



Good Morning, My name is ----- and I want to tell you today about an important topic that affects everyone in this congregation. In the US, a woman has a 1 in 8 risk of developing breast cancer in her lifetime. Chances are that you know someone who has experienced breast cancer and know how it can devastate lives and families. Men, you are at risk for breast cancer as well, an estimated 1,990 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in men this year. This is why we have partnered with the Shreveport Bossier affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

In keeping with the Komen mission, the Shreveport Bossier Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is designating today “Pink Sunday” in their entire 10 parish service area to raise breast cancer awareness by distributing breast cancer educational material through area churches. Today, we as a church community have partnered with Komen for the Cure to open the lines of communication about breast health, promote breast cancer education and celebrate the lives of those who have fought against breast cancer. In 2008, it is estimated that 182,460 women and 1,990 men will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer. We want to drive home the message that *early detection saves lives*. While the 5-year survival rate for late stage, distantly spread breast cancer is only 26%, early stage breast cancer (when treated) has a 98% 5-year survival rate compared to a 74% rate in 1982.

After today’s service, we will be handing out breast cancer educational material. Once you have read this material, please pass along these life saving messages to a friend or family member. Together we can help eradicate breast cancer as a life threatening disease.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure was established in 1982 by Nancy Brinker to honor the memory of her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died from breast cancer at age 36. Credited as the leading catalyst in the fight against breast cancer, Susan G. Komen for the Cure and its Affiliates continue to lead the fight against this disease. Komen for the Cure has more than 75,000 activists working through a network of 125 U.S. and international Affiliates, making it one of the most progressive grassroots organizations in breast cancer today.

Thank you for participating. If you are interested in volunteering with the Komen Shreveport Bossier Affiliate or would like additional information, please call 318 220 7050. Happy Pink Sunday!

The italicized paragraph can be omitted to shorten the presentation for time restrictions.

**The Shreveport Bossier Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure
P.O. Box 4269
Shreveport, LA, 71134
318 220 7050
Fax 318 220 7060**



Optional Information

2008 Breast Cancer Facts – United States

- Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among women.
- The most proven and significant risk factors for getting breast cancer are being female and getting older.
- An estimated 182,460 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in the U.S. during 2008.
- An estimated 1,990 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in men in the U.S. during 2008.
- An estimated 40,480 women and 450 men will die from breast cancer in the U.S. during 2008.
- In the U.S., a woman has a 1 in 8 (12 percent) risk of developing breast cancer in her lifetime.
- One woman is diagnosed with breast cancer every three minutes, and one woman will die of breast cancer every 13 minutes in the U.S.
- The five-year survival rate for breast cancer, when caught early before it spreads beyond the breast, is now 98 percent (compared to 74 percent in 1982).
- Approximately 5 to 10 percent of breast cancers are due to heredity. The majority of women with breast cancer have no known significant family history or other known risk factors.
- A woman's chance of developing breast cancer increases with age. Approximately 95 percent of all breast cancers occur in women 40 years of age and older.
- Breast cancer is second only to lung cancer in cancer deaths among women.
- The chance of a woman dying from breast cancer is about 1 in 33 (3 percent).
- African Americans have the highest death rate from breast cancer of any racial/ethnic group in the U.S.
- In the United States today, there are nearly 2.5 million breast cancer survivors – the largest group of cancer survivors in the country.

The Shreveport Bossier Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure
P.O. Box 4269
Shreveport, LA, 71134
318 220 7050
Fax 318 220 7060



Early Detection Plan

- ❖ Annual screening mammography for women starting at age 40.
 - Women under 40 with either a family history of breast cancer or other concerns about personal risk should consult with a trained medical professional about risk assessment and when to begin mammography.
- ❖ Clinical breast exams by a trained medical professional at least every 3 years starting at age 20, and annually after 40.
- ❖ Monthly breast self-examination starting by age 20.

Problems to look for:

- A new, hard lump or thickening of your breast tissue
- Change in the size or shape of your breast
- Dimpling or puckering of the skin on your breast
- Swelling, redness or increased warmth of your breast
- Breast pain that does not vary with your monthly cycle
- Pulling in of your nipple or other parts of your breast
- An itchy, sore, or scaling area on your nipple
- Nipple discharge that starts suddenly

For more information, consult www.Komen.org

What You Can Do Now

- ❖ Get a mammogram during your birthday month each year. Set it now!
- ❖ Remind 5 friends to get a mammogram.
- ❖ Ask your doctor to post a reminder to patients reminding them to get a mammogram.
- ❖ Get a speaker for your women's group to speak about breast cancer.

Early Detection is Critical to Survival!

**The Shreveport Bossier Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure
P.O. Box 4269
Shreveport, LA, 71134
318 220 7050
Fax 318 220 7060**