

## Guidelines For Ushers And Greeters

Church greeter ministry is a vital part of welcoming visitors to your church. They help shape that first impression which in turn, may very well shape a visitor's journey to Christ. Sadly, greeting ministry gets neglected, overlooked, or relegated to auto-pilot. Church leaders end up begging for unmotivated volunteers who fill a space. Church Greeters 101 leads you forward in starting or relaunching the greeter ministry of your church, covering such topics as: how to recruit church greeters, ideas to train church greeters, and ways to cast the vision for ongoing hospitality ministry. Maybe: You've been asked to recruit greeters for your church greeting ministry. You've been asked to organize your church greeters, but aren't quite sure where to start. You've been asked to train your current greeters but can't find any adequate training material available. Maybe you are not sure of any of the requirements to be a church greeter and are asking. . . Where do I begin? Perhaps your greeter ministry has fizzled out during an interim minister. Maybe your church greeting ministry has been neglected because your church has been through a process of healing. Or maybe your church has never had a greeter ministry and you feel the need to start something fresh. If you have the responsibility to lead the your church's greeter ministry, Church Greeters 101 can help you start organizing this ministry to improve your church's welcome experience, identify and recruit new volunteers, cast a renewed vision for hospitality ministry, and take your welcome experience to new levels. Church Greeters 101 will help you get started in putting an effective church greeting ministry in place. Your church can't make an impact if your visitors don't come back. Church Greeters 101 will help you make sure your greeters are NOT the reason visitors stay away from your church. Inside Church Greeters 101 you'll find How to recruit new church greeters How to keep your church greeters from dropping out of ministry. Meeting ideas for church greeter training. 4 steps to recruit new church greeters and keep them on board. 11 Sample exercises and role plays 27 brainstorming questions for your greeter ministry A special section on ushers How to notice a 1st time visitor What to say to first time church visitors What NOT to say to first time church visitors How to spiritually prepare your greeting team A plan for organizing your greeter department or ministry Sample church greeter guidelines and checklist for last minute reference Sample initial greeter training meeting 6 qualities of a excellent greeter 10 possible topics for greeter training meetings How to organize a greeting ministry from scratch How to schedule greeters How to figure out how many greeters you need. 6 different types of greeters. Ideas to develop your own church handouts and checklists. Help your greeters develop a commitment to this ministry.

Monsignor Comiskey offers practical suggestions for extending hospitality in sacramental moments while teaching, serving, greeting, or in day-by-day living. Comiskey begins with the roots of hospitality and its importance in the Bible and concludes with resources useful to parishes looking to reach out and enhance hospitality. Dedicated to all hospitable people who reach out seeking and finding Christ," Comiskey's work encourages sharing of parish Visions and dreams. Chapters are \*Hospitality: Our Roots and Traditions, - \*Hospitality: Signs and Earmarks, - \*Sacramental Moments: Sunday Liturgy, - \*Sacramental Moments: First Eucharist, - \*Sacramental Moments: First Reconciliation, - \*Ushering, - \*Teaching, - \*Serving, - \*Greeting, - and \*Day by Day. - Also includes a Conclusion, References, a \*Litany of Hospitality, - a sample \*Baptismal Follow-up Letter, - and an \*Examination of Conscience for a Member of the Assembly. - Msgr. James A. Comiskey, formerly rector of Christ the King Cathedral in Lubbock, Texas, is a founding member of the Southwest Liturgical Conference. He is the author of This Is Our Church, Esta es nuestra Iglesia, The Ministry of Hospitality and El Ministerio de la Hospitalidad published by Liturgical Press. "

Lists that will help you set up for a variety of liturgies, and summaries of the documentation about how the areas of the worship space are best arranged and appointed.

From USCCB Publishing, this revision of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) seeks to promote more conscious, active, and full participation of the faithful in the mystery of the Eucharist. While the Missale Romanum contains the rite and prayers for Mass, the GIRM provides specific detail about each element of the Order of Mass as well as other information related to the Mass.

Co-workers in the Vineyard of the Lord offers pastoral and theological reflections on the reality of lay ecclesial ministry, affirmation of those who serve in this way, and a synthesis of best thinking and practice.

The Basics of Ministry series explores parish ministries that are vital to an active and meaningful eucharistic celebration. Each book provides useful material for the recruitment and training of new ministers. as well as insights to revitalize those who have been involved in ministry for years. The series includes introductions to specific ministries, brief histories, spirituality and instructions. You also will find a list of other resources, along with prayers and questions for discussion and reflection.

Newly revised, expanded, and perfected text from the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church, held in Salt Lake City in July 2015. Church Publishing will make the full approved resource available by Advent 2015. Church Publishing is honored to work with the General Convention Office and the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to provide this important resource for the church.

Dr. Buddy Bell, founder of Ministry of Helps International, combines humor with informative teaching and practical tips to help ushers realize the importance of serving people with excellence in the local church.

When is the best time to seat a latecomer? How can you be friendly to visitors without overwhelming them? What should you do if someone faints during the worship service? It's natural to have these questions as an usher or greeter. You can find the answer to these questions and more in Welcome to Our Church. This book will help ushers and greeters learn how to make visitors and members feel welcome, handle large crowds of people and noisy children, prepare for emergencies and problem situations, and usher special services like weddings and funerals.

For: •Individual use •Group training Greeters are the welcoming arms that people long to find in a church. This practical guidebook will help you reach out to people who need to experience the warmth of belonging to a church family. Serving as a Church Greeter sheds light on •The Ministry of Church Greeters •The Need for Warmhearted Greeters •Developing a User-Friendly Foyer •A Better Way of Doing Things •The Parking Lot Ministry Zondervan Practical Ministry Guides provide you with simple, practical insights for serving in today's churches. Written by experienced pastors and church workers, these easy-to-read, to-the-point booklets address the fundamentals of different ministries as practiced effectively in real life. You'll find biblical insight and wise, field-tested advice you can apply today, as well as discussion questions to help you think through and integrate what you read.

Practical guidelines to help visitors feel at home in your congregation.

Christ commanded the church to make disciples, to produce people who love and obey God, bear fruit, and live with joy. The crisis at the heart of the church is that we often pay lip service to making disciples, but we seldom put much effort behind doing it. For the pastor who is ready to put words into action, The Disciple-Making Pastor offers the inspiration and practical know-how to do so. Bill Hull shows pastors the

obstacles they will face, what disciples really look like, the pastor's role in producing them, and the practices that lead to positive change. He also offers a six-step coaching process to help new disciples grow in commitment and obedience and practical ideas to integrate disciple making into the fabric of the church.

This well-researched study explains what attracts teenagers to church and keeps them there. It provides a helpful description of the most effective ways that congregations and parents can build a faith in early teens that is not anti-institutional and that helps them value the church.

In six short chapters, parish hospitality ministers share ways (based on their own successes and failures) to make your parish a place of Welcome, Comfort, Participation, Safety, Challenge and Thanksgiving.

*Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship* provides basic guidelines for understanding the role and ministry of music in the liturgy. An excellent resource for priests, deacons, and music ministers!

An update to 2005's *The Usher's Book: Creating a Welcoming and Safe Environment for Worship, The Greeter and Usher Handbook* provides a guide to the responsibilities of those who are generally the first faces visitors encounter in church: the usher and the greeter. Intended for training use by church staff or volunteers, the text covers responsibilities related to all aspects of creating a welcoming atmosphere for visitors and new members.

Ushers and greeters—ministers of hospitality—are vital to parishes so they need strong formation to comfortably and graciously respond to the needs of everyone who comes through the doors of your church. Solid training helps them become models of hospitality for the whole parish. This guide helps you train new and returning ministers of hospitality by providing knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are practical, theologically and liturgically-informed, and spiritually inspiring. With its new title, design, and added content, this revised edition is more helpful than ever. To Fr. Paul Turner's foundational chapters on the meaning and history of the ministry and on the ministry's spiritual dimensions, a brief chapter on the liturgy by liturgist Corinna Laughlin has been added. To Karie Ferrell's practical and wise advice on the many detailed duties of the ministry, psychiatrist and spiritual director Thomas Welch has contributed some additional perspectives. Updates to frequently asked questions, the annotated list of recommended resources, and the glossary have added yet more value to the book, and questions for reflection and discussion continue to accompany each chapter. Let this guide help you open wide the doors of your church so that it can be, as Pope Francis has called for, a spiritual field hospital for our needy world. This guide includes: Theological and historical reflections on the liturgy and the ministry; Practical skill-building and advice for serving in this role; Ways to deepen your spirituality and call to discipleship; Answers to frequently asked questions; Recommended resources; A glossary; Questions for discussion and reflection

*Helps: Having Enough Loving People Serving! Churches need the ministry of helps. The time has come for church members to begin doing the work for the ministry, and let the pastors return to being what they have been called to do - be spokesmen for Jesus. Finally, a book filled with useful information for many: Ushers Greeters Nursery Workers Counselors All areas of your Church's Ministry of Helps! The Ministry of Helps Handbook, Revised and Updated by Buddy Bell is a unique combination of teaching, seminar guidelines and answers to often-asked questions. This useful and complete book provides pastors, and members, with the tools and insights to restore the ministry of helps to their church. Some features include: Easy-to-apply instructions to transform your helps ministry Anointed teaching to improve faithfulness Keys to the Biblical basis for the ministry of helps A three-week, five-day seminar outline Answers to common questions about the ministry of helps "Our Church is indebted to him for laying the foundation of helps in the early years. Imagine a whole army of helpers and servers in a local church that is stirred, challenged and anointed." - Joseph Prince, Senior Pastor of New Creation Church, Singapore "We appreciate all the hours of work that Buddy Bell has put into our ministry of helps to make it one of outstanding excellence. God bless you are you continue to instill quality and superiority into ministries around the nation." - Joel Osteen, Lakewood Church, Houston, TX "This Ministry of Helps training is not only for the United States. He motivates Christians to be involved in church, to serve. This teaching is profoundly needed across all borders and cultures." - Robert Barriger, Lead Pastor of Camino de Vida, Lima, Peru*

One of the earliest offices in the Church is looked at in the light of today's needs.

From the perspective of a veteran pastor and communicator, Dr. Leslie Parrott describes the function of the usher and provides practical guidelines on how this vital role in the church may be carried out with grace and efficiency. Not only does he apply scriptural principles, but he relies completely upon Scripture in his development of the various qualifications and duties of the usher. In this practical, how-to-do-it book, Dr. Parrott explains: - The Ministry of Ushering: what makes a good usher; why ushers are important - The Function of an Usher - The Authority and Responsibility of an Usher - The Usher as a Greeter -- Every church can have an effective usher corps -- and this group will be even more effective if based on *The Usher's Manual*.

Guests in church often decide whether to return or not before service even starts. It's crucial to create a welcoming environment for guests of your church--to ensure that their first impression is the best impression. Author Mark Waltz gives you practical strategies that have worked in his own church--that you can easily implement in yours. Learn how to make guests feel welcome the moment they pull in to your parking lot. Gain an understanding of the philosophy, strategy, and implementation of a ministry that focuses on welcoming guests. Get practical ideas that take your church "greeting" to a whole new level.

Originally published: *The usher's manual*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1970.

This handbook is part of a series designed to equip and empower church volunteers for effective ministry. If you're reading this, chances are you're a church volunteer. Thanks for your willingness to serve!

*The Ministry of Helps Handbook* by Dr. Buddy Bell is now revised and updated. It is a unique combination of teaching, seminar guidelines and answers to often-asked questions. This useful and complete book provides pastors, and members, with the tools and insights to restore the ministry of helps to their church.

Acknowledgment should also be made that my observation of the lives and examples of many who do not profess to be Christian has made me realize the blessings of God's love, and what kind of person I could have been, except for God's hand working in the lives of those who have surrounded me.

Addresses the general principles that have guided the shaping of Evangelical Lutheran Worship, considering that central liturgy of Christian worship, Holy Communion. This text examines how worship interacts with environment, music, and the preached word, and features useful and practical suggestions for all those who lead the assembly in worship around word and table.

The Reformers viewed the gospel as not merely one thing among many in the life of a church but rather the means by which the church exists. When the gospel is rightly declared and applied to God's people, the church becomes "a creature of the Word." She understands, embraces, and lives out the reality of Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection in more than her doctrinal

statement. The gospel impacts all the church is and does. Creature of the Word lays out this concept in full, first examining the rich, scripture-based beauty of a Jesus-centered church, then clearly providing practical steps toward forming a Jesus-centered church. Authors Matt Chandler, Eric Geiger, and Josh Patterson write what will become a center- ing discussion piece for those whose goal is to be part of a church that has its theology, culture, and practice completely saturated in the gospel.

Every church is driven by something. Tradition, finances, programs, personalities, events, seekers, and even buildings can each be the controlling force in a church. But Rick Warren believes that in order for a church to be healthy it must become a purpose driven church by Jesus. Now the founding pastor of Saddleback Church shares a proven five-part strategy that will enable your church to grow. . . - Warmer through fellowship - Deeper through discipleship - Stronger through worship - Broader through ministry - Larger through evangelism. Discover the same practical insights and principles for growing a healthy church that Rick has taught in seminars to over 22,000 pastors and church leaders from sixty denominations and forty-two countries. The Purpose Driven Church® shifts the focus away from church building programs to emphasizing a people-building process. Warren says, "If you will concentrate on building people, God will build the church."

For: ·Individual use ·Group training Includes diagrams, checklists, and resource lists Church ought to be the safest place on earth. Here's how to fulfill that goal in practical ways, from developing a security structure and team, to assessing interior and exterior building security, training ushers and greeters to be sensitive to security, forming an emergency reaction team, establishing financial accountability, and much more. Serving by Safeguarding Your Church takes you through the ins and outs of ·Building for Security ·Organizing for Security ·Taking Actions to Improve Security ·Dealing with Keys, Alarms, and Security Systems Zondervan Practical Ministry Guides provide you with simple, practical insights for serving in today's churches. Written by experienced pastors and church workers, these easy-to-read, to-the-point booklets address the fundamentals of different ministries as practiced effectively in real life. You'll find biblical insight and wise, field-tested advice you can apply today, as well as discussion questions to help you think through and integrate what you read.

Dr. Buddy Bell, Ministry of Helps specialist, gives church greeters humor and instruction on how to carry out one of the most important areas in church ministry ndash; the first impression of greeting.

The "Hospitality Minister," including ushers, do more than just seat people and take up the offering; they are the first point of contact with guests and potential members, and are the first ones to make a first (and lasting) impression. Hospitality Ministers, which are ushers, greeters, information booth attendants, parking lot volunteers, and more, are just that: "ministers." They represent God and God's House, and are key team members to making sure that the worship experience brings honor and glory to God and builds up the people God loves.

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