

# **PROJECT SOUL SEARCH**

**This project is a continuation of the Project 2000, under the umbrella of our “forward action” evangelism program. Each year we attempt to enlarge upon our original program of outreach. The initial focus was on preparing the congregation for evangelism. This year the emphasis is on team coordination to make the work seamless and cooperative. Project Soul Search also includes the preparation of materials by the Education sector to help evangelism even easier for group and individual studies.**

**We have listed the various “sector” coordinators and their sector “groups”. These work together to facilitate each sector’s efforts. We have only included the primary sector outlines: Evangelism, Education, and Benevolence. The others are straightforward in concept and execution: Worship Preparation; Building Maintenance, and Congregational Activities.**

**You may use any of this that might be helpful for your congregation. Just download and make whatever changes you see fit for your needs.**

- 1. Project Coordinators**
- 2. Evangelism Outline**
- 3. Education Outline**
- 4. Benevolence Outline**

**In Christ,  
J.S. Oxendine, Evangelist**

## **PROJECT 2001 - SOUL SEARCHING COORDINATORS**

### **EVANGELISM - Frank & Gail; Lincoln**

Classes in Evangelism  
Field Training in Evangelism  
Home Studies with New Members  
Home Studies with Prospects  
Inviting People to Services  
Letters to Visitors  
Mailing Tracts, Flyers  
Shut-In Communion Services  
Visits to Visitors

### **EDUCATION - Johnny, Rachel, & Jackie**

Class Study Materials  
Correspondence Courses  
Developing Audio Library  
Evangelism Handbooks  
Organizing Library System  
Providing Study Materials  
Developing Individual Study Plans  
Developing Group Study Plans

### **MAINTENANCE - Mel, Bill, & John**

External Repairs  
Internal Repairs  
Maintain Baptistry & Rooms  
Scheduling Cleanups  
Yard Maintenance

### **BENEVOLENCE - Estelle, Joyce, Manny, Donna**

Benevolence Clothing List	Telephone Shut-Ins/Sick
Benevolence Items List	Transportation to Doctors
Clothes for the Needy	Transportation to Services
Emergency Childcare	Visit Nursing Homes
Emergency Financial Aid	Visit Shut-Ins
Emergency Shelter	Visit Sick @ Home
Food & Meals to Needy	Visit Sick @ Hospital

### **WORSHIP PREPARATION - Craig & Keith**

Announcements  
Audio Tape of Sermons  
Baptisms  
Communion Preparation  
Men Serving in Worship  
Taking Attendance

### **CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES - Pame & Deanna**

Activities for Young People  
Flowers for All Occasions  
Monthly Outing Schedules

## **EVANGELISM GROUPS OVERVIEW**

This overview is a broad set of ideas that can be incorporated into an overall schematic. It should not be necessary to micromanage this sector. Many alternative ideas will certainly be useful in developing a set of manageable goals. This is just something to work from, or use as a beginning. All ideas or "changes" are open and welcome. Whereas Tuesday nights had originally been planned as Workshop opportunities for the "Classes" and "Field Training" sections, those sessions are now up to the coordinators. Tuesdays will now move on into a new area of study to be determined.

### **Studies With New Members**

This team/group will have a tremendous importance because of the need to further "ground" new members. The basic ways to do this may be to review "correspondence courses" and to then proceed with a general overview of the New Testament. Continue to give emphasis to the fundamentals. There should be an emphasis on attendance, giving, fellowship and growth. Set up specific study times that will allow for a smooth, but not burdensome continuation of Bible understanding.

### **Studies With Prospects**

Frank and Craig should lead this area. Making the initial contacts or doing the follow up will be necessary and quite important. It is better to have husbands and wives together as it reflects a positive impression of family. John may help to encourage ways to reach certain groups of prospects. This group should also look to develop others to participate in studies with prospects, but must provide a detailed plan and study session to incorporate before sending them out.

### **Mail Outs - Tracts, Flyers, etc.**

Utilize this group for many of the "interest generating" efforts. They may simply do some random mailings, or more specific types. Flyers can be made to spread through the neighborhoods announcing classes/lectures. Perhaps certain tract "themes" can be emphasized for different months, etc. This area can be quite effective and should be seen as one of the key components of the group.

### **Shut-In Communion Services**

This group came about from a suggestion that we service those who may want to take communion, but are unable to do so because of a chronic illness or just being sick. A request should be made, or even better (*and preferable*), this group should make the initial contacts to make it known that this is available. For communion, we must also see that the pattern in the scriptures requires a "service": songs, prayers, reading, etc. Frank will be the primary person responsible for this service, and he may solicit others to help, but he should take the lead.

### **Courtesy Visits To Visitors**

This may increase our regular attendance if the visitors can see our sincere interest in their well being. It may also increase the number of Bible classes in that the visitors will become more comfortable with the gospel, and us after a visit. We may also find a number of "former" members (those who have fallen away). This would be a great section for improvisation. One can think of many ways to make this group a "growth" area.

### **Invite People To Services**

This area of the evangelism sector will have the primary responsibility of thinking of (creating) ways to invite more people to the worship services and to the classes. This group may actually become a very viable tool for the evangelism sector as a whole. It may well be the group that handles many of the workshop issues and presentations on Tuesday nights. Frank or Mel can then present this information to the congregation at large.

## **Education Overview**

This is a very important part of the overall Project in that the need for "instruction" is paramount. The Education sector will have a wide and varied responsibility that will include assisting the Evangelism sector in some selected areas and in serving the congregation in others. Providing a complete array of materials from which to choose to study with prospects, and helping members to use the Library are just a few of the benefits of an Education sector. Below is a brief set of suggestions to get started.

### **Evangelism Handbooks**

This set of "handbooks" will serve a specific purpose: to help the member in evangelistic efforts. These books will have quick reference guides as well as detailed information in a number of "quick study" areas such as the authority of the Bible, creation/evolution, and several denominational groups. Heather will have the primary responsibility for bringing these to fruition, but she may enlist others for some of the light work if they are willing and have the time. This effort will greatly benefit those who desire simple and clear "helps" in their evangelistic attempts.

### **Organizing The Library**

This is a long-term project to build up and organize the congregation's Library. This will include the purchase and organization of book, tapes, and various other materials for the congregation's use. Some of the responsibilities will include the redecoration of the Library, and the installation of bookshelves and tape containers. The purpose of this effort is to encourage members to utilize the many materials in their evangelistic endeavors, and to enhance personal study. This room will become a quiet refuge from the other areas of the building, and should be used with respect for the "helps" provided. Both the Evangelism and Education sectors will use the materials here, but few should leave the Library itself. This will prevent a wholesale migration of Library books to homes without return.

### **Correspondence Courses**

This group will be responsible for mailing, grading, etc. the various courses provided. This group should be the primary contact source for courses to be sent, and to whom they should be returned. They will also notify the sector coordinator when we are in need of extra or different courses to fit special needs.

### **Developing Individual Studies**

This group should be provide whatever materials are needed for members in their individual studies (whether with others, or for themselves). The group should be able to make recommendations (based on some knowledge) that will fit with the individual's needs. This will require an outline of needs "topics", and other kinds of singular studies that frequently occur.

### **Developing Group Studies**

Same as above, but more geared to larger groups. This is especially true for home studies. These should be helpful to the Evangelism sector, as they will be engaged in group study efforts.

### **Developing Audio Library**

This is an area that is in desperate need of organization and development. It can become a significant area of evangelistic outreach if implemented properly. It should be organized in a way that will allow for any member to find a tape on any topic easily. We will add to the collection from our own lectureship and from others around the brotherhood.

## **Benevolence Overview**

**Benevolence is an area of church work that is often overlooked and usually under-appreciated. It is one of the most significant areas in the vineyard, and we want to develop it in ways that will allow for a better understanding of it by our members (and those outside of the church). Benevolent work was a key component in the first century church. It allowed for provisions to those unable to provide for themselves, and in certain situations it allows for the opportunity to evangelize. Those who are the coordinators have overseen much of this work for many years, and we hope that others may realize how wonderful this sector of the work in San Mateo is. Perhaps in the future someone else will rise to the roles that have been primarily assigned to Estelle and Joyce.**

### **Items List**

Inform the congregation of the needed food (or other) items for the month, or for special needs.

### **Clothing List**

Inform the congregation of the clothing needed for the shelters, etc., or special times of the year.

### **Emergency Childcare**

This group has offered to provide childcare in emergency situations. They are not babysitters!

### **Emergency Shelter**

These members have offered to provide emergency shelter should there be no alternatives.

### **Delivering Food/Clothing**

Please call on any of the names here for help with deliveries. There may be others available also.

### **Visiting Teams**

These are people that can be used to form various types of visitation teams. They may be encouraged to participate in group visits, which could include singings. Establishing numerous kinds of visitation teams will also allow an "benevolence evangelism" to take place if desired. Elderly care homes, etc. might be places of interest to set up regular visits of various types. This group will initiate visits to the sick in hospitals, at home, shut-ins, in nursing homes, etc.

### **Transportation Team**

The names here are those of members that are willing to help provide transportation under differing circumstances: to services, to doctors, to stores, and on special occasions. Frequently people are in need of transportation for so many reasons, here is a group that can help with that.