

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: _____

CELEBRATE JESUS MISSION **Host Pastor & Key Leader Guidebook**

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 greatest, long-lasting impact are those where visiting team members and church members work alongside each other in every activity of the mission. A mission is only a vehicle to **begin** the process of new growth; the real harvest happens after the mission as church members continue to minister to their community.

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

This booklet has been designed to help you with questions you may have before ever inviting a team, as well as questions that will arise during the planning and execution of the mission. Although the planning and execution process may look daunting on paper, we have designed each mission to involve as many people as possible in the planning and leadership, giving opportunities for a wide range of gifts to be deployed and leaders to be developed – both in the visiting team and church congregation.

The guidebook has been split into fourteen sections for easy reference:

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SECTION 1: REASONS TO HOST A MISSION

Most churches believe that they should be reaching people lost to God in their surrounding communities. Yet most churches are not effective in their outreach attempts. There are two major reasons for this. First, most pastors and lay leaders are not trained or experienced in an evangelistic approach that is both positive and works in our culture. Second, even if you have a good evangelistic approach, the average church member has too much fear to risk participating in evangelistic outreach.

After more than 20 years of experience on mission in Great Britain and eight years of experience in Florida we can honestly say “Celebrate Jesus Missions work!” By the end of mission week most churches reach their goals, see an increase in attendance in worship and have a committed group of people from their church willing to carry on outreach to their local community.

From a Host Pastor’s standpoint, these are some of the positive aspects of the mission:

- 1) Your church leadership team chooses the target population of people you wish to reach.
- 2) Your church leadership team chooses the evangelistic methods used during the week.
- 3) A team of 6 to 12 Christians come to serve your church for a week to help you accomplish your vision.

A Celebrate Jesus Mission team is made up of 6 to 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’ love with every person they meet. These ordinary groups of 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.

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

KEY OBJECTIVES OF A CELEBRATE JESUS MISSION

Celebrate Jesus missions have been designed to fulfill three specific objectives throughout the planning, execution and follow-up 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 Jesus' love in a variety of ways 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 Great Commission is the Celebrate Jesus Mission mandate:
"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 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.

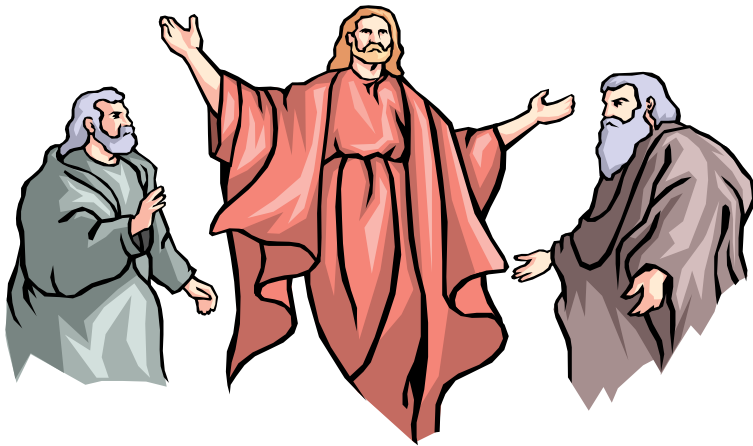
Pastors who have hosted teams in their churches and have sent believers to serve on Celebrate Jesus Mission teams as team members, team leaders and team pastors have seen the Lord take the average John and Jane Christian and transform them into powerful, effective witnesses. The Lord takes the team members' faithfulness and the opportunities presented for them 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 a deep joy as their spiritual lives take on new meaning. Their prayer life deepens. Their reliance on prayer and seeing that prayer makes things happen is a life changing experience.

III. An Apostolic Model of Outreach Ministry

Celebrate Jesus Mission serves as an apostolic witness to the host church. CJM teams flesh out 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 and to provide money from the budget for reaching the lost. Host churches discover that evangelism is not a daunting or fearful task.

Most importantly, we model the belief that people must be connected both to Jesus AND to the local church.



SECTION 2: WHAT HAPPENS THE WEEK OF MISSION

We want to meet the people who don't come to church but more importantly, the people who don't know Jesus as love. Throughout the week, with the help of the CJ visiting team, your church will go into the community and try to begin a relationship with the people living and working near you. **The emphasis is not getting them to church, but getting them to Jesus.** If they would be more comfortable in a different ethnic setting or a different style of church.....that's OK. Know and have established beforehand where you can plug them into a church. Remember: We are all working together for the Kingdom of God!

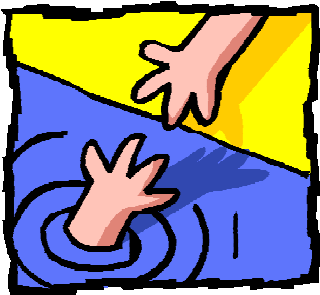
NOTES

May-June

- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Mission Week Schedule due **by June 1** in the Celebrate Jesus office.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.
- Are you ready for mission?
 - Water bottles labeled?
 - Prayer walked the neighborhood?
 - Printing completed?
 - Donations received?
 - Door hanger packages prepared?
 - Maps and schedules displayed on walls and easy to read?
 - Meals planned?

July

- Mission Week! Keep praying!
- "Celebration Sunday" – the Sunday immediately following Mission Week
- Follow-through continues!



"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



Your church and the CJM team are recklessly sowing seeds for the Kingdom and they are having significant conversations with the lost, broken and searching.

The Friday community block party culminates a week of reaching and ministering to the community. It's a time your neighbors can come to your church without conditions. It's also the time when the visiting team can introduce the neighbor to a church person to begin a relationship.

"Love your neighbor as yourself"

People are not going to respond to the Gospel because of a block party or a leaflet. People are going to respond to the Gospel because someone cares, someone treats them with respect and tries their very best to shower the love of Jesus on them. It's relational; no shortcuts in this department. You must be prepared to befriend the people in your community and take every opportunity to talk and pray with them after mission.

It's all about sharing the hope that we have in Jesus. The lost don't know this truth; we must be salt and light to them. It starts out simple, by offering a gift or a service. When receiving something for free, most people will ask why.

Here is the opportunity to speak with them. It's an indication the Holy Spirit is at work in their hearts. Each contact is different: in some we only get to say "We are showing the love of Jesus in practical ways" and then invite them to join us for an event at the church. Others are willing to hear more and we can have a significant conversation and lead them to Jesus. Colossians 4:2-6 is a perfect example of how to act.

During the times when we can speak with people, we must be totally dependent on the Holy Spirit. **Prayer is the answer.** Pray before you approach each person. Quietly pray as you speak to them, asking God for guidance, discernment and wisdom. Pray when the conversation is ended, blessing them in the name of Jesus.

Many times we can offer to pray for the needs in their life and they will allow it at that moment! **This is most powerful!** Strange as it is, we have found that people recognize the power of prayer even if they don't recognize the Lordship of Jesus.



SECTION 3: 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.

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

...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.

It is important for people to feel they have enough information to make an informed decision. The General Information Guidebook and other coordinator guidebooks are helpful tools. These may be downloaded at our website: www.cjmission.org – click on Guidebooks. A Celebrate Jesus Mission is a powerful tool for any congregation wishing to reach their community for Christ.

SECTION 4: BEFORE THE MISSION

If the Host Pastor and Key Leader are not for any reason going to be able to participate fully in the week of mission, we suggest that your church not participate and possibly reconsider for another time.

★ Covenant

After a congregation decides to host a mission, the pastor, along with a key church leader, will fill out a mission covenant (available from the CJ office). Once this is returned with the \$300 covenant fee, you will receive a Coordinator Info Sheet.

★ Coordinator Info Sheet

This form includes the signatures and contact info for your Host Pastor, Key Leader and Coordinators. Return this by the deadline with your \$200 Resource Fee, which helps cover the cost of guidebooks and other materials.

★ Planning Tool

The Planning Tool is a questionnaire leading you through the process of looking at your church, your community and your mission. This should be completed by your Mission Leadership Team and returned with the \$200 Planning Tool Fee by the deadline.

January

- Planning Tool and fee of \$200 due **January 1**.
- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, and communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family.
- Attend Celebrate Jesus workshop (date TBA).
- Begin seeking donations (bottled water, door prizes, etc.).
- Establish a Celebrate Jesus “Headquarters” with mission information and sign-up sheets. Personally ask people to volunteer.
- 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.

February

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

March

- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Training fee of \$300 due **April 1**.
- Measurable/Achievable Goals due in CJ office by **April 1**.
- Order/purchase free gifts and door hanger bags.
- Consider designing and ordering t-shirts for your church family and visiting team.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.

April

- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Prepare to meet with Team Leader and Team Pastor at Team Leadership Weekend (date TBA).
- 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.

SECTION 13: COUNTDOWN TO MISSION**COUNTDOWN TO MISSION**

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

Beginning in October and continuing...

- Return signed covenant with fee of \$300 to Celebrate Jesus office by November 1st
- 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
- Confirm Host Church leadership team and meet frequently (at least twice a month).
- Coordinators recruit volunteers to help them.
- Planning Tool is completed by entire Host Church leadership team by **Jan 1**.
- Establish visitation areas and obtain county/city maps.
- Attend Celebrate Jesus workshop (date TBA).

**November**

- Covenant and fee of \$300 due **November 1**.
- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.

December

- Coordinator Info Sheet and Resource Fee of \$200 due **December 1**.
- Continue preaching, praying, meeting, communicating about Celebrate Jesus Mission to church family, and receiving donations.
- Attend area monthly Prayer Gathering.

★ Workshops

Celebrate Jesus will offer workshops for all coordinator positions – usually one in the fall and one in January or February. It is important for each coordinator to come and bring the volunteers on his or her team. It is a great time to ask questions about what to expect during the mission and how best to be prepared.

★ Prayer Gatherings

Each month the host churches will meet together for an hour-long prayer time. This is a time to pray for the mission and for each other and to connect with members of the other churches hosting mission. Encourage your church family to attend with you.

★ Consultations

Approximately 4-5 months prior to mission, representatives from Celebrate Jesus will meet with the Host Pastor, Key Leader and coordinators to:

Help strategically focus your mission.

Address any questions or concerns you may have.

Give Celebrate Jesus a feel for the team you will need.

★ Measurable/Achievable Goals for Week of Mission

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 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.

Example:**The Measurable/Achievable Goals for the *sample schedule* (pages 26-27)**

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.

★ Team Leadership Weekend

We try very hard to match the Team Leadership gifts to the goals set out by the church. Approximately three months before the mission, the team leadership will come to your church and meet with members who will be involved in the mission. **We have found that this initial meeting is an important time for church members to begin to take ownership of the mission – the more people involved in this meeting, the better. It is especially important for the Host Pastor and Key Leader to be present at this meeting.**

Who is the Team Leadership? A Team Leader and a Team Pastor (see pages 19-20) prayerfully chosen by the CJ staff to lead your visiting team. The Team Leader and Team Pastor will spend a Friday evening with you several months before mission, and we will ask that you provide them with dinner, a place to spend the night, and breakfast on Saturday morning. This visit will be part of two days of Leadership Training that all Team Leaders and Team Pastors attend (dates TBA).

At this point, the Team Leadership may ask for some clarification or revision of your goals and more specifics in order to begin developing in detail the mission activity plans and schedule. From here, the church and team develop clear responsibilities.

What is most important at this time is that the Host Pastor and Team Leader begin to communicate about the mission and delineate clear areas of responsibility for all areas of the mission.

★ Training Fee

This \$300 fee helps to cover the costs of workshops, consultations and other training events throughout the year.

★ Schedule

At least one month before the mission, the Team Leader must return the schedule for the mission week to the CJ office. At that point the Celebrate Jesus Director may have further input. (See pages 26-27 for a sample schedule.)

★ Ideas before mission

Here are some other pre-mission ideas to help your visitation team be more effective:

- Check out public areas in your community (i.e., parks, malls, sports fields) and determine their high use times. This will help you plan your mission week schedule most effectively.
- Secure any necessary permits for events held in public areas in advance of the mission. This is usually important for the amplification of sound or beach handouts, working in shopping centers, traffic at your block party, etc.
- Post a map in the church building highlighting target areas in the community and have copies of the map available to be used when the team works outside the church building. Prayer walk all areas before mission.

SECTION 12: COMMENTS FROM HOST PASTORS

- My ministry has been re-affirmed.
- Not only were non-churched members impacted, but needs of church members were met!
- I have been challenged to exercise my faith more freely—to trust that God will follow through. I have also learned to trust my team and broaden my base more.
- I'm spiritually inspired by seeing the church members willing to take the risk. I see new opportunities for spiritual growth in the church.
- I have seen my vision to reach our community renewed, and I learned some effective strategies to accomplish this.
- Watching the youth team learn the thrill of ministry!
- The best thing was getting laity involved in evangelism, getting the church out of the building; people working together and the involvement of the youth. The confidence instilled in our people to do this now.
- The congregation stepped out in faith and did what they knew they alone could not.
- It gave us a reason to go out into the community. It enabled our church to get very excited and enthused about something that will have a lasting effect on this church and community.
- I've grown this week by realizing there are others than just myself, by letting others do ministry.
- God's love was shared with hundreds of people.
- I have grown in my confidence to approach strangers with the good news of Jesus.
- I had the chance to meet more people than normal.
- The rippling effect after mission was fabulous; my church went back out after mission and visited 700 additional homes to invite to our VBS. We had a 30% increase on the first night over last year, and we recognized many of the faces from those that we visited.

Team Pastor

The role 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. He/she looks for emerging leadership in the Host Church and notifies the Host Pastor of such leadership.

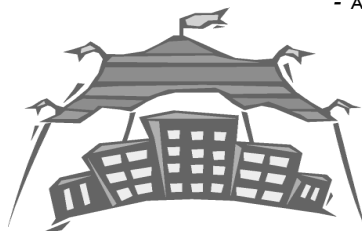
SECTION 11: TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL MISSION

1. Bring the congregation on board from the beginning; share the vision.
2. Don't put off the planning. We have heard from churches, "We wish we had started sooner!"
3. If God hasn't convicted YOUR heart to have the mission, **give yourself permission to decline.**
4. Involve as many lay people as you can. *It is important for the church family to see the mission as something coming from their own hearts and not as a "program" that the pastor wants to do.*
5. Pray, Pray, Pray! The biggest key to success - Have your church praying for this mission from the start.
6. Prayer walk the neighborhoods as often as possible.
7. Plan in detail.
8. Attend workshops, prayer gatherings, consultation and Leadership weekend.
9. Laity leadership is critical.
10. Schedule prayer services now.
11. Delegate! Celebrate Jesus is about empowering the laity.

Some of these are repetitive...Our most common complaint is lack of support from the congregation - primarily due to uninformed congregations. Communicate! Plan and plan well, but leave room for the Holy Spirit to work! Be detailed and specific about activities during mission week. Cast your vision clearly over and over again; communicate with words, music, drama, dance and the arts.

"If the vision is misty at the pulpit, it's going to be cloudy in the congregation"

- Andy Stanley on vision casting



Cover your community in prayer!

- Post another map that shows which areas have been reached during the week.
- Post the schedule for the week for the entire church to keep up with daily activities. Distribute copies to everyone before mission begins. **Everyone** should be invited to participate!
- Have Plan B in mind in case it rains or some mall/apartment administration asks the team to leave.
- Have a sign-up sheet available weeks in advance for the congregation to volunteer to participate with the team.
- Coordinators must recruit a volunteer committee to work with them.
- **COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE!**
- Pray! Pray! Pray!

★ "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.

SECTION 5: EXAMPLES OF PRIOR MISSIONS

1. Start or increase Youth Fellowship.
2. Begin After-School Programs for children and youth.
3. Start Home Groups for fellowship, prayer, discussion and study.
4. Door-to-door visitation
 - Giving prayer plants, light bulbs, a small gift, chip clip, etc.
 - Asking for prayer requests.
 - Leaving flyers to advertise events for the church, worship times, musicals, craft fairs, sock hops, VBS.
 - Invitation to free Block Party at the church.
5. Conduct drama evenings, dinners, ice cream socials, or concerts as a means of sharing Jesus.
6. Start a new contemporary service.
7. Offer free servant evangelism activities:
 - Give cookies to businesses
 - Clean toilets in neighborhood businesses
 - Give cold drinks at shopping centers, parks
 - Offer free car washes
 - Offer free lawn work in neighborhoods
 - Give out free bus tokens
 - Offer umbrella escort in the rain at shopping centers
 - "Drive-by pizza" to construction crews
8. Visit homes within certain boundaries of the church.
9. Start a children's fellowship by holding Backyard Bible Clubs.
10. Start Saturday night events for singles, single parents.
11. Offer parenting classes.
12. Spend time with nursing home folks.



A church that prays together and plays together is attractive

1. PRAYER

For clarity of vision for your mission
For relationship between church and community
For the leading and direction of the Holy Spirit

2. HOST PASTOR LEADERSHIP

Every congregation looks for the leading of their Senior Pastor. The Pastor sets the tone for the Celebrate Jesus mission as well. The Pastor must believe in the mission and give it wholehearted leadership. In the months prior to mission the Pastor equips and prepares the congregation.

3. CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT

The congregation responds to the Pastor's leading. The congregation takes ownership of the mission. The congregation gives of their time and joins the visiting team going out into your community during the week of mission. The congregation schedules and implements the mission plan. The Celebrate Jesus team assists them.

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

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

SECTION 10: LEADERSHIP ROLES ON THE TEAM

As part of the Celebrate Jesus visiting team there are two leadership positions: the Team Leader and Team Pastor. These positions are filled according to the gifts and experience of the individuals. They are assigned to their host church by the CJ staff following much prayer.

Team Leader

The role of the Team Leader is to lead the Celebrate Jesus Mission team to fulfill the objectives and goals of the Host Church, to equip the team members to win others to Christ and the church, and to model outreach to the church and team members. The Team Leader works closely with the Host Pastor and church to develop an achievable set of objectives and corresponding activities that can be put down on a schedule. He/she also communicates and coordinates with the Celebrate Jesus Mission Director and oversight team as the mission approaches.

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

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

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

Q: What are the important dates to remember?

Answer: (for 2012 summer missions)

November 1, 2011	Church Invitation/Covenant and \$300 due.
December 1, 2011	Coordinator Info Sheet and \$200 due.
January 1, 2012	Planning Tool and \$200 fee due.
February 2012	Consultation between your church leaders and CJ staff to clarify the goals and ensure that adequate preparation, participation, and follow-through are planned.
April 1, 2012	Training fee of \$300 due.
April/May 2012	CJ Team Leader and Team Pastor meet with your church leaders to pray, tour your church, tour your neighborhood and help plan your week's schedule.

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 service the following Saturday will be centrally located. These will be larger celebrations including all participating congregations and teams. 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 Executive Director is Martha Gay Duncan. 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 program has worked best in the past?

Answer: First of all, Celebrate Jesus is not a program. It is a mission formulated out of passion for those who are not yet churched or have not begun their faith journey with Jesus. For the mission to be most successful we encourage the following three elements:

13. Conduct a community survey to identify where children and young people live in an area.
14. Adopt a school: prayer walk and do acts of kindness at a local school - yard cleanup, notes to teachers. Continue after mission is over.



SECTION 6: RECRUITING CHURCH MEMBERS

As **Host Pastor**, YOU set the tone for Celebrate Jesus Mission at your church. Surround yourself with people who will pray for you and help you coordinate the mission. Be sure to talk about the Celebrate Jesus Mission throughout the coming months at every opportunity, from the pulpit to the various meetings you attend.

The **Key Leader** is the "link" between your home church and the Celebrate Jesus office and has close communication with all the other coordinators.

It is your responsibility to see that all coordinators are up-to-date with planning and implementing in their areas. You will make sure your church is prepared for mission week and ready to participate in all the activities. Be sure your church is "visitor friendly!" Be sure the mission is saturated in prayer from start to finish! Also....

- Work with Hospitality Coordinator to arrange lodging and dinner for the Team Leader and Team Pastor during Team Leadership Weekend prior to mission week (date TBA).
- Get permission from local stores in advance where you want to give out water or brochures in their parking lot.
- Obtain permits for parks or beaches where necessary.
- Arrange for police for traffic control during block party.
- Assist Visitation Coordinator in mapping out your targeted area.
- Work with your pastor to help your congregation have a heart for the lost.
- Set up "Mission Headquarters" in a conspicuous place in your church to provide up-to-date information and progress in preparation of mission.
- Post sign-up sheets for volunteers to help with various activities, including visitation schedules during mission.

- **Publicize** mission week and the various opportunities to help within your church and **advertise** your free event in the community.
- **MAKE IT KNOWN THAT YOUR CHURCH FAMILY NEEDS TO JOIN THE VISITING CJ TEAM EVERY DAY IN WHATEVER ACTIVITIES YOUR CHURCH HAS CHOSEN.**

Below is a list of the necessary leaders; feel free to add more for your church's particular needs (for example, a person who will obtain door prizes, food products, ice, paper products, a person to handle publicity and coordinate communication....)

Encourage each Coordinator to have a team of volunteers helping them; these positions are too large for one person to do alone.

☺ Coordinator guidebooks will be mailed to the Coordinators after your Coordinator Info Sheet is received. Additional copies may be downloaded at our website: www.cjmission.org – click on Guidebooks.

A. Prayer Coordinator: This position is crucial for the success of your mission.

- The Prayer Coordinator organizes prayer events and individual prayer activities in the months and weeks leading up to the mission.
- Works with your leadership team focusing prayer on the needs of mission.
- Encourages and sets the example of waiting on God to lead.
- Schedules prayer walks in the neighborhoods before mission.
- Attends area monthly prayer gatherings, inviting and encouraging your church family to join them.
- Connects with the Team Leader before and during the mission, and meets to pray with the team.
- Several possibilities include organizing a round-the-clock prayer schedule during the mission and a telephone tree to alert individuals to specific needs arising during the week.

B. Hospitality Coordinator

- The Hospitality Coordinator ensures that the visiting team's physical needs are taken care of during the week of mission.
- Schedules nutritional meals and snacks for the team, both at the church and in members' homes.
- Recruits church members to provide showers for the team in homes, scheduling shower times (if shower facilities are not available at the church) or makes arrangements with a nearby YMCA or health club for the team to use their showers during mission week.

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 needs, and the number of appropriate team members available. They aren't experts, but they are willing and committed to partnering with you to reach your congregation's goals.

Q: Who determines if we get an all-age team, a family team 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 special teams.

Q: What is a family team?

Answer: A family team includes Mom and/or Dad (or legal guardian) with children (ages 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 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. 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 used is servant evangelism, or acts of kindness, to help the teams and church members reach out to those in their community who are not church-ed. We use an invitational approach that is non-confrontational.

Q: How much will this cost overall?

Answer: This answer has four parts: administrative fees, hospitality, mission expenses, and the possibility of future partnership with Celebrate Jesus.

Administrative fees: (\$1,000): All Celebrate Jesus guidebooks, workshops, consultation and materials are included in these fees.

- Covenant Fee due by November 1, 2011 (\$300)
- Resource Fee due by December 1, 2011 (\$200)
- Planning Tool Fee due by January 1, 2012 (\$200)
- Training Fee due by April 1, 2012 (\$300)

Hospitality Expenses: Your obligation is to provide the visiting team nourishing, well-balanced meals, daily showers and a clean floor to sleep on.

SECTION 9: 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 we provide “on-the-job training” on how to be 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 they see outside the walls of the church, prayer life is deepened, and contacts and groundwork are laid for ongoing, effective outreach.

Q: What makes Celebrate Jesus so effective?

Answer: Prayer, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the commitment of your congregation to prepare, lead, and follow-through those reached during your mission. The week-long mission gives members a new perspective on ministry outside the church building and is merely the launch of new initiatives in outreach that will continue for years.

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

Answer: Launch 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 – all these are actual results of 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 a year after mission.**

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

Answer: Complete an Invitation/Covenant and submit it with the covenant fee of \$300 by the deadline set for your particular area. We then send you a Coordinator Info Sheet and the Mission Planning Tool to assist in beginning preparation for the mission.

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.

- Ensures the team’s quarters are secure and livable before the mission (i.e., plenty of toilet paper in clean restrooms, arranges rooms for comfortable sleeping, curtains on windows, puts signs on doors, etc.). Men stay in one room, women in another room.
- C. **Follow-Through Coordinator:** Follow-through is the sole responsibility of your church and is one of the most important aspects of your mission.
 - The follow-through team works under the direction of the Host Pastor and Key Leader to continue the work begun during the mission week.
 - Four areas of Follow-Through:
 - (1) **Have people in place to start new ministries; for example...**
 - ◆ Leaders of a new youth group or Sunday school.
 - ◆ Nursery staffed.
 - ◆ Greeters, parking attendants.
 - (2) **Re-visit contacts made during the week of mission**
 - ◆ Do follow-up visitation of contacts.
 - ◆ Write, call, develop relationships with contacts.
 - ◆ Invite to a follow-up event at the church.
 - (3) **Meet immediate needs received from prayer requests**
 - ◆ Send help to a family with food or clothing needs.
 - ◆ Change a flat tire.
 - ◆ Mow a lawn.
 - (4) **Continue to do outreach events as soon as possible**
 - ◆ Re-visit neighborhoods contacted during mission.
 - ◆ Invite community to church events.
 - ◆ Become known as a church that cares.
 - The Follow-Through Coordinator’s job begins during preliminary planning for mission. He/she helps the church to focus on the first three items above; however, it will take the entire leadership of the church to continue to teach and preach the “Go” in “Go make disciples,” (Matt. 28:19), long after the Celebrate Mission week has ended.

Tie the new people into fellowship and keep the momentum going with those who experienced the mission in the church.

- D. **Visitation Coordinator:** The preparations of the Visitation Coordinator are vital to a mission running smoothly.
 - Maps out the areas to be visited and keeps track of the areas visited.
 - Prepares cards for the teams to document visits and needs.
 - Has hand-outs, flyers and free gifts ready for distribution; coolers of water available for the teams to take out with them.
 - Coordinates the drivers to transport the teams.

E. Block Party Coordinator

- Responsible for organizing and implementing the free Friday night block party.
- Decides with the help of Host Pastor, Key Leader and Coordinators the best way to “host your community” (for example: children's games, health fair, music, food, comedians/mimes, open-air evangelism....)

F. Mission Week Workers – The Celebrate Jesus Mission Week will require church members to do activities with the team and for the team. Generally speaking, **the more church members involved in going out with the team, the more successful the mission.** It is a necessity for the church family to participate the entire week.

- ☛ Communicate the importance of the church congregation going OUT WITH the visiting team during mission week. Ideally, you will want to have 2-3 church members going along with each visiting team member.

**Some churches add a coordinator for publicity and communications.

SECTION 7: DURING THE MISSION

During the mission, the host church and especially **you as the Host Pastor and Key Leader need to be fully involved with the mission and the team.** Here are some general guidelines:

- Be an encourager to the Team Leader – encouragement and partnership help everyone to succeed.
- Try to give the Team Leader feedback as often as possible, constructive criticism as well as praise reports. This will help keep the mission on track and effective.
- Regularly ask if the team needs anything and allow the team access to phones, computers, copy machines, etc. Give the Team Leader a set of keys to the team's sleeping areas.
- Pray with the team as often as possible. The team will be committed to prayer during the week and will benefit from your presence and participation during prayer times. Offer to serve communion.
- **Organize and encourage church members, keeping in mind they will carry on the ministry after the mission.** Your church members will learn and grow from this experience and will be a blessing to your church in the future because of their participation. Also, encourage church members to attend the Mid-Week celebration on Wednesday evening, which brings together all the teams from host churches in the area. Teams share stories of the mission which encourages all host churches.

SECTION 8: FOLLOW-THROUGH

After a mission most churches experience an exciting time of renewal and growth. Those members directly involved in the mission generally have a fresh vision for ministry and evangelism that energizes the whole congregation.

Here are some specific ways to make the follow-through effective:

1. **Contact Cards** – Develop a simple “contact/prayer card” that your church and the mission team can use throughout the mission week. This card should include places for a person's name, address, phone number, e-mail address and any prayer requests. Make sure these names and addresses are shared immediately so many people in the church can begin praying, making contacts and building bridges. You may also want to include check boxes for additional information about baptisms, meeting with pastor, day care, youth age, senior age, single family....
2. **Personal Contacts** – Following the mission, phone, mail and door-to-door visits are essential for the host church to continue reaching out. Volunteers from the host church must commit to doing this with the pastor. Invite the new people to worship, Sunday school, a Bible study, or some special event.
3. **Plan follow-up gatherings** – After the mission, an ice cream social, concert, meal, or some other low-key social event can be an effective “next step” for new people to become assimilated into the community of the church.
4. **Always look toward follow-through** – As your mission unfolds, prayerfully and continually consider how new people reached may be enfolded in the love and fellowship of your church. Consult with your Team Leader who may have ideas that can help. (The *Follow-Through Coordinator's Guidebook* has more suggestions for effective follow-through.)
5. **Continued partnership with Celebrate Jesus** – We need your partnership to continue Celebrate Jesus missions. Please:
 - Pray for Celebrate Jesus.
 - Send church members to serve as mission team members - being on a team is very different from being part of a host church.
 - Consider placing Celebrate Jesus in your annual budget as part of your mission outreach. Celebrate Jesus is a private 501©3 non-profit mission organization. We need regular gifts from churches like yours to continue in operation.