



STORY STARTERS

Ministry Leader Full List

Use this Word Document to edit and create your own Story Starter lists for specific purposes.

September – Stories of New Ministry Program Year

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What is your first memory of Sunday school?

O: Optimism

- What is something new you are trying this year in your ministry?

R: Relationships

- Who was your favorite Sunday school or confirmation teacher? What made them special?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- What was the coolest new school item you ever had?
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October – Stories of Family

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What faith rituals do you practice with your staff?

O: Optimism

- How does your work in ministry positively impact your family?

R: Relationships

- Who inspires you in ministry?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- What is the funniest comment a family member ever made about your ministry? (Ironic, "*they really don't get what we do*" comments count!)

November – Stories of Thanksgiving

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What traditions, events or rituals around giving thanks have been most meaningful in your ministry?

O: Optimism

- What are you thankful for?

R: Relationships

- What is a memorable comment, gift or action someone in your ministry did to give thanks for you?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- What is the best “turkey disaster” story from Thanksgivings past?
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December – Stories of Christmas

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What traditions, events or rituals around Advent and Christmas have been most meaningful in your ministry?

O: Optimism

- Where do you see “God with us” in your ministry setting?

R: Relationships

- What character in the Christmas story do you relate to the most? Why?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- What is your favorite Christmas program or candle lighting “bloopers” story?
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January – Stories of Congregation

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What is your favorite event or tradition in your ministry setting?

O: Optimism

- What excites you the most in your ministry setting?

R: Relationships

- Who from your ministry setting encourages you in your ministry?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- What is the most unique church potluck dish you have encountered?

February – Stories of Community

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What is a time you have felt your community gathered together?

O: Optimism

- How is your ministry a gift to the community?

R: Relationships

- Who in your community has made a positive impact on your ministry? How?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- How do you disconnect from ministry responsibilities in your community (or area)?
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March – Stories of the Larger Church (Synod/ELCA/Lutheran Ministries)

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What is your most memorable NE MN Synod, ELCA, or other Lutheran ministry event?

O: Optimism

- What ministry beyond your congregation gives you hope for the future?

R: Relationships

- What Lutheran leader has most influenced your faith?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- What's your favorite Lutheran joke?
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April – Stories of Jesus

S: Status Update

- What is something that happened this week in your ministry? (*Good, bad, exciting, boring, challenging, rewarding...*)

T: Traditions and Rituals

- What faith practice do you find most helpful?

O: Optimism

- How does your faith give you hope?

R: Relationships

- What is a time you have felt the presence of God?

Y: Yada Yada Yada

- What is the strangest question you have been asked about God?