Celebrate Jesus ministry for another mission, prayerfully determine the monetary offering to be given by your church and, in addition, consider yearly budgeting for this ministry.
- Host Church leadership team meets frequently (at least twice a month).
- Coordinators recruit volunteers to help them.
- Establish visitation areas and obtain county/city maps.

Beginning 9-12 months before Mission Week

- Coordinator Info Sheet and Resource fee due.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.
- Attend Celebrate Jesus workshop.

5 – 8 months before mission

- Planning Tool is completed by entire Host Church leadership team about 6-8 months before Mission Week; Planning Tool fee due.
- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, and communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family.
- Attend Celebrate Jesus workshop.
- Begin seeking donations (bottled water, door prizes, etc.).
- Establish a Celebrate Jesus "Headquarters" with mission information and sign-up sheets.
- Investigate the need for permits and permission to hand out water bottles, etc. in public parks and other public areas.
- Select a free gift to be given away.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.

4 – 5 months before mission

- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Church consultation with Celebrate Jesus staff.

The Measurable/Achievable Goals for the sample schedule (pages 24-25)

1. Over 700 door-to-door contacts in the immediate church neighborhood.
2. Build relationships between the church and the community.
3. Increase in Youth Ministry.

The Corporate Nature of Celebrate Jesus is very significant. Our CJ family is made up of diverse people from various places, but we have a kindred spirit; we are all about sharing the love of Jesus.

When we come together for mission there is an excitement and a support network in place that flourishes as we praise and worship and share mission experiences together. As a host church, be assured when we all come together during mission week for Opening, Mid-week and Closing Services, you will become part of the bigger picture. Let us celebrate the joy of being a family and let us celebrate together the faithfulness of God!

Now you have the facts.

Can you imagine...

your church as "home" for your neighbors who have no church family.....



Bring your church to prayer until God gives clarity and direction for doing mission.

Wait upon the Lord.

WHAT TO DO TO HOST A MISSION

1. Attend Information Meetings
 - ◆ Bring people from your church who have a passion for the lost or would be interested in mission. Bring people gifted in prayer, leadership, administration, hospitality and vision casting.
 - ◆ Ask questions.
 - ◆ Pick up a Covenant/Invitation to host mission in your church (only one per church is needed).
 - ◆ Pray - is this for your church?
2. Return the Invitation/Covenant and fee by the deadline date set for your mission (about one year prior to mission).
 - ◆ Through prayer be confident about hosting a mission.
 - ◆ Receive a commitment from a group willing to serve as the leadership team for mission (i.e. Key Leader & Coordinators) and have them sign the Coordinator Info Sheet.
3. Attend workshops offered by CJ for all Coordinator positions (*dates TBA*)
4. Return Planning Tool (PT) and fee by the deadline date on your Covenant (about 6-8 months prior to mission).
 - ◆ PT will be mailed to the Host Pastor upon receipt of Covenant and fee.
 - ◆ Prayer walk neighborhoods, gather your church's intercessors to join you and wait on God's direction.
 - ◆ Be clear about who you want to target.
 - ◆ Be intentional in choosing/creating/continuing chosen ministries.
 - ◆ Seriously plan for a successful future by thinking about and implementing procedures for follow-through **now**. Pray for God's leading.
5. Attend consultation about 4-6 months before mission (*dates TBA*)
 - ◆ A meeting with Pastor, church leadership team and the Celebrate Jesus representatives to review the Planning Tool and check on progress.
 - ◆ Allows for clear communication of your vision.
 - ◆ Strengthens and focuses Planning Tool objectives.
6. Create Measurable and Achievable goals for the week of mission. (Form will be provided.)
7. Meet with and host overnight the Team Leader and Team Pastor assigned to your church, *date TBA*.
 - ◆ Relationship building with your church leadership.
 - ◆ Begin planning mission week schedule.
8. Training Fee is due about 2-3 months prior to mission.
9. Wholly participate during the week of your mission.

be centrally located. All Host Church congregations and teams come together for these special events. Everything else happens in your local community.

Q: How is "Celebrate Jesus" organized and financed?

Answer: Celebrate Jesus Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a Board of Directors.

The Celebrate Jesus staff includes Martha Gay Duncan, Executive Director, and Marilyn Coppenhaver, Executive Assistant. Celebrate Jesus is funded by the generosity of individuals and congregations, by mission offerings, and by the sacrificial dedication of team members and staff.

Q: What if we don't invite a team?

Answer: How about encouraging some people from your church to serve as "missionaries" on another congregation's team? The blessing will return to your church when your "missionaries" come back equipped, inspired and excited about reaching out and sharing Jesus.



Working together to sow Kingdom seeds.

Q: What is the overall cost?**Answer:**

Administrative fees: There is a \$300 fee due with the Invitation/Covenant, a \$200 fee due with the Coordinator Info Sheet, a \$200 fee due with the Planning Tool, and a \$300 Training fee due about 2-3 months prior to mission. These fees provide you with resources and training.

Mission Expenses: You agree to pay for all programs you plan. You have complete control of this total amount. In the past churches have spent from \$200 to \$10,000 on the week of mission. **The most effective missions are not necessarily the most costly.**

Hospitality Expenses: Your obligation is to provide well-balanced nutritional meals, showers and a clean floor to sleep on.

Team members travel at their own expense as a love offering for your church's outreach.

Continued financial partnership: Please consider partnering with us by placing Celebrate Jesus in your yearly mission budget as part of your mission outreach. Your continued financial and prayer support advances mission outreach in the future.

Q: What are the important dates to remember?**Answer:**

Deadline dates for the following will be reflected on the Covenant for your specific mission.

Church Invitation/Covenant and fee
Coordinator Info Sheet and Resource fee
Your Planning Tool and fee
Training fee

Consultation dates and location will be confirmed with your church leaders several months prior to mission and that will be the time we clarify your goals and ensure that adequate preparation, participation and follow-through are planned.

Again, prior to mission the CJ Team Leader and Team Pastor will meet with your church leaders to pray, view your church facility, tour your neighborhood and help plan your mission week schedule. Remember, you will be responsible for sharing a meal and housing these folks for one evening. You will be informed of all these dates as mission is planned.

Q: Does everything happen at our church?

Answer: No. The Opening Ceremonies on the first Saturday, the Mid-week Celebration on Wednesday, and the Closing Ceremony the following Saturday will

Between now and mission week:

Attend Prayer Gatherings ☞ Communicate the mission over and over to the congregation ☞ Preach messages that allow the Holy Spirit to stir people's hearts ☞ Teach and practice faith sharing ☞ Use music, arts, drama - ANYTHING - to communicate the mission and what is expected of the congregation ☞ Sign up volunteers ☞ Get people committed to go out with the team ☞ Prayer walk your mission area ☞ Pray and Pray again - prayer is the determining factor in mission work!

★ "Celebration Sunday"

Prepare to celebrate your great week of doing ministry in your own community - plan a church family celebration in your worship services on the Sunday immediately following mission week. We call this "Celebration Sunday". You will probably be physically tired, but don't quench the work that the Holy Spirit has begun! Your church has gained a new perspective on "church" and "loving your neighbor" and you as Pastor and Key Leader will want to keep it growing! Encourage church members who went out with the visiting team doing door-to-door visits and other outreach activities, or were blessed to be part of the "support teams", to share their stories. Where did they see God at work? How did God work in their lives? How can your church keep this momentum going? This is a great opportunity for the Follow-Through coordinator to share some of the plans to continue building relationships with your neighbors. Keep wearing your mission t-shirts as you continue to make visits and offer acts of kindness in your community. Celebrate Jesus Mission is not a wonderful one-week event - mission week is the springboard that launches your church into new relationships and new ministries that will continue to bless your church family and community. We pray you will continue to *Celebrate Jesus!*

We ask that you make plans to collect an offering on "Celebration Sunday" designated for Celebrate Jesus to help us offer this ministry to other churches. Your generous love offering is used to plant seeds in other communities to help us equip churches to reach their neighbors with the love of Christ.

In addition, we ask that you prayerfully consider including Celebrate Jesus in your annual church budget. We are a faith ministry, totally dependent upon the prayers and financial gifts from individuals and churches.



"PRAY WITHOUT CEASING" | 1 Thessalonians 5:17

JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND TERMS

Host Pastor: Pastor of church hosting a mission. (It is recommended that pastors involved in a move decline from hosting a mission.) The Pastor will partner with the Key Leader to oversee all aspects of the mission.

Key Leader: A partner of the Host Pastor. The Key Leader will be **the primary** contact person for the Celebrate Jesus staff and leadership. The Key Leader will oversee Coordinators and help facilitate the mission.

Host Church: YOUR Church

Mission Team: A group of 6-15 ordinary Christians who come as visiting missionaries and stay at your church for the week of mission, partnering with your church family to reach the lost and hurting in your community.

Coordinators: Those who oversee a specific committee (i.e. Prayer, Hospitality, Follow-Through, Block Party and Visitation). The Coordinators will recruit their committees and together manage all aspects of their area of responsibility. Coordinators help plan the entire mission week. (See pages 10-14)

- **Prayer Coordinator:** Recruits a Prayer Committee that will organize events and individual prayer activities prior to and during mission.
- **Hospitality Coordinator:** Recruits and manages a Hospitality Committee that will be responsible for the care of the visiting team.
- **Follow-Through Coordinator:** Recruits and manages a committee that will help plan what the “ongoing” mission will look like.
- **Visitation Coordinator:** Recruits a committee to organize, provide map strategies, vehicles and materials for visitation each day of mission.
- **Block Party Coordinator:** Recruits a committee to organize and implement a free Block Party for the neighborhood on Friday afternoon/evening of Mission week.
- **Other church leadership positions** may be added by your church as needed (for example, coordinators for Publicity, Transportation, or Communications).

Each leader and coordinator will be provided a guidebook with detailed information to help them accomplish their tasks.

Host Pastor/Key Leader

First and foremost we want to encourage your church family to focus on relationships. ANTICIPATE the needs of your community, physical as well as spiritual. Anticipate the needs that you as a church can meet in ways that say to your community, “we care about you!”

Q: Who will make up the team coming to our church?

Answer: Six to fifteen committed Christian volunteers from as far away as God calls. These are Christians of all ages, gifts and backgrounds. The size of the team depends on the goals you set, your congregation’s commitment, and the number of appropriate team members available. Team members are not experts, but are willing and committed to partner with you to reach your congregation’s goals.

Q: Who determines if we get an all-age team, a family or a youth team?

Answer: We consult with you and decide that together, based on the goals you set, the make-up of your community and the availability of team members.

Q: What is a family team?

Answer: A family team includes Mom and/or Dad (or legal guardian) with their children (age 5 years old and up). These teams are especially relational and effective for missions aimed at children and their families.

Q: What is different about a youth team?

Answer: The only difference is that the bulk of team members are young people (13-18 years old). The mission goals may or may not be targeted at youth; however, youth teams bring high energy and can be useful at mobilizing a congregation’s youth for community outreach.

Q: What “method” of evangelism will be used?

Answer: There are many effective ways to reach people and we work with your congregational leaders to plan a mission that will be effective, natural and most likely to succeed given your community and congregational make-up. One of the most common methods is Servant Evangelism (Acts of Kindness), which encourages the team and church members to reach out to those in the community who are not church. Celebrate Jesus uses an invitational rather than confrontational style of evangelism.

Steve Sjogren has a fantastic website with hundreds of ideas for Servant Evangelism at <http://www.kindness.com>.

Friendship Evangelism

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Question: What is the purpose of a Celebrate Jesus Mission?

Answer: Our goal is to help people find Jesus and the loving fellowship of a local church, while providing “on-the-job training” in becoming a more effective witness for Christ. Through CJM we have observed God harvesting new Christians, igniting congregations and transforming team members. People receive calls to ministry, congregations are invigorated as their vision is sharpened to see outside the walls of the church, prayer life is deepened, and neighborhood visitations lay groundwork for ongoing, effective outreach.

Q: What makes Celebrate Jesus so effective?

Answer: It gives people “hands on”, practical experience!

Q: What can you really accomplish in just a week?

Answer: Begin a new worship service, start a new Sunday School, launch a youth group, begin 12 outreach small groups, reach 1000 homes with a personal visit from your church, share the gospel with 2000 people at a block party, start a bus ministry, gain a whole new perspective on what church is about - all these are actual results from missions in the last few years.

✝ The key is the year-long **prayer and planning** that your church undertakes in partnership with the Celebrate Jesus team. We like to see the planning process and the mission itself as **the beginning of a new work that will still be effective many years after mission.**

Q: How do we invite a team to our church?

Answer: Complete an Invitation/Covenant and submit it with the covenant fee by the deadline set for your particular area. You will then receive a Coordinator Info Sheet and the Mission Planning Tool to get you started on planning your mission. These completed documents and fees will be sent to the Celebrate Jesus Office. Consultation with your church leaders and Celebrate Jesus leadership will be set up to hone and “fine tune” your plans. A Team Leader and a Team Pastor will be assigned to your Church and will meet with you to develop detailed plans and a schedule for your week of mission. A schedule of dates will be given to you after you submit your Covenant and fee.

Q: What will we do?

Answer: Every church mission is uniquely different. Rely on God. Celebrate Jesus will provide materials and assistance to help you:

- ◆ Pray for and examine your community and church. *Planning Tool*
- ◆ Set achievable, measurable goals. *Goals sheet*
- ◆ Plan and develop a method to meet goals. *Consultation & Mission Schedule*
- ◆ Begin follow-through to those reached during your mission.

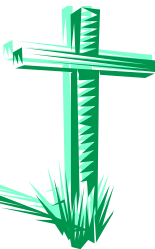
- * Make sure your **entire church family** is prepared for your mission and ready to participate in all the activities, including daily visitations and Servant Evangelism. The Visiting Team comes to go out **with you!**
- * Communicate the needs and sign up people from the congregation to go out with the visiting team every time they go out.
- * Train your church to be “visitor friendly”.
- * Your Visitation Coordinator should be available during mission week to share directions and maps for the geographic areas designated for visitation, “random acts of kindness” and servant evangelism.
- * Check with some of the stores ahead of time and ask if it is OK to come and give out water or brochures in their parking lots.
- * If your church plans to give out small gifts, cookies, prayer plants, water, or whatever, make sure everything is ready and available for the week.
- * If there is a need for permits for parks or beaches, have them available.
- * Post a city map in view of church family and mark areas where you have prayer walked.
- * Post another map to mark off where you have visited each day.
- * ADVERTISE with pamphlets, brochures, etc. Be part of planning and implementing the COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY on Friday evening.
- * MAKE IT KNOWN THAT THE CHURCH FAMILY NEEDS TO JOIN THE CELEBRATE JESUS TEAM **EVERY DAY** IN WHATEVER ACTIVITY THE CHURCH HAS CHOSEN.

The Key Leader is requested to work with the Hospitality Coordinator with regard to overnight lodging, team meeting and dinner for the visit from the Team Leader and Team Pastor sometime prior to mission.

Coordinators must pray and ask for God's direction and creativity.

Prayer Coordinator: Prayer is the most important part of mission!

The Prayer Coordinator will recruit a Prayer Committee to organize prayer events and individual prayer activities. They will bring the church body into prayer for the mission, organize prayer walks in the neighborhoods that are targeted for mission, and lift all aspects, no matter how small, to God in prayer.



WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THERE IS NO EVANGELISM WITHOUT PRAYER
Prayer is the most important part of mission!

See how creative you can be in involving your whole church in prayer for Celebrate Jesus.

PERHAPS....

Neighborhood prayer cells

Prayer vigils

Prayers particularly for Celebrate Jesus in weekly worship services

Prayer cards/tents for families to place on their tables at home

Prayer walks around the church and neighborhoods

Keeping your chapel or sanctuary open early mornings and late afternoons for workers to stop off and pray

Encourage personal prayer and quiet times for all.

Plan to attend prayer gatherings with other churches in your area. Times and places of such events will be communicated to you. Go to some of your shut-in members and have prayer times for CJ with them. IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH FAMILY TO FEEL A PART OF THIS GREAT HAPPENING. Invite and encourage anyone who would like to come and pray with the team EVERY morning at the church during the week of mission. There should be people praying at the church while the teams are out visiting or sharing acts of kindness.

Prayer Walks: Praying while walking. *Prayer walking is the only thing that will make a difference in how well the community responds to people coming up to their door during mission week.*

How to Prayer Walk:

Go down selected streets, individually or as a couple, maybe in a small group; go during your morning walk, evening jog, daily bicycle ride, drive to work or store... GO with your eyes wide open looking at the homes, quietly asking God what to pray for or having sensed the leading of the Holy Spirit, praying over each house, business, family... Go back again and again.

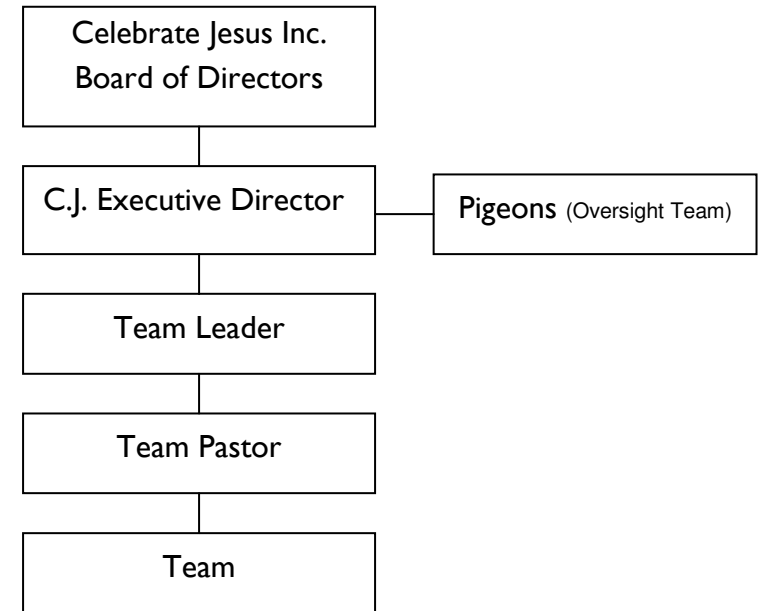
Hospitality Coordinator

The Hospitality Team shall provide:

- 3 well-balanced, nutritional meals a day
- Daily showers
- Clean locations in the church facility for the team to sleep (men in one room, women in another)
- Contingencies for international and out of state missionaries who may be assigned to your church.

Find ways to make warm, hospitable offerings to the team and to those from your neighborhood who come to see what is going on at your church and to the Celebrate Jesus oversight team (pigeons) who visit throughout the week.

LINES OF ACCOUNTABILITY



The Team Pastor accomplishes this by:

1. Communicating with the Team Leader and team members before the mission.
2. Shepherding the team members and communicating any individual needs to the Team Leader.
3. Meeting one-on-one with each team member sometime during the week to assist him/her in gift assessment and to counsel and encourage them in their future ministry, particularly ministry in their home church.
4. Designing and implementing team building, Biblical teaching, practical skills and personal encouragement during mission week.
5. Modeling servanthood as he/she works with the Host Pastor and church leadership; and exhibiting a humble spirit and wisdom in knowing when to follow and when to lead.

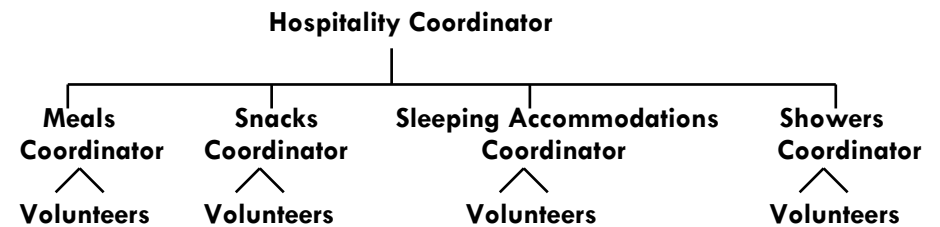
MISSIONS CAN BRING**NEW PERSPECTIVE**

(Looking at it from the eyes of those who “don’t know church”)

- ♥ Youth ministry
- ♥ Children's ministry
- ♥ Small groups
- ♥ Prayer
- ♥ Healing ministry
- ♥ In becoming individually invitational
- ♥ In becoming an invitational church
- ♥ Focusing on the needs of the community (i.e. language classes, recovery support groups...)



A church that prays together and plays together is attractive

We recommend this example that was very successful at Clearview UMC

- Plan meals and snacks for team members.
- Clean and make secure rooms in the church that can be used for sleeping.
- Plan for showers each day in your church, at a local YMCA or in the homes of your church families.
- Encourage your church to provide lots of kitchen help during the week.
- Check with businesses around the neighborhood to see what they might donate in the way of food, paper goods, drinks, etc.
- Ask church families for donations.
- If there should be international or out of state missionaries on your team, a host will be needed to take them to and from the airport and provide an air mattress, linens, pillows, towels, etc. for their stay.
- If your church will have a mission t-shirt, please provide two shirts per team member and a volunteer to wash the team members' shirts each day.
- Plan for some of the church families who can't attend during the week to have two of the team members over for lunch or for coffee just so the whole church family can feel a part of the week and can have some time together.
- Be a part of planning and implementing the COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY on Friday evening.

Well-balanced nutritional meals: Please include meat, vegetables, bread, salad and fruits for the meals; try to stay away from junk food or fast food.

PLAN TO PROVIDE A PLACE FOR THE TEAM LEADER AND TEAM PASTOR to stay one night as part of the Leadership Team visit prior to your mission. Dinner will also need to be provided. (Date will be announced later).

Follow-Through Coordinator

Before Mission: Realize that though the title, Follow-Through Coordinator, implies work done at the end of the mission, it must begin early. Actually, a Follow-Through vision should be in place first and then you build your mission around that vision. This Coordinator will employ the help of the church planning team to see the “face” of the people of your community. Ask yourself, “How would an unchurched person respond to what our church offers?” Be sure you are looking at it through THEIR eyes, not your own.

During mission: Begin active Follow-Through DURING the actual week of mission. When obvious needs surface during visitation or prayer time with someone in the community, it is important to the relationship to quickly respond in a tangible way. For example:

Someone relates a need...

- ⊗ For groceries
- ⊗ To have their grass cut
- ⊗ To be taken to the doctor
- ⊗ For child care during an appointment
- ⊗ For a meal to be cooked as they have just come home from the hospital

These things are do-able...immediately! They speak loud and clear that we are serious about loving and caring for our neighbors. Let us be ready to recognize and “move” on the opportunities God provides.

After mission: Follow-Through is where the “rubber meets the road”. It is the “proof of the pudding”. Follow-Through cannot be faked. It is love in action. Follow-Through is made up of a core of Christ Followers doing God’s work. **Continue visiting, sharing acts of kindness, and showing the love of Jesus to your neighbors as often as possible!** “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Eph. 2:10

Visitation Coordinator

The preparations of the Visitation Coordinator are vital to a mission running smoothly. This person maps out the areas to be visited, prepares visitation/prayer cards for the teams to document visits, needs and prayer requests, has hand-outs and free gifts ready for distribution, has coolers of water available for the teams to take out with them, coordinates the drivers to transport the teams, and keeps track of the areas visited. (Highlighting a large map displayed in the “Mission Headquarters” area is a great motivator for everyone!) The Visitation Coordinator works with the Prayer Coordinator to help design the visitation/prayer card and to divide up areas for prayer walking prior to mission

Block Party Coordinator

This person should be someone who can motivate people to participate in this free, fun event at the end of your mission week. Your church will decide the type and extent of this event. Many people in your community will have been touched by visits during the week and will come to your free event to find out more. You will want to plan for a fun, relaxed evening that will attract those living in your area. The goal is to continue building connections between those not yet church and your church members.



OTHER IDEAS ~ Position greeters everywhere—the parking lot, the sanctuary, the educational building, the fellowship hall and nursery to welcome and direct any new people ~ Follow up quickly on prayer requests that have been given during the CJ week ~ Continue to do prayer walks through the neighborhoods ~ Keep your neighborhood aware of

Christmas/Easter events, special concerts, ice cream socials, craft fairs, rummage sales, etc. ~ Keep the church campus clean, well-maintained and inviting ~ Plan community “Random Acts of Kindness” days ~ Give out flyers or cards to the community imprinted with your church name and activities ~ Offer bus or van pick-up on Sundays, if possible ~ Do individual follow-up visits to folks you made contact with during CJ mission

Celebrate Jesus encourages you to vision cast and implement prayer through the leading of the Holy Spirit, seeking unique ways to welcome, nurture and disciple as you become a church that is more

- ☞ in touch with the depth of the hurt of ordinary people
- ☞ able to love these people
- ☞ passionate to share Jesus with them
- ☞ mobilized to focus ministry outward to the community

Team Leader (assigned to Host Church by Celebrate Jesus)

The purpose of the Team Leader is to motivate the Celebrate Jesus team to fulfill the objectives and programs of the Host Church, to lead the team members in ways of prayer and faith sharing that they might offer Christ and His fellowship to those outside the church, and to model servanthood to the local church and team members. The Team Leader is considered the evangelist *and may or may not be clergy*.

The Team Leader accomplishes this by:

1. Working closely with the Host Pastor and Host Church to develop achievable objectives and programs and persistently reminding the church to focus on follow-through with people who will be reached during the mission.
2. Communicating and coordinating with the Celebrate Jesus Mission Director and oversight team as the mission approaches.
3. Communicating and coordinating with the Team Pastor, who is responsible for communicating the objectives, programs and prayer needs to the team members as they are assigned to the team.
4. Designing and implementing training for the team members.
5. Modeling servanthood as he/she works with the Host Pastor and church leadership; and exhibiting a humble spirit and wisdom in knowing when to follow and when to lead.

Team Pastor (assigned to Host Church by Celebrate Jesus)

The purpose of the Team Pastor is to shepherd the Celebrate Jesus Mission team, coach relationships, identify and call out the gifts of the individual team members, and to encourage team members to fulfill their God-given ministries in the future. The Team Pastor is the nurturer of the team *and may or may not be clergy*.