

PLANNING A NEWCOMERS' BRUNCH

(A rough time-line and task-list)

Personnel involved:

Clergy person ("Rector" – but might also be Asst)

Office

Brunch Coordinator

Brunch team, which includes:

Reminder callers

Food/drink bringers

Helpers to set up, clean up

Co-hosts at the event

RECTOR and Brunch COORDINATOR **pick a date** (best to have 3-4 weeks' lead time)

Three or four weeks before the event:

OFFICE and RECTOR generate list of invitees from the visitors' log

OFFICE mails invitations to the brunch and begins including event in Bulletin calendar/announcements

COORDINATOR recruits TEAM of helpers to bring food, beverages, decorations/supplies; to announce the event; to make reminder calls; to co-host the event.

Three weeks before the event:

TEAM reviews the invitation list and brainstorms other invitees; shares knowledge about potential guests (how long they've been coming; how regularly; who they sit with; etc). Additional invitations may be sent.

Two weeks before the event:

Reminder CALLERS begin researching contact info (Important job, because visitors don't always leave a phone number or email!)

Brunch COORDINATOR makes sure s/he has necessary helpers to prepare/bring/pick up food.

Brunch COORDINATOR/RECTOR/TEAM recruit hosts to attend the brunch and share their history and ministries at All Sts'. Look for people who are involved in upcoming events.

COORDINATOR and RECTOR plan program (including introductions, meal, distribution of Newcomer Packet, info on pledging, info "spots" about ministries/events, Q&A).

One week before the event:

Reminder CALLERS make their calls/emails

Brunch COORDINATOR gathers RSVPs from callers and church office

COORDINATOR (with RECTOR) decides how many hosts are needed; finalizes "host list". (The GUEST list isn't final until the event is over - there will usually be drop-ins)

2-3 days before the event:

COORDINATOR calls the cooks/food bringers with expected rough number of attendees
COORDINATOR emails/calls hosts to confirm attendance

Day of the event:

30 minutes before - COORDINATORS and HELPERS set up room, make coffee, cut pastries, etc

15 minutes before – CO-HOSTS and RECTOR be on the lookout for guests and potential guests; welcome them into the room.

Then on with the program!

PHOTOGRAPHER takes pictures

After the event:

RECTOR and TEAM pull together notes on attendees. TEAM MEMBER writes up brief bios for Calling All Saints

PHOTOGRAPHER posts pictures

OFFICE updates guests' status in the "pipeline" (so they won't be invited to more brunches!)