



# Tip Sheet for Preparing Presentations

## **When preparing presentations, keep in mind the goals of mission interpretation:**

- To show congregation members the wide range of missions they support and to thank them for their support;
- To connect members to the church at every level—local congregations, synods and churchwide; and,
- To share the joys of doing ‘God’s Work’ with ‘Our Hands.’

## **Where can I give mission interpretation presentations?**

- Temple talks during worship
- Adult forums
- Children’s sermons
- Sunday School openings
- Confirmation class/youth groups
- Council/committee meetings
- Small group meetings
- Conference events

## **Why do we focus on making oral presentations?**

- People are already bombarded with material to read; actually hearing a story firsthand will cut through the clutter.
- Your excitement and your interest will shine through; personal testimony is effective.
- The congregation can begin to identify you as a resource.

## **How can I reinforce the point?**

- Include the same story in the bulletin on Sunday for those who read better than they listen.
- Expand upon the presentations in the monthly church newsletter.
- Display pictures, story summaries, quotes and graphics on a bulletin board.
- Use mission interpretation stories on your congregation’s website.

## **Presentation tips:**

- Be positive and upbeat.
- Practice beforehand. Rehearsing will give you confidence and help you identify difficult areas.
- Know your time limit and stick to it.
- Use technology sparingly. When you turn off the lights for a slide show, some people begin to disengage.

## **Remember that mission interpretation is flexible.**

- Choose stories or topics that are interesting to you.
- Make it your own: your presentations can be as simple or elaborate as you choose.
- Line up other congregational members to tell the story of a ministry they are involved with.
- Make your presentations interactive. Many resources include discussion questions or activity suggestions.

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