

## SERVING THE NEEDY (OUTREACH)

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Serving the needy should always be an integral part of the church from the Old Testament times to the New Testament times. God commanded us in Deuteronomy 15:11 *“For the poor shall never cease out of the land: Therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor and to the needy, in the land”*.

As a church, we must see this as a command from God. We must also strive to attain it for the reward that is awaiting us. Matthews 25:35-41.

Stewardship in Christendom means managing the resources that God has endowed us with, to serve him – monies, time and talents. Serving the needy either through outreach programs or community service is an act of stewardship (giving back to God).

It is our belief that for every believer to experience full blessing of the Lord, he/she must start serving the Lord either in the community or church or in any given opportunity that might come his/her way.

When we contribute our time, monies and talents, there will be no lack in the house of God and the work of God will go on smoothly.

It is our prayer that everyone will come to that realization whereby stewardship/serving will be utmost in our life.

## RECOMMENDATION

The following is the recommendation for the Outreach group. These recommendations can be applied from a short-term to long term basis.

Recommendation	Goal	Execution Path	Range (short-, mid-, long-term)
<p>Church must understand what is meant by stewardship/service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-education</li> <li>• Christ as our example. John 13:14-15</li> </ul>	<p>The goal is to create awareness and remind us about the call of God on our life, which is a call for service.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizing training or seminar on Christian Stewardship like once in a year.</li> <li>• There is a need to learn from other organizations with strong outreach ministries, such as Catholic Church.</li> <li>• Emphasis must be placed on those in charge of each department about the needs to implement Christian stewardship in their various departments.</li> </ul>	Short-term
<p>The Church should address all these identified problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an Outreach department</li> <li>• Create Community service department</li> <li>• There is a need to appoint a visionary person to head each of these departments</li> </ul>	<p>That lives will be touched through Community Services and Outreach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to create Community Services department and can be headed by a minister.</li> <li>• The minister-in-charge will investigate what area of service the church can render to the community.</li> <li>• The Minister will be responsible for the training of people working under him/her (and/or work with the Training and Development department).</li> <li>• He/ She should also liaise with town council executives because the council executive will be privy to areas where services are needed, and types of services needed.</li> <li>• The Council can also provide us with rules and regulations that guide the type of services.</li> </ul>	Long-term

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Also there are some services that the state awards grants. Council executives can also make such information available to us.</li> <li>The same apply to Outreach department.</li> </ul>	
<p>All opportunities must also address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reaching out to college students in UMBC and other surrounding schools</li> <li>Putting Church Bus into use</li> <li>Movie Night, Peniel Encounter, Gethsemane Summit, and Glory Cloud – all important ways of reaching out to people</li> </ul>	To reach out to colleges in the area with aim of evangelizing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College students in our midst can play an important role</li> <li>Students can evangelize to their colleagues on college Campus.</li> <li>Spread the movie night news also</li> <li>Let them know there is availability of free bus from church to their school.</li> <li>The same apply to other program.</li> <li>There is also a need to provide menu to the students when they come to church program.</li> </ul>	Short- term
The church website ( <a href="http://www.rccghouseofglory.org">www.rccghouseofglory.org</a> ) and our online presence.	The Website has always been an avenue where people come to know about the church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The website will still continue to be a source of advertisement to the church, the website can also add programs like free movie night, Peniel Encounter etc.</li> <li>The website can state that there is a free bus service from UMBC to the church.</li> </ul>	Long-term
<p>Evangelism must be emphasize:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This department must be headed by a visionary person.</li> <li>The person must be able to understand the problems that we face while evangelizing and must be able to provide solutions.</li> </ul>	To win soul for Christ.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every Believer must aspire to win souls for Christ because it was our Lord mandate.</li> <li>The department needs to give training on how to evangelize.</li> <li>To adopt a slogan 'Have you won a soul for Christ today'.</li> <li>Every believer must be ready at any time to witness for any opportunity that might come their way.</li> <li>Every church program should serve as an</li> </ul>	Long -term

		<p>avenue to evangelize. We must encourage every member to invite someone to church on all these programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Believers must be well-informed about the implication of not evangelizing – the delay of our Lord's return and the consequence that occur if fail to utilize every opportunity we have.</li> <li>• Apart from the department issue the church should set aside a weekend as evangelism week.</li> </ul>	
<p>A driver is needed for the church Bus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A dedicated driver, who is also a member of the church.</li> <li>• A driver who will liaise with other department heads to find out what areas require his/her service.</li> <li>• He/she will see to the running of the bus, that is, servicing, tune-up, etc.</li> </ul>	Put the bus to use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There must be somebody in charge of the bus.</li> <li>• Driver will pick up members who don't have means of getting to church.</li> <li>• When the bus is in full use, the bus itself will serve as another way of evangelism.</li> </ul>	Long-term

## Serve the needy (Outreach)

This must be part of the church DNA. The heart of the church is changed to focus on the needy.  
The church must understand God's heart for the orphan, widow and less privileged.

Strengths	Sub headings			Notes
		Website	Dedicated websites	Most of the first times visitors stated that they found out about the church through church website.
Weaknesses	Evangelism	Evangelism	Lack of commitment	<p>Lack of commitment is a big issue when it comes to things of God. Many have not come to realize that until they commit themselves to things of God answer to prayers can be hindered. (John 15: 16).</p> <p><b>SOLUTION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Believer who want a quick answer to his/her prayer should put into practice evangelism (John 15:16).</li> <li>• Believer should realize that Evangelizing was our Lord mandate.</li> </ul> <p>In other words people should rededicate their life to evangelism.</p>
			Fear of unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People are scared of being looked down upon when trying to preach to unbeliever.</li> <li>• Some unbelievers might want to intimidate you when you knock on their door.</li> </ul>
			Society influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The society is not helping in area evangelism, for instance you cannot preach to coworker because he or she can report you to your boss.</li> <li>• You cannot also preach against gay and lesbian or discriminate against them.</li> </ul> <p><b>SOLUTION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People need to understand that the message is still the</li> </ul>

				<p>same but the way is being deliver has change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You can encourage an unbeliever to share your believe through your life testimony.</li> </ul>
			Not to be bother	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People like to serve God from comfort zone.</li> <li>Believers have not realized that we are the one delaying our Lord return because the gospel has to be preaching to the entire world before our Lord returns.</li> </ul> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to encourage ourselves on a daily basis about evangelism</li> <li>We need to adopt a slogan like, "Have you evangelize to someone today?"</li> </ul>
			Lack of Training	<p>People lack the skill on how to evangelize</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <p>. It took our Lord three and half years before he can make Peter a Fisher of Men. So also training is necessary for a successful evangelism.</p>
		Outreach	Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People have not got the vision clearly</li> <li>People have not realized that Outreach is an integral part of Christianity.</li> <li>People have not also realized through outreach you can bring comfort to a needy soul.</li> </ul> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make the vision known and have it written down and always re visit it so that people can remember.</li> <li>Training is also important because we need to know rules that guided these type outreach programs.</li> </ul>
			Purpose	<p>People does not know the purpose behind outreach programs</p> <p>SOLUTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main purpose of an outreach event is to win souls</li> </ul>

				<p>and that should be our focus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Believers should realize that when they serve the needy God will reward them.</li> </ul>
			Lack of time	<p>Believers always complain of lack of time.</p> <p>SOLUTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We should remember that nobody serves the Lord from comfort zone.</li> <li>Our Lord should be an example that we should emulate.</li> </ul>
			Lack of Volunteers	<p>People are not ready to volunteer to do things of God.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People need to volunteer to things of God</li> <li>People need to be reminded about the promise of God in serving him.</li> </ul>
			Some examples of Outreach Programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free music classes, computer training programs, food pantry, car wash, Health fair, coat drive, homeless shelter, basketball camp, etc.</li> </ul>
	Community service	Community service	Vision	See outreach
			Purpose	See outreach
			Lack of time	See outreach
			Lack of Volunteers	See outreach
			Do not know the Community well.	<p>People have not taken time to know the community where church is located, so also they knew little about the demographic, for instance are there a lot of Homeless people in the community, single mom, elderly people etc.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For successful service to community we need to know</li> </ul>

				<p>our community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to know those services rendered in the community through the County Community affair office.</li> </ul>
			Lack of Training	<p>People need the rule and regulation that guide community service</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training is also important because we need to know rules as apply to each community in regard to the service to be rendered.</li> </ul>
			Some examples of Services for community.	Lawn mowing, nursing home visit, tutoring etc.
		Serving/ stewardship	Meaning of stewardship/serving	<p>People do not understand the term stewardship in regard to our belief and doctrine of our Lord Jesus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People have not realized that the call to be a follower of Christ is a call for service.</li> </ul> <p>CONCEPT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everything we have belongs to God, we are to manage it for His glory Matt.28:18-20,</li> <li>Stewards are to be trustworthy 1 Cor4:1-2.</li> <li>Parable of the talents matt 25:14-30</li> <li>We are to multiply the resources we are given. God expects a return on the resources he entrusts to us.</li> <li>We are expected to give our time, talent and treasure.</li> <li>God is the Owner of everything that we have.</li> <li>We are just a custodian</li> <li>God expect us to give account of what was placed in our custody and also to see how well we have multiply the resources.</li> </ul> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <p>Needs for re orientation on this topic.</p>



			Not bother with things of God.	See Evangelism
			Culture	Culture has been one of the major negative influences in stewardship. People tend to look at their position and then assume that there are too big to serve in a certain area.
			challenge	Most People do not like new challenge and they are comfortable in the position they are.
	<b>Outreach</b>	Website		<p>The church does not include outreach programs on their websites.</p> <p><b>SOLUTION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The church website should include the outreach programs and if possible with all necessary information that are important and useful.</li> </ul>
Opportunities	<b>Evangelism</b>	College students (UMBC)	Inability to reach out to college students that are in UMBC, Morgan University.	<p>College students that are member are not doing enough in the area of reaching out to their colleagues in campuses.</p> <p><b>SOLUTION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Evangelism department should liaise with members that are students around Baltimore.</li> <li>Students should be encouraged to evangelize, if possible trains how to evangelize.</li> <li>The youth (college students) should advertise the movie night to the colleague on campus.</li> <li>Free transport to church should be encouraged.</li> <li>Other area of interest that may be of important to youth must also be explored.</li> </ul>
	<b>Outreach</b>	Church bus	Not putting church bus into use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The church bus should be put use.</li> <li>The bus should have a dedicated driver</li> </ul>

		Website		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of church bus should be included on the websites for those who might need ride to church.</li> <li>• Other program of important should also be included on the website.</li> </ul>
		Programs are opportunities for outreach	Moving night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The youth (college students) should advertise the movie night to the colleague on campus.</li> <li>• Free transport to church should be encouraged for the students that are not mobile.</li> </ul>