MISSION IN ACTION - THROUGH RELATIONSHIP, PARTNERSHIP, AND COLLABORATION "Mission and outreach are indeed core practices of the Christian faith, a basic discipline in becoming disciples. And as we practice the discipline, despite our natural resistance, we find ourselves coming alive in ways otherwise impossible. We hear the voice of God calling us out of ourselves and into new places for good reason.

Mission and outreach are not options to be pursued as the church momentarily luxuriates leftover time or money. Mission and outreach are core practices of discipleship."

> Dale Rosenberger Outreach and Mission for Vital Congregations

Matthew 22:34-40

"When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, **35** and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36 "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' **38** This is the greatest and first commandment.**39** And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Mission is not about what makes us feel good but more about making a positive difference in the lives of others.

≻How is the service rendered or the outreach provided impacting or transforming lives?

Key components of mission and outreach:
Love
Compassion
Empethy

- ≻Empathy
- ≻Walking alongside others

"The life of service flows naturally and inescapably from the teachings of Jesus Christ, and no congregation or disciple can avoid the direct gift and demand of God's call to love and serve others." Robert Schanse Engaging in Ministry Outside the Four Walls

Questions to ask:

• Is my congregation interested in building relationships within the larger community?

• As a congregation are you in one accord in your understanding of who you are as the Body of Christ as

expressed through your collective beliefs and core values?

• Is mission/outreach ministry challenging and motivating in its call to serve others?

Rísk-Taking Mission and Service takes people into ministries that push them out of their comfort zone, stretching them beyond the circle of relationships and practices that routinely define their faith commitments.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Partnerships and Collaboration

Micah 6:8"

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Matthew 25:37-40

³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, '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.'"

Acts 13:2-3

² While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." ³ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

E. Disciples Volunteering

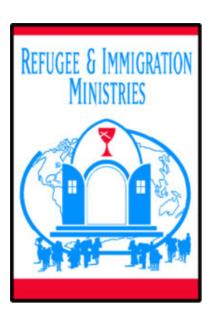
















"Mission in Action"

Being the Hands And Feet of Jesus

