

The Annual Ministry Plan

All priesthood are to develop and implement a plan for ministry that uses their gifts to advance Christ's mission. The Temple School course, *The Ministry of the Evangelist* provides helps for the evangelist to develop a plan for personal spiritual enrichment and for describing areas in which the Spirit is calling. Because the role of the evangelist can take many forms, please review the five expressions of the evangelist's calling listed in Lesson One. Each evangelist is asked to discern ministry goals that are both relevant to where he or she senses God is calling and that are meaningful and challenging.

As ministers of blessing, evangelists serve with spiritual vigor, a deep faith in God, and affirm God's unconditional love for all people. Evangelists are companions to individuals and congregations as they mutually seek a greater awareness of the presence and movement of the Holy Spirit in their lives and the life of the community. Evangelists are called to support congregations to become sacred communities of healing, wholeness, acceptance, and respect for all people. The evangelist also may be called on to offer ministry on a team with the apostle, seventy, and high priest to empower congregations to create signal communities of invitation, generosity, justice, and peace.

Evangelists are requested to communicate a written annual ministry plan to their mission center president and pastor. This can be done by an e-mail message or letter or by use of an Evangelist Ministry Plan form included with this information. Most important, however, whatever process or form one uses, adopt one that is meaningful.

Five Expressions Define Evangelists as Ministers of Blessing

Apostolic Witness—one who, by God's grace, generously shares the freeing and renewing Good News of the gospel as a revivalist, value-bearer, and hope-giver to make manifest the Evangel in the life of the church.

Spiritual Companion—one who shares the personal practice of spiritual disciplines and invites others into a deep and enriching relationship of spiritual growth in times of need and times of plenty.

Pastoral Presence—one who is loving presence in the midst of the people, especially the congregation; gently leading, praising, encouraging, mentoring, and shepherding on the path of discipleship.

Teaching Learner—one who through a lifetime of experience and reflection pursues learning and teaching as a spiritual journey in which knowledge, discernment, wisdom, and experience are shared with others in a relationship of mutuality.

Living Sanctuary—one who is safety and sanctuary with others and stands with them as they face the injustices of systems and structures that diminish human worth and crush dreams of God's shalom.

Helpful Steps for Planning Your Ministry

Step One: With mission center leaders, explore and identify ministerial opportunities and needs of congregations and the mission center.

Step Two: With congregational leaders, explore and identify ministerial opportunities and needs of the congregation.

Step Three: Based on self-care needs and ministerial opportunities in the community, give consideration to additional opportunities for ministry.

Step Four: According to your gifts, identify the ministries to which you can faithfully commit regarding congregational, mission center, personal, and community opportunities. As you prayerfully discern your plan for ministry, remember the five expressions. Sharing the sacrament of evangelist blessing should have a special emphasis in your considerations.

Step Five: Send the Annual Ministry Plan (or other ways of documenting your ministry plan) to your mission center president and pastor.



Community of Christ

Annual Ministry Plan

My Ministry Goals: After reflecting on Notes for Planning My “Annual Ministry Plan” and after identifying one or two goals for each category, communicate to your mission center president the goals you discern for your ministry plan.

Self-care and Renewal

Apostolic Witness

Pastoral Presence

Living Sanctuary

Teaching Learner

Spiritual Companion

Sharing Sacrament of Evangelist Blessing

Spiritual Practices

Name of Evangelist:	Date:
Acknowledgment of Pastor and Mission Center President:	Date:

