

April 11, 2011

Bishop Kevin Kanouse
Northern Texas Northern Louisiana Mission Area
P.O. Box 560587
Dallas, TX 75356-0587

Dear Bishop Kevin,

We read in Paul's letter to the Corinthians, "God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." I am extremely excited to share with you that the disciples at Rejoice have taken these words to heart.

We believe that our congregation's ministry is stronger when serve together with the other congregations in our mission area and that leadership development is in everyone's best interest. We are excited by the possibilities that are created by the DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood and the Leadership Formation Fund and we look forward to supporting our sisters and brothers in Sierra Leone in the completion of the Jubilee Lutheran Centre in Freetown.

We further believe that God has blessed us richly and in thanksgiving to God for the opportunity to share abundantly in this good work, the disciples at Rejoice in support of DiscipleLife Alive have committed individually a combined total of \$67,000 to be given to the NTNL Mission Area for DiscipleLife Alive over the next three years.

Again, we give thanks to God for this opportunity to work together with congregations in our mission area in support of this important goal. We sincerely pray that this is only a beginning and that God may bless our efforts that together we may achieve our goals and be a blessing to those we serve.

In the love of Christ,



Pastor Phil Geleske

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Dear Bishop Kanouse and Leaders of The Discipleship Alive Campaign,

After much prayer, contemplation, conversation, and communing together as brothers and sisters in Christ, it is my privilege, and my joy to inform you that the disciples of Faith, in Flower Mound, commit themselves to a 3 year campaign pledge of \$100,000.

We are truly excited about the vision, the mission, and the ministry that God has provided through your leadership. And we are excited about the life changing impact we believe the success of this campaign will bring about.

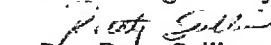
We are intentionally making a significant commitment above and beyond the recommended pledge of \$60,000 that was proposed in the printed campaign material for a congregation our size. And the leaders here that I am blessed to work with would like me to share with you why:

1. We clearly sense the work of the Holy Spirit in, with, and under the focus of this campaign, and that God is calling us to stand together as the body of Christ to carry out this important work.
2. We believe that, because this calling is Spirit inspired and being guided by God, that it deserves our deepest commitment and our very best effort; not just what we think we can "comfortably afford" and not miss anyway. As our congregation pauses to pray each day at 6:33 p.m., one of the things we encourage each other to do is to "pray for what is right...not what is reasonable". We make this level of commitment because it is the "right" thing to do; for God, for his people, and for his kingdom!
3. Finally, God has led us, through prayer, to the conclusion that we are not just being called to participate in this campaign, we are being called to join with you and be leaders of this campaign. And we stand ready to encourage other congregations to join us in any way you see fit.

At the top of this letter is the new logo for our mission and ministry here at Faith. And I would like you to notice the "tagline" underneath our name; it reads "*Faith Changes Everything!*" We not only believe those words to be true, we desire to live out the truth of those words in our mission and ministry. We believe that faith in Jesus Christ changes everything in us, through us, and for us. And we believe that Faith Lutheran Church has a holy mission do life-changing ministry in the world, by sharing the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. So as far as we are concerned, this campaign is just the next chapter in the eternal story of hope that God longs to share with his world through his church.

Thanks again for allowing us to come along on the journey!

Faith Changes Everything!


Rev. Rusty Sullivan
Senior Pastor

Model for Implementation

How One Congregation Conducted a Successful Campaign

From Rejoice Lutheran, Coppell, Texas, Pastor Phil Geleske

Schedule	Responsibility/Activity
45 Days before implementation of DLA Initiative	Team Leader : Recruit a team of 4-5 people to help with planning and implementation of DLA Initiative <i>Time can be condensed if necessary</i>
30 Days before implementation of DLA Initiative	Team Leader: Develop Initiative Calendar with team Recruit people to offer Temple Talk <i>DLA Leaders from Mission Territory are a possible resource</i> Order Materials
7 Days before DLA Initiative	Pastor: Mail Letter for Leadership Gift Visit <i>DLA Resource</i>
Week One DLA Initiative Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Pastor: Sermon- Introducing DLA Initiative and Importance to Congregation and the entire Mission Area Pastor: Make Appointments for Leadership Gifts Office Team: E-mail DLA Brochure <i>DLA Resource - note: this congregation uses e-mail for all congregation correspondence. If US Mail is used, adjust mailing date to arrive on the date the e-mail is sent</i> Office Team: E-mail - Mission Briarwood - DLA Resource Office Team: E-mail - Endowment Fund - DLA Resource Office Team: E-mail - Jubilee Center - DLA Resource
Week Two DLA Initiative Sunday Monday Thursday	Invited Guest: Temple Talk <i>Personal Testimony - Why I got involved with DLA. DLA Team Leaders may be available</i> Pastor: DVD/Message <i>DVD is DLA Resource - Message linked DVD with Personal Testimony</i> Office Team Prints and Worship Team Distributes: Hand-out - Giving Guide Pastor with help from DLA Leadership Gift Team: Begin Leadership Gift Visits during the next 2 weeks Office Team: E-mail Q & A Office Team: E-mail Pledge Card for prayerful consideration <i>DLA Resource - Distribute also at next Sunday's Worship</i>
Week Three DLA Initiative Sunday Monday	Pastor: Sermon Worship Team: Distribute Pledge Cards - Have Pens Available <i>DLA Resource</i> Congregation Leader: In Gathering of Pledges and Dedication <i>Someone from congregation who has captured the Vision</i> Leadership Gift Visits continue as needed Financial Secretary: Gather Pledges for Totalling and Mail directly to Mission Office for Processing
Following Weeks	Mission Office Staff: Commitments are processed by Mission Office with Thank You Letter with Directions for future Pledges with envelopes

Note from Pastor Geleske: Because of time constraints last spring when we conducted our campaign, the six week Bible Study provided by the Mission Office was implemented the following summer as a follow-up. It would probably be more effective to utilize the Bible Study during the initiative starting on a date that will work best for the congregation either before the initiative begins to set the stage or as the initiative begins to encourage follow-up.

Pastor Geleske's sermon, "The Gifts of Many" was written for his *DiscipleLife Alive!* Congregation Celebration during the Easter Season and was also used at the 2011 Mission Assembly. It is also available to download. The visual element of this sermon is a collection of flowers from individuals brought together to create a beautiful bouquet.

NT-NL Mission Office

DiscipleLife Alive!

PO Box 560587 Dallas, TX 75356-0587

Call 214-637-NTNL(6865)

All DLA printed resources are downloadable from the website at <http://ntnl.org/> or can be ordered from the Mission Office for congregational use. DiscipleLife Alive! videos and music are available at <http://disciplelifealive.org/>.

DVD's can also be ordered from the Mission Office.