



The following are suggestions to assist your congregation to invite others. Check the ELCA Evangelism Web page www.elca.org/evangelism for more suggestions.

- Schedule two or more Friendship Celebration emphases during your year of discipleship. Consider utilizing planning guides and support materials developed to mobilize congregation members to invite their friends, relatives and neighbors to faith and worship.
- Offer training and opportunities to strengthen the faith-sharing skills of your members. Schedule an adult forum or small group study about sharing faith.
- Provide opportunities for people to get comfortable talking about their faith in the presence of others (e.g., periodic times of “testimony” during worship, before congregation council and other leadership team meetings, etc.).
- Gather a leadership team to evaluate and strengthen your congregation’s evangelism ministries. Use the self-scoring assessment tools at www.elca.org/evangelism to evaluate your congregation’s offerings.
- Engage the Go Public resources (video, workbook and compact disk) to strengthen your congregation’s communication evangelism efforts. Use the television and radio commercials and publicity materials (print ads, cards, signage, etc.) from the ELCA’s Identity Project to publicize the ministry of your congregation. Consider working together with congregations in your synod or geographic area to provide a common witness.
- Develop a Web site for your congregation. Include devotional and other materials as a part of your site. Build in links to the ELCA’s home page www.elca.org and www.elca.org/prayer. If you need help developing your web site, see www.elca.org/webministry.
- Consider a special outreach focus with the children in your surrounding community. Utilize the Peli-can children’s evangelism materials to teach children in your Sunday church school how to share their faith and invite.
- Start an after-school ministry or kid’s club focused on serving the needs of families in your community.
- Host concerts, a series of classes or a special event to which members could invite their unchurched friends in the community. Provide inspiration, resources and advertising in the congregation and community to strengthen the possibility of congregational invitation and to encourage people beyond the congregation to participate.
- Mobilize a team of youth and adults to distribute information about your congregation’s ministries door-to-door in targeted areas of your community.
- Schedule a “revival” (preaching, teaching, reaching event) for your congregation and community. Be sure to publicize the event and make sure that all in the community are invited by phone or in person.