Eventbrite

Building Your Church Ministry Through Events

7 Ideas to Inspire Followers and Grow Your Congregation

As member of the evangelical community, you are constantly seeking to spread the gospel and serve as an example of God's love and salvation. Finding ways to come together to sing praise and renew the commitment to a life in Christ can strengthen church leadership, energize your congregation, and set an example of hope and fulfillment for an entire community.

At Eventbrite, we have a lot of experience helping faith-based organizations create and manage events that promote a life of faith in service to the Lord. We've gathered some exciting and unique Christian event ideas that can strengthen fellowship and provide spiritual growth--inside and outside your church walls.

Strengthen the Bonds of Fellowship

As a Christian, you know it's important to "live the example" and attract others to the faith by sharing with them the difference your faith has made in you. Here are some event ideas that can strengthen church leadership and energize your congregation to be more powerful stewards of the faith.

Explore God's wonders

For church leadership and members, taking in vistas and being surrounded by natural wonders and history can be a powerful means to come together, gain new perspectives, and focus on the important mission of the church. What are the geographic features or key cultural attractions of your region? Are you near a national park, lake, seashore, or heritage site that can inspire you to foster a closer relationship with God and one another?

Say "I do" -- all over again

Create an event where married couples in your congregation renew their commitment to one another, all on the same day. The whole congregation can bear witness as marriage vows are once again exchanged, and celebrate together with the happy couples at a special reception.

Inspire kids

Keeping youth involved with the church is critical to establishing a firm foundation in Christ. Foster engagement by building a program around themes that excite them. For instance, take advantage of the popularity of video games by inviting youth to a seminar where they can work together to design their ideal game based on Biblical stories and characters. Inspire attendees to plan and create together by putting skills to use, such as computer coding and drawing to videography and acting.

i) Brite Tip - Social Media: Spread the Message Far and Wide

With almost everyone participating in social networking these days, sites like Facebook and Twitter are great places to get the word out and grow awareness and attendance for your event. For example, did you know that if one person "likes" an event on Facebook, that can drive more than 20 more page views of your event's ticketing page? The numbers are even higher for events shared via Twitter, earning potentially more than 30 additional page views.

One organization that takes advantage of social media tools is the General Youth Division of the United Pentecostal Church International. Through Eventbrite's baked-in social media features, registrants can like an event as they first check out the event page or after they've completed registration. Word of mouth spreads rapidly as kids share their excitement and plans. The organization has been able to grow a large base of Twitter followers and Facebook fans with whom it can share news and updates quickly throughout the year, at no cost.

"The social media integration of Eventbrite has amplified our promotional efforts by allowing users to broadcast their attendance at our events."

-Michael Ensey, General Youth Secretary, UPCI

Go Forth into the Community

Through acts of charity, wholesome fun, and taking care of the physical as well as the spiritual, your evangelical organization can host events that will bring the larger community together. Here are some ideas to help you spread the word, live the gospel by example, and welcome people through your doors that might otherwise pass right by.

"Blessings of the Harvest."

Food brings people of all spiritual traditions together. Involve the community as you open your church's doors to celebrate God's bounty through a shared meal in late summer or fall. Encourage folks to register in advance to indicate a favorite dish they can bring or something they can contribute from a farmer's market or their own garden (Eventbrite can help with customized registration forms). After the event is over, keep attendees engaged with your church by using social media to share pics and favorite recipes.

"Noah's Ark."

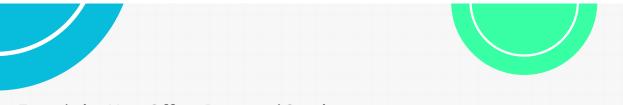
Many people share a love for animals and their pets. Host a pet day where people can bring their animals for showing, grooming and play. You can have a contest for cutest pet and best trick, conduct an "Ask the Vet" Q&A session, and partner with a local shelter to help more pets find a forever home. In more rural locales, you can offer farm-based activities such as horse rides, cow milking and sheep shearing demos. Be sure to capture pictures and video to keep the memories alive on social media.

"Good Samaritan Day."

Partner with the local Red Cross chapter or emergency services personnel to host a community-wide day of safety education and emergency preparedness. Topics can include life-saving first aid training and CPR certification, family emergency plan preparation, and community response to natural disasters.

Game show

You can plan a fast-paced evening of fun and fellowship with a live game show based on popular programs like Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy. Biblical stories and characters come to life as contestants are quizzed on "complete the verse" or "Name That Hymn." Broaden the competition by inviting affiliated churches in your region to pony up their best and brightest contestants. Capture the excitement on video and post online so folks can play watch and play along from home.



Eventbrite Now Offers Reserved Seating

Eventbrite allows you to easily customize a seat map to reflect your unique event space. Whether your event seating is tables and chairs in your church basement or at a major sporting arena, the Eventbrite ticketing platform allows you to visualize your space, encourage early sales with Best Available seating and easily manage ticket inventory.

Keep the Creative Juices Flowing

The important thing when coming up with ideas to fuel your evangelical community is to think of creative ways to share what you have. Think of topics important to your congregation such as Christian charity, spiritual health and wellbeing, or stewardship of God's creation. Create events around the Christian calendar, and utilize the natural, cultural, and community resources available to you. Your church can be a source of perpetual renewal for your members and take center stage as a force for good in the broader community as it carries out the message and mission of Christ's teachings.

We've enjoyed providing these event ideas. Do you have ideas for gathering you'd like to share with us? We'd be happy to hear your thoughts and work with you to find the perfect event idea for your Christian organization. Start by talking to a seasoned Eventbrite event expert: 1-888-541-9753

About Eventbrite

Eventbrite enables people all over the world to plan, promote, and sell out any event—from photography and yoga classes to concerts and festivals. We're building technology that brings communities together, as we believe live experiences are the best way for people to learn, grow, get inspired, feel connected, give back and celebrate.

To find out more, go to http://www.eventbrite.com/npo