



CHECK LIST
FOR
DEVELOPING
THE
NUCLEUS

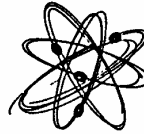
- _____ To be effective, be yourself.
- _____ Develop a Pattern of Priorities.

NUCLEUS GROUP MEETING #1



- _____ Begin the Meeting with a devotion.
- _____ Sing a good hymn.
- _____ Get acquainted. Have name tags for everyone.
- _____ Lead a Bible Study re Purpose of the New Mission.
- _____ Share information on what has taken place so far.
- _____ Discuss the people's visions of the future—hopes, dreams, needs.
- _____ Have each person fill out a brief survey which you have prepared.
- _____ Give out some assignments.
 - _____ Request their daily prayers.
 - _____ Give them suggested Scripture readings to meditate on each day.
 - _____ Ask each person to invite 2 more families to your next meeting.
- _____ Close your meeting with prayer and a benediction. Include a Hymn(s).
- _____ Serve refreshments.
- _____ Encourage fellowship.

NUCLEUS GROUP MEETING #2



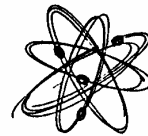
- _____ Use the same elements as in your first meeting.
- _____ Invite the District Mission Executive and have him . . .
 - _____ Share information about the role of the District in the new Mission.
 - _____ Explain the role of the Circuit congregations.
 - _____ Give examples of other new missions.
 - _____ Discuss the need for a "Philosophy of Ministry."
- _____ Discuss assignments given at your first meeting—
 - _____ Find out if there were any results from their prayers.
 - _____ Ask what insights they received from the Scripture readings.
- _____ Discuss the current needs of the Mission—
 - _____ Worship Services.
 - _____ Christian Education.
 - _____ Sunday School.
 - _____ Vacation Bible School.
 - _____ Home Bible Studies.
 - _____ Junior and Adult Confirmation Classes.
- _____ Have new people fill out Survey sheet.
- _____ Give out more assignments (same ones, with new Scripture readings).
- _____ Ask each family to make a list of . . .
 - _____ Needs of the community.
 - _____ Available public relations opportunities to be used.
 - _____ Names and addresses of possible prospects.
 - _____ Temporary committees they might like to serve on . . .

**WAYS FOR YOU
TO GIVE
OWNERSHIP
AND FOR PEOPLE
TO GIVE
REAL HELP**

- Community Needs Study.
- Demographic Study.
- Temporary Facilities Study.
- First Service and Worship Needs.
- Christian Education Needs.
- Available Resources—people, talents, finances.
- Outreach and Public Relations.
- Publicity.
- Structure.
- Constitution.
- Assimilation.
- Other kinds of needs.

- Ask for volunteers to host a Home Bible Study.
- Serve Refreshments.
- Encourage fellowship.

NUCLEUS GROUP MEETING #3



- Use the same elements as at your previous meetings.
- Establish temporary Committees.
- Select a chairman and secretary for each Committee.
- Give specific assignments to each Committee.
- Establish some "face to face" groups—

**FACE TO FACE
GROUPS
BUILD
CONGREGATIONS
IF YOU HAVE
ENOUGH KINDS**

<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Studies.
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Needs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Service Groups.
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation/fellowship.
<input type="checkbox"/> Etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Etc.

- Develop some short-term goals.
- Set the date for your First Worship Service.
- Set the date for your first Sunday school.
- Plan for more group Bible Studies.
- Give out more assignments.
- Ask them to share their feelings and excitement about the new Mission with their friends and relatives. "Spontaneous Witnessing."
- Schedule more Nucleus Group Meetings as needed.
- Establish a temporary organizational structure.
- Plan for in-depth development of your people.
- Train volunteers for various tasks.
- Conduct Witness Workshops.
- Conduct a "Spiritual Gifts Inventory".
- Encourage all to attend Pastor's Adult Instruction Class.
- Train people in Evangelism.
- Discuss the "Stewardship-of-all-of-life" with your people.

- _____ Set goals and develop strategies in Parish Planning.
- _____ Train teachers for Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.
- _____ Involve the youth of the Mission in the program and ministry.
- _____ Develop a Youth Ministry program.
- _____ Assimilate your people so all have a meaningful activity or job to do in the Mission.
- _____ Keep in touch with inactive people.

**EVERY
SUNDAY
CELEBRATE!**

- _____ Make every Sunday Worship a day of celebration.
- _____ Have special music.
- _____ Use special liturgies.
- _____ Pick good singable hymns.
- _____ Proclaim Law and Gospel.
- _____ Give practical applications.
- _____ Be concerned about having vibrant worship.

- _____ Establish a visible presence in your community as soon as possible to indicate "penance."
- _____ Be realistic.
- _____ Be a good example.

ANOTHER WAY TO LOOK AT IT

(This is a highly condensed version of the Table of Contents (q.v.) to help you see, all-of-a-piece, what you have here in this Manual.)

Synod's Department of North American Missions and several District Mission Executives have prepared this detailed Manual for Church Planters. Your District will have some materials on procedures and policies as well. As a Church Planter or Developer you will want to set time aside for training and sharing with the District Mission Executive. The specific "how to's" will cover:

- Biblical and theological mandates
- Assumptions and expectations about the New Church
- The Church Developer: qualities, philosophy of ministry, first steps, family, time management
- Reaching the Community: Church Growth principles, receptivity, attitudes you encounter, helps for visiting, follow-up, enlisting and training helpers
- Developing the Nucleus: make-up, first meetings, agendas, developing leadership, responsibilities, developing a temporary structure
- Worshiping at the Mission: when and where, organizing the event, public relations, components for members and visitors, Sunday school and Bible class
- Organizing the Mission: purpose, name, legal considerations, constitution, Charter Sunday, elections, records.
- Expanding the Mission and Ministry: keeping the mission mindset, planning process, enlisting and training workers, assimilation, management styles.
- Site and First Unit Facility: criteria for a good location, title, Laborers for Christ, Church Extension Fund, architect and builder, types of construction, financing.

May God bless you as you consider planting a church!

"So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was built up; and walking in the trust of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit it was multiplied" (Acts 9:31).