

ALOA
THE STATE OF OLDER
ADULT MINISTRIES



“SENIOR MINISTRIES”

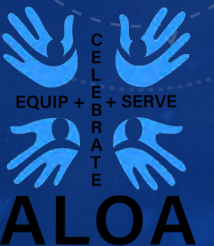
PICKLES By Brian Crane



WHO IS HANS SPRINGER



- 50-year Career in the not-for-profit world
- 10 years in hospital administration
- 20 years in higher education
- 20 years in denominational church administration
- BA in Education – Lutheran Teacher diploma
- Masters in Non-Profit Management



GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH THE “OLDER ADULT” WORLD

- April 1, 2020
- Many Opportunities to “meet and greet”
- COVID-19
- Zoom and Webinars galore
- Gathering information



ALOA PLANS



Grow our “membership” base

Individuals

Congregations

Specific support to congregations for older adult ministry

Providing resources

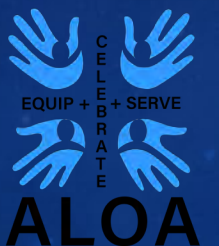
Providing “hands on support” – congregational consultations



ALOA CONGREGATIONAL CENTERS FOR VITAL & RESILIENT AGING PROGRAM



- Thanks to a grant from the ELCA Lutheran Services for the Elderly Endowment
- Three years
 - Year One: Development of Older Adult Ministry Toolkit
 - Year Two: Congregational Consultations
 - Year Three: Cohort Group Development



CAROLYN ROSS – ALOA BOARD CHAIR



THE CONGREGATIONAL TOOLKIT

Four aspects

- Spiritual
- Education
- Social
- Intergenerational

Electronic

- Digital, online, on ALOA website
- Staggered layout

Printed Version

- Limited
- Reference copies

SPIRITUAL



- Older adult faith and spirituality grounded in:
 - A faith and life narrative
 - Enlivened by sacred space and experience
 - Embodied through vital faith practices
 - Sustained by hope
- Congregations can become “vital centers of aging” by developing such older adult faith, spirituality and wholeness

EDUCATION

- Aging-related topics
- Bring in partners
- Develop scripts
- Generate ideas for programing
- More education for all people/ages in church about older adults
- Deal with important issues



SOCIAL

- Ideas for programming
- Intentional ideas for bringing people together
- Intentional about combating loneliness



INTERGENERATIONAL

- Bank of activities
- Empowerment model
- Reciprocal value across generations
 - Faith Stories
 - Grandparenting
- Documenting events



YOU CAN HELP

- Provide resource ideas and materials in the four areas
- No idea or source is out of bounds for the toolkit
- Specific resources: print, video, digital, web-based





COVID 19 PANDEMIC



- Number One Result for Older Adults:
 - LONELINESS
- Long Term Affect:
 - Learning to cope and managing life, but in a changed way
 - Seniors are very resilient
 - Yes, they have learned to Zoom and use YouTube

FUNDING OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES



- Nationally
 - Church Bodies
 - Secular Organizations
- Locally
 - Districts and Synods
 - Local agencies
- Congregational
 - Budgetary
 - Individuals



FUTURE LEADERSHIP FOR OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

- Need to look at people in the 40-65-year age group
- Seek mentors from older members active in older adult ministry in local congregation
- View webinars YouTube videos
- Visit congregations who have a dedicated pastoral position for senior ministry



QUESTIONS



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