

Leadership Team Training
Purpose for the Leadership Team

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Keep the “Main Thing,” the “Main Thing”

Vision

Our congregation is an authentic faith community that reaches out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, embraces people with intellectual disabilities, their families, and caregivers, and we grow together in our relationship with Christ.

- It is so much more than a Bible study!

Keep the “Main Thing,” the “Main Thing”

Five Primary Elements

Our Friendship group focuses on five primary elements; study of the Word, worship, prayer, fellowship, and ministry together.

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Sound Teaching

Lessons are taught using curricula that is based on the Word of God, developed for adults with intellectual disabilities, has resources for multiple teaching methods, and utilizes life applications suitable for people with disabilities.

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Worship and Prayer

We worship God, because He is worthy of our praise as the priority of our lives. We pray for, and with, each other lifting our needs and the needs of the world to God.

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Fellowship

Friends with disabilities, families and caregivers are embraced by the congregation through events and personal relationships. Deep relationships are formed among members of our Friendship group, and we get involved in each others' lives.

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Ministry Together

Friends with disabilities have opportunities to serve others in the congregation, community, and in the world through service opportunities with other groups in the church and the congregation at large.

Prepare, Protect, Prevent

*“Prepare your work outside; get everything ready for yourself in the field,
and after that build your house.”*

Proverbs 24:27

Prepare, Protect, Prevent Training

Volunteers are trained with a sufficient understanding of adults with disabilities and their spirituality, as well as the volunteers' spiritual gifts and role as a companion, effective teaching, methods for communication, and managing behaviors.

Prepare, Protect, Prevent

Risk Management

Insure the congregation implements a Risk Management and Safety Policy that requires procedures for volunteer and participant applications, criminal background screens, and reporting abuse. Data is collected to include personal and emergency contact information, descriptions of disabilities and behaviors, and special dietary needs. The congregation and Connection Ministries receive a release to use photos, stories and images, and are released from liability.

Prepare, Protect, Prevent

Promotion

The Friendship group is visible on the churches' website and on the church calendar. Brochures are available for volunteers to hand out, and in common areas in the church. Articles are written for local newspapers, church newsletters, announcements, and social media.

Prepare, Protect, Prevent

Accountability

Leadership teams provide a process for discussion of ideas and decision making. This team can also can raise its awareness in the congregation by reporting back to the leadership of the congregation.

Specific Roles Managed by a Leadership Team

Primary Roles

- Teachers for large group lessons, and leaders for small group discussions
- Music/worship leader
- Lead Prayer
- Administration; track registration, rosters, attendance
- Hospitality – Greeting cards, notes of encouragement, snacks and food for classes and special events

Specific Roles Managed by a Leadership Team

Secondary Roles

- Family and caregiver liaison
- Liaison to other groups; youth, seniors, life groups, Bible studies
- Coordinates service projects and special events
- Crafts/games/lesson activities/costumes
- Technology; setup up and operation
- Prayer warriors

Specific Roles Managed by a Leadership Team

Awareness and Promotion

- Write and coordinate church's promotional content
 - Announcements, Sunday bulletin, newsletters, social media,
 - Photography
 - Social media
- Event planner – pageants, fellowship, dinners, parties
- Budget and funding