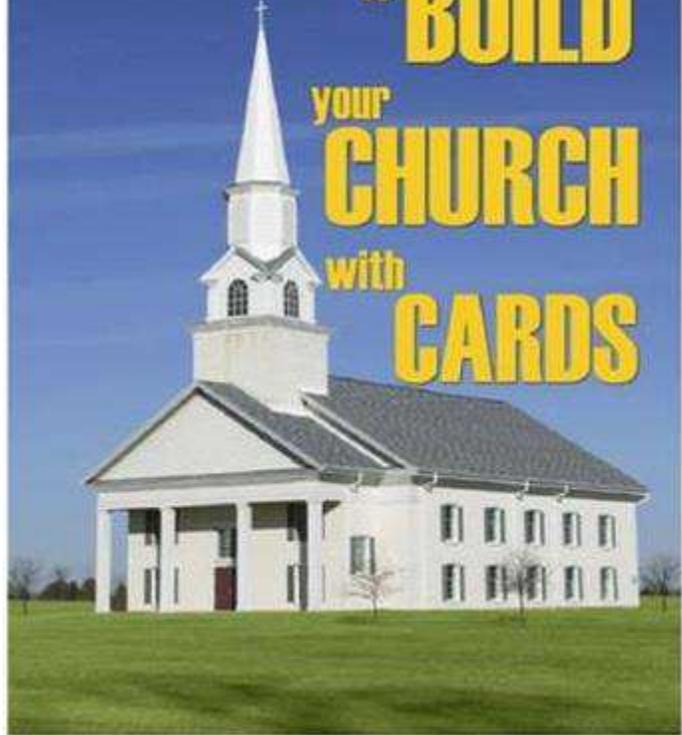


14 Ways
to **BUILD**
your
CHURCH
with
CARDS



14 WAYS TO BUILD YOUR CHURCH WITH CARDS!

When's the last time you wrote a note to a church staff member to tell them how much you appreciate them?

How do you keep in touch with and express gratitude for your church membership?

To create a strong Sense Of community within the church, it's critical to have a system in place to create and strengthen relationships with your current staff, church members, and visitors

Keeping in touch with visitors keeps you top of mind, and when they are ready to choose a house of worship, they will remember your church. Sending greeting cards with a personal message make visitors feel welcome and build rapport. Whether you send nice to meet you cards, holiday cards, thank you cards, or even birthday cards, regular notes make visitors more likely to think of you and your congregation first.

Appreciation brings out the best in people. Encourage staff in times of trouble. Thank them for a job well done, and praise them for the gift of their time, energy, and talents.

Creating strong relationships with current staff, members and visitors that may become members is easy if you have a "keep in touch" system in place.

10 Keep in Touch Tips

- 1) Follow up promptly after meetings. Let people know that you enjoyed meeting them or seeing them again. Tell them that you enjoyed learning more about them. Thank them for their time and efforts.
- 2) Stay in touch with notes and cards to prospective members at regular intervals; at least 4-6 times a year.
- 3) Send unexpected cards. There's a lot of power in sending a card to someone just to let them know you were thinking about them. Who is on your mind today? Who is God prompting you to connect with? Send them a card.
- 4) Remember to say thanks. Thank people who volunteer or help with a project. Thank those who help out with ministries. Thank people who give generously of their time and effort. Say thanks when people give you their time for an appointment.
- 5) If you haven't heard from a church member, staff member, or community leader in a while, let them know that you miss them and wanted to find out how they're doing.
- 6) Celebrate their lives. Whether it's a birthday, anniversary, promotion, new baby, new home, or getting married, send notes to recognize the important milestones in your congregation's lives.

7) Show appreciation. Let people know you appreciate their support and that you are grateful they chose to be a part of your church family.

8) Give value by sending your staff and congregation helpful tips and reminders of things like words of motivation, quotes, bible verses, articles, books, and resources they might find interesting.

9) Make them feel important. Recognize and reflect back the genuine qualities you admire about a person. Complement them on their abilities and skills. Remind them of their spiritual gifts.

10) Choose your best and most influential people in your church leaders and active congregation members and get them a special dose of attention. By targeting the people who actively follow God's calling within your church, you can get the most results out of your efforts.

Here are 14 specific ideas for using cards to grow your church.

I) FIRST TIME VISITORS TO CHURCH

Greetings from the congregation of YOUR CHURCH NAME!
We certainly were blessed to have welcomed your family to our services this week. We pray that you felt both welcome and loved, and look forward to getting to know each member of your family better in the weeks to come. We understand how overwhelming the search for a new church home can be, and would like to reach out to you in any way we can. To learn more about all of the wonderful worship and study opportunities for children,

teens and adults here at YOUR CHURCH NAME, please visit our website at www.-----, or feel free to call the church office at 000-000-0000 and someone will be happy to explain all we have to offer. In the meantime, I would like to extend my sincerest welcome to you and your family. We certainly would love to see you all again!

2) FIRST TIME VISITORS TO SMALL GROUP

I write briefly to thank you for visiting with us in our Small Group Ministry (name of group). I hope you had fun and enjoyed getting to know everyone a bit. We would love to have you as a regular member of our group. We meet at LOCATION OF MEETINGS on DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS. If you have any questions about our group or would like more information, feel free to call me anytime. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

3) CONGRATULATIONS NEW CHURCH MEMBER

Greetings in the wonderful Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I am happy to be able to inform you that the Church Board officially accepted you into Membership here at YOUR CHURCH. As you know, this Sunday we will be having a Membership Sunday at which time we will be welcoming all new members publicly during the morning service. I trust you will be able to be here for this special day. You will not be alone as we have many other new members who will also join you. Following the service, we will be hosting a Fellowship Meal in honor of all new members so please join us for this as well. We are excited to have you as a new member in our church.

4) NEW VISITOR INVITE FROM NEW CHURCH MEMBERS

Thanks again for joining NAME OF YOUR CHURCH. We are excited to have you as a new member of our congregation. I was curious who else you know that may be looking for a house of worship? Do you have any friends, neighbors, or colleagues would night enjoy visiting as a guest? We'd love to welcome them as a guest to our church. Please let us know whenever we can provide you with any information or support to make your experience with our church a happy one.

5) STEWARDSHIP CARD THANKS

I would like to take a moment to thank you for your recent gifts to the church. Donations like yours are the financial lifeblood of the church allowing us to provide for our congregation and to encourage new membership as well. Your family at YOUR CHURCH thanks you for your generosity. I pray that you continue sharing, not only with your church, but with all those around you in need of the blessings of mercy of Jesus Christ.

6) THANK YOU FOR SERVING IN YOUR MINISTRY

On behalf of the entire church I want to take this opportunity to thank you for serving in the NAME OF MINISTRY. Your willingness to serve makes a positive impact on our church community. Archbishop Secker used to say, "God has three sorts of servants in the world: some are slaves, and serve Him from fear; others

are hirelings, and serve for wages; and the last are sons, who serve because they love." Thank you for serving your Lord out of Love.

7) THANK YOU TO CHURCH STAFF

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your faithful service at our church. You have served in leadership with integrity and spotless character, and have truly brought the words of Timothy to life as he wrote about the ministry of the deacon: 1 Tim. 3:9-10. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. [10] They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. You have been tested, and counted worthy. Even through times of difficulty and, of course, victory, you have remained a positive example of the reality of sewing God with a true "servant's heart". You have truly offered "all of you", and it is much appreciated, and you will be more adequately rewarded one day in heaven.

8) THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

I wanted to write to thank you for your hard work and dedication as in our kids program at church. Our Sunday school program wouldn't be the same without you! I appreciate all the time and effort you contribute to plan, coordinate, and run our classes and help children to grow closer in their walk with The Lord. We are so thankful and wanted to let you know how much we appreciate your willingness to take on this important ministry with such a giving attitude and caring spirit. May the Lord continue to

bless you and your entire family and continue to give you the strength and patience to carry on the wonderful work you are doing! Thank you!

9) TO COUPLE AFTER WEDDING

Congratulations on your recent wedding! Hope you are settling into your new life together complete with dreams for the future. On behalf of the entire church family. I want to say hearty congratulations to both of you as you have entered into this most holy union blessed by God from the foundation of the world itself. It was a great blessing and honor to be asked to officiate at your wedding, and please rest assured that I'm available if I can help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

10) TO YOUTH AFTER CONFIRMATION

I just wanted to take a moment to write and congratulate you on your confirmation. You have taken a very important step in your walk with Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. It should please your heart to know that you have pleased His. With your confirmation, you have declared that you belong to Jesus and your loved ones have celebrated your decision with you. You have made one of the most mature and fulfilling decisions of your entire life, one you will never regret. There is never a distance you can stray that Christ cannot bring you back from. You have accepted to be a part of His mission to fill the world with God's love and work, and the Word assures that you will rise to the glorious challenge. Congratulations.

11) BIRTHDAY TO CONGREGATION MEMBER

I just wanted to take a moment to send you a note to wish you a Happy Birthday, and let you know how much you are appreciated and valued here at YOUR CHURCH NAME. Happy Birthday, You are appreciated, and I pray that God richest blessings will be upon you.

12) BIRTH DAY TO STAFF MEMBER

I want to take this opportunity to send a note to wish you a Happy Birthday, as well as let you know how much you are appreciated here at YOUR CHURCH NAME. Your efforts on the staff here have been a blessing to so many people, and your teachable and humble spirit has made it a pleasure to work with you on a daily basis. I trust that you will enjoy your birthday and realize that God has great plans for you in the future as you stay pliable and open to His leading. Again, thank you for everything you do here at YOUR CHURCH NAME, and may God richly bless you and your minister for years to come.

13) GET WELL CHURCH MEMBER

I wanted to let you know that your church family is thinking of you, and praying that God will provide full and complete healing. Hoping you'll soon be well. We are looking forward to seeing you again soon in services.

14) LOSS OF LOVED ONE NOTE TO CHURCH MEMBER

I am writing to express to you my greatest sympathy as you cope with the passing of your (family member). Our hearts and prayers go out to you and your family during

what must be the most trying of times. Jesus Christ tells us, "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:4) Your family here at YOUR CHURCH wants you to know that we will continue to be here for you to provide that comfort and assistance. Your grief is ours, and we want you to know that you are not alone. Jesus is with you during this difficult time and wants you to trust in him as you cope with your sorrow. Never forget to allow him into your heart so that he may heal your wounds and relieve your pain. I want you to know that I am available to you and your family as your pastor, as well as your brother/sister in Christ. My prayers and deepest sympathies are with you and if there is anything we can do to help, do not hesitate to let us know. Be blessed and trust in God's love.

Greeting cards help churches:

- create a greater sense of community at the church
- welcome new visitors to the church
- foster a sense of direction and build rapport for church leaders
- build relationships with key people that the pastor meets with
- create a sense of belonging within the small groups.
- reach out to congregation members in need with a loving word of support
- making congregation members feel special

SendOutCards makes sending cards easy. **SendOutCards** allows you to go online, pick a greeting card of your choice for ANY occasion, write a message, and send a printed greeting card. We print it, stuff it, stamp it, and send it in the mail for you. You can even send a note that is written in your own handwriting font. It's fast, easy, and fun. Let our reminder system tell you when a card is needed or simply choose a card anytime you want.

It takes about a minute to create a card once you figure out the cards you like to use and costs about a \$1.11 to send out.... (Postcards cost even less...).

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- Visit www.mailcards4me.com
- Scroll down on the page and click the "Send A Card" button.
- The video will walk you through sending 2 free greeting cards

If you'd like more information about **SendOutCards**, let's talk!

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