

**Story Sharing Dinners on “The Power of Love”: A Celebration of Epiphany Light
On or around January 6, 2019
Description of Ministry for an Evangelism Catalyst
for each Congregation in the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast**

Desired Qualities/Talents: hospitality, loving, curious about other people, sees the best in others, willing to share stories from their own life honestly.

Commitment: No more than 6 hours between now and January 31, 2019

During December 2018:

1. Virtual or personal meeting with an Evangelism Task Force coach
2. Watch Bishop Curry’s Royal Wedding Sermon on the “Power of Love” - [Click Here](#)
3. Read over and become familiar with the “Power of Love” sharing stories questions and format described here (*calling on your coach if you have any questions!*)
 - a. Prompts for sharing stories focus on “The Power of Love” taking excerpts from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s Royal Wedding sermon and are geared toward assuming invited guests don’t explicitly acknowledge having “faith” or interest in being regular church attenders.
4. Coordinate a parish “practice” event with 3-4 other folks in your congregation
5. Check in with your priest about including this in the Prayers of the People or even using our simple “Commissioning for Evangelism Catalyst” on a Sunday in Advent 2018 (preferably Dec. 16th, the 3rd Sunday often associated with Joy and prayer for God’s power “stirring us up!”)
6. Personally invite people or work with someone else on inviting guests to host a get-together with folks who aren’t regular church attenders...they have stories about the Power of Love that need to be shared!
7. Have commitments for at least 8-12 people to attend afternoon/evening event (*things will come up, so expect cancellations & no shows, so you end up with 4-6 guests at the very least*)

During January 2019

- Send reminders to guests or support another person hosting in reminding their guests about the upcoming “Power of Love” party. *We have graphics and examples of invitations and reminders on the diocesan website!*
 - Work with your congregation and clergy to coordinate and/or host “Power of Love” events on or around Jan. 6th:
 - Host or coordinate at least one party on our around Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019 to share stories about their experiences of loving and being loved – a “Power of Love” Party, OFF-SITE (at home, a park, coffee shop) with at least three people who are NOT members of your congregation...or any congregation for that matter! (e.g. *friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc.*)
-

Evangelism Task Force of Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast:

Seeking, Naming, Celebrating & Inviting People In the Way of Love

Our shared purpose is to organize the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast to engage spiritual practices that seek, name, and celebrate Jesus' loving presence in the stories of all people and then invite everyone to MORE with God. We'll do this by supporting congregations to move beyond existing structures and programs, offering formation opportunities for each congregation to designate an Evangelism Catalyst who will lead them in implementing some new resource activity or action from the Evangelism 101 Toolkit during the 2018-2019 program year, as well as providing oversight to ongoing implementation of Sharing Faith Dinners, Invite-Welcome-Connect, DataStory for Faith Communities, Baptized for Life congregational ministry plans, and other new missional initiatives, as well as opportunities to develop Latino/Hispanic worshipping communities.

Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month (June 2018 - May 2019) [Join via Zoom](#)

Task Force Members: Justine Kmiecik, Mary Alice Mathison, David Chatel, Lydia Johnson, Madeline Bliss, Gillianne Sharp, Clelia Garrity, Donna Gerold, and Kammy Young (*call anytime at the Diocesan office 850-542-8114 for more information*)