

10 Ways to Start a MI Ministry in Your Synod

Pray. Pray about this ministry. Pray for yourself and what God has put on your heart about sharing His Work in the world. Pray for all the people you will come in contact with and who you will build relationships with sharing the MI ministry. Pray to be able to make a difference. Pray.

Contact your DEM. Begin to share a vision for this ministry alongside your DEM. How will this ministry be lifted up in your Synod? Who might be some advocates for this ministry? If there is a Stewardship Table in your Synod, you may want a close connection to this group. Set some short/long term goals together for the ministry.

Contact Deans in each conference/cluster. Let them know that you're there to tell the stories of what God is doing through our giving. Let them know that you are looking for people who are mission minded to help share these stories...do they know of anyone(s)? Offer to do a MI presentation in their conference or a congregation that needs to hear of the mission work we do together or needs a better understanding of the three expressions of the church and its' connectedness.

Talk to your Synod Communicator &/or Synod administrative staff. Discuss various avenues the Synod has available for you to share and promote the MI message...newsletter, website, facebook, twitter, etc. Make sure you are clear about guidelines and deadlines for various Synod publications.

Develop a brochure. This is a quick piece of literature for people to get the basics of the MI ministry and becoming a MI. It's easy to develop and easy to carry with you. It doesn't take up a lot of space on a table at Synod Assembly, in the Synod office or in any congregation. Make sure it's clear and concise. Colored paper makes it stand out!

Get a list of all congregations in your Synod....divided by conference/cluster. This will help familiarize yourself to the various congregations across your Synod. It will also help with bookkeeping as your ministry grows.

Ask for 10 minutes on your Synod council meeting agenda. Share some of the basic information about the MI ministry in the ELCA. Ask council members to consider becoming MIs for their congregation. Ask them to share names of others. Ask them to invite you in to their congregations to share more!

Invite people to join you. After doing some networking and gathering names, begin to intentionally invite those people to join you in the work of this ministry.

Hold a training event. After networking with your DEM and Conference Deans, begin to consider having a formal training event.

Make a splash at synod assembly. Use a tri-fold information board on display table. Display MI messages throughout assembly. Offer a workshop. Wear a T-shirt or button.