

HOW CAN MY CONGREGATION GET INVOLVED WITH 'RETHINK CHURCH'?

On May 6 the United Methodist Church will launch a national advertising campaign, "Rethink Church" including television, radio, billboards, bus stops, magazine ads and more. The ads will point people to 10thousanddoors.org.

Visit www.rethinkchurch.org for 50 ideas under \$500 that your church can do to enhance the benefit from this advertising exposure. A few of the ideas are:

- Do a "clean up the neighborhood" day – invite your neighbors to help clear out debris, trash, and winter grime in the blocks around the church building. Order pizzas or sub sandwiches and feed the neighbors, too – no charge – to thank them for helping.
- Purchase door hangers to invite people to a special event in your church
- Prepare/purchase "Welcoming Baskets." When someone moves into the neighborhood take them a basket with: church bulletin, list of other churches in community, loaf of bread, candles, Upper Room Devotional, plants, etc.
- Put together care packages for college students, especially during mid-term and final exams
- Create a "prayer wall" – a dedicated area in sanctuary where persons can "post" a prayer to be left in place for others to read
- Sponsor free summer concerts on the lawn



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Prayers for Finding Faith



"The one who calls you is faithful "
—1 Thessalonians 5:24

May 2009

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 God, may the Holy Spirit serve as a catalyst to move my church into action. James 1:22					1 God, show my church 10,000 ways to open our doors to people seeking faith. 1 Thessalonians 5:24	2 God, guide my church to be a good neighbor in our community. Luke 10:27
3 God, make my pew on Sunday morning my personal mission field. Help me get to know visitors. Proverbs 3:6	4 God, give me an opportunity to invite a friend to a church event or worship service. Romans 10:14	5 God, help my congregation rally around the promise of "open hearts, open minds, open doors." 2 Corinthians 4:6	6 God, show my church creative ways to reach our community. Luke 24:35	7 God, teach us to be more outwardly focused and engaged so that we can more often encounter people seeking faith. Philippians 3:8-9	8 God, make my church a base camp of operation for expressing our faith. Acts 1:8	9 God, guide me to live out my faith by helping and supporting others. 1 Thessalonians 5:11
10 God, make my church a place of worship 356-days a year both inside and outside our physical building. Luke 9:23	11 God, help my church discern our calling and to know what you want us to be and to do today. John 21:17	12 God, give me opportunities to extend a genuine welcome to newcomers to my church and community. Matthew 5:16	13 God, teach me to back my words and beliefs with actions. Deuteronomy 6:67	14 God, spark the curiosity of the unchurched and those seeking faith. Psalm 30:5	15 God, may people who visit my church feel accepted, welcome, and respected. Psalm 139:23	16 God, help us engage in ministry with people who have few (or no) connections to the church. Colossians 4:5
17 God, draw seekers, people looking for faith and fulfillment and hope, to my church. 1 Peter 1:3	18 God, as we plan for the future of our church help us invite "outsiders" into the conversation. Mark 10:16	19 God, may this congregation begin to believe that we can transform lives, churches, and the world. Romans 4:16	20 God, guide my social relationships to provide opportunities for discussions of faith. 1 Thessalonians 1:6	21 God, help us realize that to some, the step through the doors of a church is an act of courage and a moment of vulnerability. Colossians 4:6	22 God, challenge us to offer something more for those who are yearning for a faith to believe in. Philippians 4:6-7	23 God, enable my church to offer thousands of ways to experience Christ. Isaiah 30:21
24 God, may Sunday be a day to rest and reflect on all that my church has accomplished Monday through Saturday. Ephesians 5:1	24 God, help us discover who we are and who we want to reach in our community. Genesis 3:9	26 God, guide us to mission projects that both play to our strengths and meet real needs outside our church. Luke 3:11	27 God, my prayer is simple. Make my faith greater. Luke 17:5	28 God, show me ways to encourage others put their faith in you. Mark 9:24	29 God, grant us patience as we open our church doors and ministries to new Christians. Galatians 5:22-23	30 God, give us the opportunity to rethink what it means to be a church. Mark 10:16