

The Nuts and Bolts of Maintaining a Disability Ministry

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My Story: How I developed a Passion for Disability Ministry



**Lauren Chase and myself at STARS,
College Church, Wheaton, IL**



I met my husband in a Disability Ministry



Trinity Church, Redlands, CA



Four Tools for Maintaining a Healthy Disability Ministry

1. Organization
2. Leadership from class members
3. Communication
4. Socialization



Get Organized

- Hire or identify someone passionate about Disability Ministry to serve as an Administrative Assistant or Coordinator
 - Full time position
 - go-to person on Sunday morning
 - Some responsibilities: weekly calls and visits to class members houses, organizing social events, spreading the word about disability ministry
 - REMEMBER: you must work within the structure of your church as much as possible
 - example: Shelby (database), website, desktop publishing

Fostering Leadership in Your Members

- Staff Meeting
- Worship Team
- Welcome Basket
- Birthday Cards
- Note Cards





Communication with Your Pastor and Church Administration

- Convince them of the need for a Disability Ministry
- Gain their support and blessing
- Invite them to attend class and future social events
- Remember to thank them for their support



Communication with Your Congregation

- Brochure available at welcome table, church office
- Worship folder announcements– invite the whole church to your event
 - ex. Women's Retreat
- Attend church events as a class
- T-shirts
- Directory– “Adopt a Class Member”
- Disability Awareness Sunday

Socialization



→ Invite families of members to attend social events

Connect with a local high school's community service group ←



More Fun Times





Panel

1. What is your favorite thing about Light & Power?
2. Do you feel like you are accepted at church?
3. What would make church better?



Questions????????????