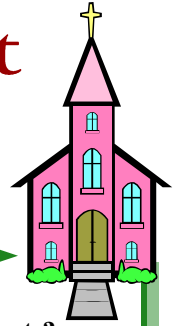


Church Receptivity Assessment



A new family moves into your community...

How comfortable do they feel at your church?



Take this survey!

Out of the last 5 events sponsored for your congregation, how often did you supply name tags for all participants?

5 4 3 2 1 0

Of the last 5 new families who have visited your church community, how many times have you:

...called their home to find out how they were doing?

5 4 3 2 1 0

...had another family call to welcome them?

5 4 3 2 1 0

...given their name to the leaders of volunteer programs so they could be personally invited to participate?

5 4 3 2 1 0

...assigned a student "guide" to stick by any new kids in their Sunday School classes? (This guide should introduce the new child or teen to friends, answer questions, help locate classrooms, etc.)

5 4 3 2 1 0

...made sure that your church bulletins and/or newsletters included all references to events, explaining what the event is, who is invited, what dress is appropriate, what the cost is, what expectations are, etc.?

5 4 3 2 1 0

...personally approached and welcomed each newcomer, asked if they had any questions, etc.?

5 4 3 2 1 0

...encouraged a council member, Sunday School leader, deacon or elder, or other church leader to call the new family or meet them at a church sponsored event?

5 4 3 2 1 0

...requested a volunteer serve as a "host family" for the newcomer(s)?

5 4 3 2 1 0

Add up your score!

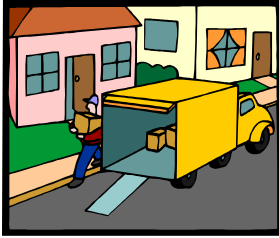
- 45:** You need to write the *Welcoming Community* newsletter with your ideas! You are creating a very receptive community. *Congratulations!*
- 35 - 44:** You still need to be writing *Welcoming Community* with ideas. You should also be able to glean a few suggestions from the next page that you can immediately implement.
- 25 - 34:** You already have a basic understanding of being receptive. Post the ideas presented on the next page in your office. Start inspiring yourself and your staff to implement these and other ideas. Then write us with your tips!
- Under 24:** Don't give up hope! Even just implementing little things should make a big impact! Use the ideas on the next page, then think of additional ways to reach out to new families.

Sign up for the free *Welcoming Community* Newsletter!

Even if you earned a perfect score, you'll find the free *Welcoming Community* newsletter a great way to gain new practical ideas for spreading the gift of hospitality throughout your church, area schools and even your own neighborhood. *Welcoming Community* is sponsored by the EXODUS Network, which provides moving families with free referrals to professional Realtors® and Christian Community Specialists. To sign up for your free newsletter subscription, call **1-800-395-8556** or e-mail us at welcome@exodusnetwork.com.

This assessment is part of our "Be the First Friend" bulletin insert series provided free of charge by the EXODUS Network. To request copies, please contact the EXODUS Network at 1-800-395-8556.

Consider these ideas to help your church become a *Welcoming Community!*

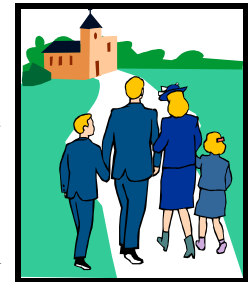


For individuals and families who are moving to your community:

- ◆ Begin sending them bulletins or church newsletters before they arrive in town so they can familiarize themselves with the events and people of your congregation.
- ◆ Ask Sunday School class members who are close in age to the prospective family's children to write a note letting the new children know what fun they can expect in their new community.
- ◆ Find out their family structure (*Married with children? Married without children? Single?*), then ask a few of your church members of similar background to keep their eye out for the new folks. Perhaps they could even send them a short note welcoming them to the community.

For all prospective individuals and families who contact or visit your church:

- ◆ Send a picture directory before they move or after they make their first visit. Circle the photos of families and individuals of similar age/interest.
- ◆ Send prospective new individuals and families a letter or packet that includes information about the church and congregation. Some examples of helpful information include your church's style of worship, times for worship, number of member families, average age of congregation, various programs sponsored by the church, list of schools many of the children attend, number of children and adults in Sunday School, missions the church supports, etc.
- ◆ After the new family/individual moves into the community or visits your church, give their name(s) to the leaders of programs or activities they may be interested in so the leader can personally call and invite them to participate.
- ◆ If you don't have a formal "Introduction to Our Church" class, ask one of the members to invite the new family/individual over for coffee to explain the church's doctrine, answer questions, etc.



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Are you or someone you know planning a move?

Contact the **EXODUS Network** for a free referral to a professional REALTOR® and Christian Community Specialist. Call us toll-free at 1-800-395-8556 or visit our web site at <http://www.exodusnetwork.com>.