Organizing The Sunday School For Growth

Sunday School/Open Group Ministries
Pole Creek Baptist Church

Previous Assignments:

- Read Chapter One of *Key Strategies for a Healthy Sunday School.*
- Determine or develop and communicate a purpose statement for your Sunday School.
- Pastor: Preach a message communicating the purpose of Sunday School.
- Enlist leaders to attend the next session.

Unlocking The Purpose of Organization

- "If a Sunday School properly _____ (organized), it is possible to have everything of value to make the Sunday School _____". *-Arthur Flake*

- "An effective organizational plan places the _____of the church at the full disposal of the Lord that they might be _____ in the most efficient manner for the fulfillment of the Great Commission". *-Ken Hemphill*

Breaking Through:
A Good Organizational Strategy Will:

- Have a leader that takes _____.
- Have the _____ of the Pastor.
- _____ Preschool departments by age, Children and Youth by grade, and Adults by closely graded age groupings.
- Emphasize healthy _____ of leaders to learners.
- Emphasize individual class/department _____.

Strengths/Weaknesses of Large Groupings:

Strengths

- Generates _____.
- Requires _____ leaders.
- Lends to better dynamics for _____.

Weaknesses

- _____ interaction with the teaching.
- Involves fewer people in _____.
- Minimizes interaction with _____.

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Strengths/Weaknesses of Small Groupings:

Strengths

- _____ can participate.
- Relationships can be _____.
- _____ can be provided to all members.

Weaknesses

- If too small, _____ is difficult.
- Some _____ are not possible.
- Requires more _____.

When is a class too large?

- When the _____ does not know each _____ personally.
- When the group is too large for _____ or Q&A.
- When the room is more than _____ filled on a regular basis.
- When less than _____ of those enrolled are attending.

How many classes do you need?

- Divide your total enrollment by _____ to determine the total number of classes that you need.
- A Note About _____ Churches:

  * Larger churches tend to have "slightly" _____classes, but remember, the further you stray from the ratio, the more _____ it will be to _____ to your members and to assimilate new members and guests.

Ineffective Organizational Strategies

- Grade classes by _____!
- Grade classes by _____!
- Grade classes by _____!
- Grade classes by _____!
- Grade classes by letting everyone go where they are _____.

Why Age-Grade All Departments?

- Age grading _____ organization.
- Age grading assists _____.
- Age grading _____.
- Age grading enhances the _____ environment.
- Age grading gives accountability for _____.
- Remember: You do not age grade based on who _____, but rather based on who you want to _____!

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The Flip Flop Principle:

- _____ Youth do not mind going to Sunday School with _____ Youth, but Older Youth prefer not to go to Sunday School with Younger Youth.
- _____ Adults do not mind going to Sunday School with _____ Adults, but Younger Adults prefer not to go to Sunday School with Older Adults.

Preschool Organization:

Age	Max. Enrolled	Leader: Learner Ratio
Babies	12	1:2
One-Two	12	1:3
Three-Five	16	1:4
Kindergarten	20	1:5

- One class for every _____ enrolled.
- Each class is considered a _____.
- At least _____ _____ Adults in each class.

Children and Youth:

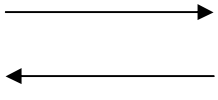
Age	Max. Enrolled	Leader: Learner Ratio
$1^{st} – 6^{th}$	24	1:6
$7^{th} – 12^{th}$	24	1:8

- Each Children's class is a _____
- Aim for one class for every _____children enrolled and every _____ youth enrolled.
- No less than _____ leaders per class.
- At least two _____ adults in each class.

Preschool, Children, Youth: Key Responsibilities of Two Leaders:

- Assign _____ _____ with the understanding that each assists the other.

Teacher
Life
Learning



Outreach
Goals
Growth

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Adult Organization:

Age	Max. Enrolled	Leader: Learner Ratio
19+	30	1:12

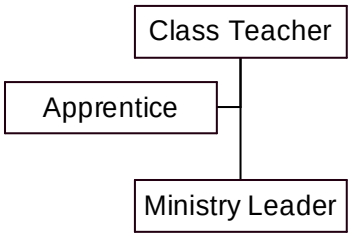
- One class for every _____ enrolled.
- _____ classes should be age-graded.
- _____ age spans of more than fifteen years and _____ for age spans of ten years or less.
- Each class should _____ to have a _____ leader ratio of 1:5 or less.

Leaders Include:

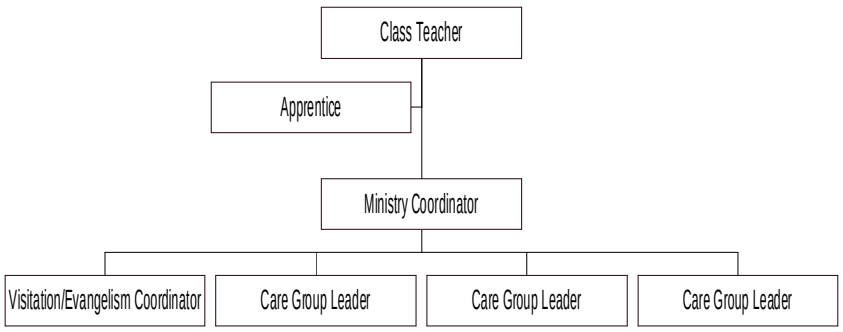
- All General _____
- Teacher
- _____ Coordinator and Team Members
- Class _____
- _____ Coordinator and Team Members
- Care Group Coordinator and Group Leaders
- Class Coordinator or _____
- _____ Teacher
- Misc.: Fellowship, Greeters, FAITH Teams, Set-Up, E.D.F.W.M. Teams, etc.

Adult Class Organization:

BASIC (3-10 enrollment)



EXPANDED (11-20 enrollment)



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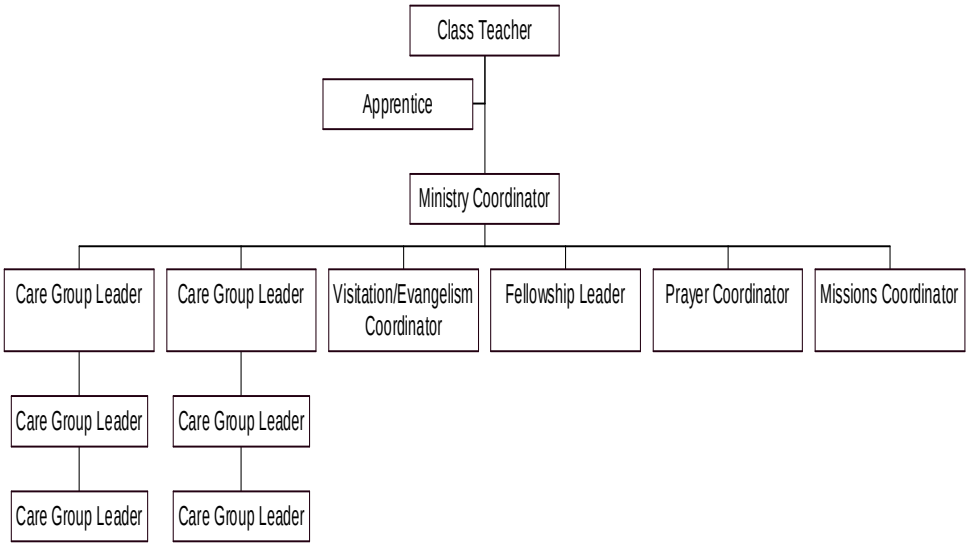
EXPANDED PLUS+ (enrollment 21 & up)



Common Hindrances:

- Young _____ Class: Age 22 to 45!
  (This is not Young Married!)
- The _____ Adults Class. (Who is the target?)
- Love, Joy, Peace, Classes. (Which class would be best for you?)
- Adult I through XXIV. (Too broad?)
- No new class in previous _____! (You probably have few if any couples under age thirty attending!)

Moving Toward Age Grading:

- Do an age _____ on all current classes.
- Identify _____ and _____.
- Designate all classes with an _____ Target.
- _____ age grading is fine.
- Change the signs on the doors.
- Assign future prospects and members to the _____ class.
- Use gaps discovered to _____ new classes.
- Develop a _____ _____ for identifying classes
- Have an annual _____ Sunday
- Use Class Names Inwardly for Class _____

NOTES

Assignments:

1. Determine what organizational adjustments need to be made in the coming year. Discuss these with your Sunday School Director and determine when to implement.
2. Read Chapter Two of *Key Strategies*.
3. Complete reading of one of four books.

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