

Strategies

- 1-teach others what you are learning
- 2-tackle tough situations head on
- 3-tithing
- 4-throw parties to celebrate successes
- 5-send hand-written notes
- 6-be willing to kill what is no longer working'
- 7-replace committees with teams
- 8-communicate clearly:
 - purpose- why we exist overall
 - mission statement- why specifically WE exist
 - vision statement- how we will look in 10 years
 - values- how we will act as we accomplish our mission
 - faith statement- beliefs that hold us together
 - goals- annual focus of our energy in specific areas
- 9-give volunteers an experience- not just a task
- 10-constantly recruit
- 11- keep everything clean & repaired
- 12-avoid shortcuts

More strategies

- 1-plan 6 months in advance for big projects
- 2-flexible not flashy
- 3-several models
- 4-if they don't come- you're not the kind of church they need
- 5-birthdays
- 6-reach out to them
- 7-Do social networking, texting, work it weekly
- 8-ship out everything someone else could do
- 9-visit other groups- steal ideas
- 10-everyone has a small group to care for
- 11-know your people- feed & decorate accordingly
- 12-cultivate the artist in your members
- 13-every project must have a leader
- 14-let outsiders make a difference- get their opinions
- 15-write down specific job descriptions
- 16-database is crucial
- 17-let leaders lead
- 18-send out news regularly- newsletters, Facebook, email
- 19-give staff cool gifts
- 20-keep website fresh
- 21-share stories
- 22-recognize & affirm
- 23-solicit feedback- opinion box
- 24-have fun- meals, retreats, games, conferences
- 25-keep the vision in front of the group
- 26-structure should mirror strategy & vision
- 27-create opportunities to do and learn big things on line

Even more strategies for growth

- 1-three creative types are needed: ideas people, specifics specialists, implementors

- 2-make people laugh
- 3-use media & culture
- 4-create buzz
- 5-"Invite" specifically, not recruit
- 6-use music- modern worship- use secular music for sacred purpose
- 7- integrity needs no defense, expect complaints & criticism
- 8-identify people's needs (stress, relationships) & let them know you have some answers for them to consider
- 9-don't overwhelm with announcements
- 10-scratch people where they itch
- 11-give a reason to attend
- 12-combine several topics into a series
- 13- always be inviting members to invite friends
- 14-change space, formats, styles, methods
- 15-have a vision statement
- 16-know your community
- 17-changed lives change lives
- 18-serve the right food to the right people
- 19-condense everything- remember it's a short attention span age
- 20-consistently promote your group
- 21-assume everyone is a newcomer & love all your guests
- 22-get your theme labels from current movies, Tv shows

Volunteers strategies

- 1-S.H.A.P.E.= Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality Experience
- 2-don't ask for help- tell them how you'll help them with their gifts & experiences
- 3-make all roles simple & manageable
- 4-Trust God- he is building his church
- 5-cheer- encourage people to do the next good & right thing
- 6-accept chaos as part of the terrain
- 7-give T.I.M.E.=Touch,Inspiration,Motivation,Encouragement
- 8-avoid turf guarding
- 9-take blame & give credit
- 10-make list of volunteer needs
- 11-never put down anyone& kick out anyone else who does
- 12-respect their time
- 13-give them titles
- 14-stimulate their creativity
- 15-pair them up
- 16-clear & simple policies
- 17-train them, especially new ones
- 18-be accessible, flexible
- 19-open dialogue & debate generate better ideas
- 20-leave a position empty rather than forced
- 21-create an opportunities list & manual for jobs
- 22-commissioning ceremony
- 23-model servant leadership
- 24-admit your weaknesses
- 25-growth occurs around the edges-have edgy people on board
- 26-mentor the new & young
- 27-send postcards, emails, or Facebook messages of encouragement

- 28-have a system of encouragement
- 29-have ways for people to move into new ministries
- 30-let people tell their stories & listen
- 31-stress importance of preparation
- 32-debrief & share feedback & dreams
- 33-notice who gets things done
- 34-celebrate
- 35-sometimes you have to remove someone
- 36-have a brand so everyone knows who you are & stand for & do & focus
- 37-don't just delegate- empower
- 38-remember God wastes no experience, no matter how painful
- 39-have fun & hire fun people
- 40-avoid the blame game
- 41-expect challenges- don't give up

GAMES

- hangman
- jeopardy
- family crisis
- musical chairs
- thirsty- potato chips, no drinks
- wheaties, capt. crunch eating contest
- push up contest
- search for squirt guns
- sit down volleyball
- charades
- sing-a-long
- WAVE
- toilet paper roll unwrap without ripping
- water in bowl with straw
- take photos
- balance peacock feather
- balloon pass
- balloon basketball
- stand on squares
- find the toaster blindfolded- teams guide
- relay races
- various buttons
- various stickers

retreat ideas/activities

- answer ques. - "I could tell you but then I'd have to kill you"
- unusual hats & clothes
- trust walk
- what's weird about you
- sing alongs
- yearn web
- kazoos/harmonicas
- what are you going to go home & do?
- card tricks

- scavenger hunts
- will it float?
- hold weird stuff like bowling ball while speaking
- slap messages on wall or board
- use megaphone
- drink water- "I will now make the entire contents of this cup disappear"
- I couldn't help but noticing
- people up all night praying for you
- bag of notes of support & small gifts of retreatants from parish
- warm fuzzies story
- letters from parents, parishioners, sponsors
- Jesus' letter- I was watching you
- constant checking your affirmation mailbox- slip things in there
- who is God to you shield
- Giving Tree book
- gold c-h-c-h rocks treasure hunt u-r the church
- penny pitch- candy/lemon prizes
- blank CDs or albums
- create your prayer journal
- straw through potato
- rocks & dirt into container activity
- inflatable globe
- walnut
- words on lunch bag
- bubbles bowl
- write name in air
- body trace activity
- Jesus no-hands
- balance peacock feather (keep your eye on the eye)
- turn around & shake hands with the person behind you
- give a lollypop or prize when someone has an "ah-ha" moment
- deck of cards story
- 2 risk takers 1- @ __ o'clock stand up & go ____
2- wear a hat & stand up & go__ whenever you think we need a joke or story
- 4 corners activity elementary school, middle school, high school, never

Retreat stickers

- jesus loves you, but I'm his favorite
- D.O.G.
- R.A.K.
- Never too late to have a happy childhood
- Do the right thing
- Real men pray
- if you're not outraged- you're not paying attention
- F.A.I.T.H.

Retreat artifacts

- wooden crosses
- cross necklaces
- medals
- mixture

- plain rocks
- DARE rocks
- seashells
- navajo friendship rocks
- rocks with words
- candles
- barf bags
- prayer cards- OL Grace, Jesus laughing, Footprints
- Teen creed
- Don't quit
- Serenity prayer
- cross in my pocket
- golf t's
- erasers

Being church

- holiest place on earth is wherever an ancient hatred has become a present love
- bless the neighborhood- consecrate it to Christ
- be missionaries- one who is sent beyond boundaries
- deal with: missing men, abortions, porn addiction, alcohol & drugs, youth
- "I do intend to renew my church"
- get rid of Costco
- personal touch
- be involved with the poor
- embrace diversity
- door to door

teens experience lag between hormonal activity stimulating:

- need for self-assertion
- being taken seriously
- exploring outside limits of family
- testing roles within peer group
- taking risks

and maturation of the brain

- allowing for thinking before acting
- projecting ourselves into the future
- controlling impulses

Help them by

- guiding with structured activities
 - listen
- communicate without nagging

Teens are exploring:

who do I belong to?

Where do I belong?

Need to give themselves to something, someone greater than self: God & human family

Need crevices where God's light can pour in

Need their death to be wiped out (confession) & new life given (Eucharist)

Need to listen to the father, love with the Son, Live in the Holy Spirit

Need to be open to a looser, freer way of being

Remember- It's not over till it's over