



church bulletin gospel presentations

Samples of how churches share our most
important message—
how to come to know Jesus

*... or what does it profit a person
to have clear directions to the potluck,
but lose their own souls?*

The Gospel is the good news of salvation in Jesus.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16, KJV

And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

1 John 5: 11-12, NIV

We neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing. Eph 2: 8-9, MSG

“This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again.

Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it.
Jn. 3:16-18 MSG

It is our most important message.

But would a visitor know that?



Most church services have:

****upbeat music**

****challenging message**

****invitations to activities**

****nice people**

***But have you left out
the our most
important message?***

It's important to intentionally share the Gospel because. . . .

****if you are really reaching unchurched—**

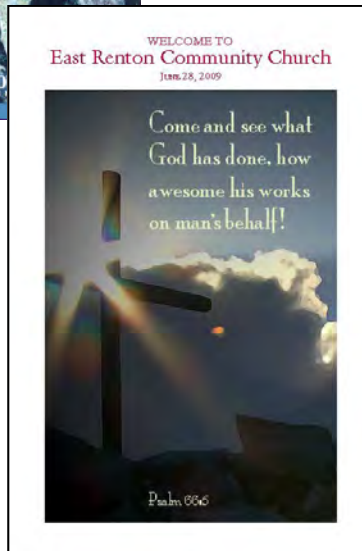
****they may not know anything about the truths you take for granted**

****sin, repentance, who Jesus really is, God's plan for them may be all new**

This doesn't mean you have to preach about it every week



Your church bulletin is a great way to do this because:



- Everybody takes a bulletin and most visitors read them—they want to know what's going on.
- It can explain what you don't have time to in the sermon.
- It can clarify that your church is about more than activities, offerings, and nice people on Sunday.
- They can take it home, read it over, go to the websites, and social media you have listed to find out more.
- It can invite people to interact with the church staff about what it means to come to know Jesus as Savior.

ONE MORE THING. . . .

This short presentation in the Bulletin is not the only thing we need to do to help people come to know Jesus as Savior and to grow to mature disciples, BUT it does:



****Lay a correct foundation—no bait and switch later.**

****Defines who we are—a church that cares about truth, Jesus, eternity.**

****Start a conversation we can continue in person or via social media.**

FOLLOWING ARE REAL-CHURCH EXAMPLES.



LifeGroups continue to meet.
 New studies are starting - now is a great time to find a small group right for you!
 LifeGroups open the door for you to experience the life which God designed for you. Come by the LifeGroup desk in the Welcome Center after the service. This is your opportunity to experience REAL Life Together.

The page of the bulletin and then an expanded view of the gospel presentation.

How do I become a Christian?

Admit your need for God and that you need God to forgive you for your sins. (Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:9)

Believe that Jesus is Lord, that He died for your sins, and rose from the dead. (Romans 10:9-10)

Confess Ask Jesus to forgive you and take control of your life and then confess before others that you are a follower of Christ. (Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:9)

How do I grow as a Christian?

Continue your spiritual journey at Gardendale through:

- 1. Weekend Worship**
You are extended a personal invitation to celebrate with the Gardendale family at any one of our Worship Services.
- 2. LifeGroups**
Connect, experience belonging, and learn to personally apply Scripture with others in your stage of life.
- 3. Ministry Teams**
Become a servant leader through various ministries and help Gardendale invite others to experience Christ in every way.
- 4. Inviting Lifestyle**
Invite those you know to attend Weekend Worship, experience a LifeGroup, join a Ministry Team, and most importantly, come to know Jesus Christ.



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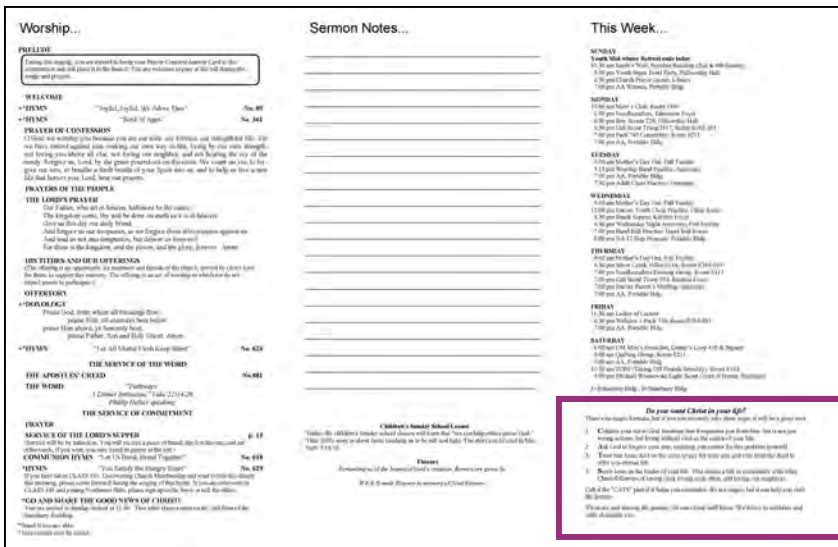
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Pastor Micah Davidson
 Saturday 5:00 pm  Sunday 9, 10:30 & Noon
 www.Gardendale.org 361.991.0285

Note how the section “How do I grow as a Christian?” both tells people there is more to becoming a Christian than a quick decision and also shows how once you become a Christian it all fits into the overall life of the church.



There are two good things here—first of all the acknowledgement that it is not a formula, but a start in the Christian life. Second, it also encouraging people if they are starting the journey to let the staff know. It would have been even better to have names and contact information right there. It is so easy to assume everyone knows how to contact the staff, but they usually don't, so make it clear.

The page of the bulletin and then an expanded view of the gospel presentation.

Do you want Christ in your life?

There's no magic formula, but if you can sincerely take these steps, it will be a great start.

1. **Confess** your sin to God, knowing that it separates you from him. Sin is not just wrong actions, but living without God as the center of your life.
2. **Ask** God to forgive your sins, realizing you cannot fix this problem yourself.
3. **Trust** that Jesus died on the cross to pay for your sins and rose from the dead to offer you eternal life.
4. **Serve** Jesus as the leader of your life. That means a life in community with other Christ-followers of loving God, loving each other, and loving our neighbors.

Call it the "CATS" plan if it helps you remember. It's not magic, but it can help you start the journey.

If you are just starting the journey, let one of our staff know. We'd love to celebrate and walk alongside you.



A wonderfully positive, upbeat way to share what it means to be a Christian! It seems like it takes a lot of space, when you look at the excerpt alone—but look at the layout of the bulletin below. It was a tri-fold 11x17 and the gospel presentation only takes up part of one section.

Looking Ahead
Focus On The Family's The Truth Project
 Begins Wednesday July 8th - 7:00 p.m.
 Location: Fellowship Hall
 We are inviting all men and women to participate in a thirteen week, DVD-based study looking at life from a Biblical perspective. Each session discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of being the Christian witness in daily life. The 13 video lessons will be taught by Dr. Del Tackett and other staff leaders. There will be opportunity for discussion and reflection. Sponsored by Men in The World.

Monday Nights with Thornhill Cruisers Car Club
 Come join the Thornhill Cruisers every Monday night in the upper parking lot for their check and show. We need volunteers to help with the concession stand and to assist our visitors in any way we can. Please be aware, however, that if it is raining, the Cruisers cancel their event. In an event, call the church office on the day of the event to confirm.

Thank You
 Thank you so much for giving graciously to the ministry of Sanctuary over the month of June. Due to your generosity, we were able to send 2,218 bottles of water, 38 bug sprays, and 60 bottles of sunscreen to Sanctuary.

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS trip
 Please pray for Lorraine Edwards who left on Wednesday, July 1st for a "Spice Island" in Indonesia, where she will be teaching EFL (English as a Foreign Language). Her prayer requests include: "Help for my health issues and protection for the above and other residents and more... that they will continue to fly under the radar!"

Diak-A-Care
 For recent praise and prayer updates from our church family, call 855-651-3200. To place an item on Diak-A-Care, contact Rebecca 855-651-3252 ext. 221.

Partnership Pantry
 The Partnership Pantry (located in the main church foyer) is a way that we can show our practical support for the ministry of Yongs Street Mission. Non-perishable food items are needed year round. A needs list is available for you to take as a reminder when you go shopping.

Sign Up To Serve In Children's Ministry
 Visit the Children's Ministry table in the foyer to register your interest in helping out with our Children's Ministry Program in either the Summer or the Fall. Please fill out the yellow form, available on the Children's Ministry Table in the foyer and leave it in Joanne Leggat's Message Centre File.

Visit Our Church Library
 Our Church Library is home to hundreds of quality videos and thousands of great books that make for quality summer reading. We are located off the main foyer. Visit us today to pick up a great read.

Message Centre Files
 Are you missing Keynote (and your church board)? Help us communicate with you by requesting a Message Centre file. Fill out a communication card with your name and information and place it on the offering table. Your file will be ready for you next week. Please check your Message Centre file often for important communications from the church leadership and church family.

Pre-Authorized Donation
 Streamline your giving to Bayview Glen Church! Pre-Authorized Donations offer another way to give tithes and offerings - by having them drawn directly from your bank account once a month. For more information, pick up a Pre-Authorized Donations form at the Information Centre.

Summit Community Church is Having A Birthday!
 You're invited to our 50th Anniversary celebration. Join us for 3 separate anniversary events:
 Special Luncheon - Dr. Nelson Anon
 Friday, October 18th - Banquet & Concert
 Sunday, October 19th - Worship Service
 Sunday, October 19th - Family Day at 9th Park
 For more information visit the table in the foyer or summitcommunity.ca

Did You Know?
 God loves you and created you to know Him. Jesus says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him, shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)
 But there is a problem. Man is sinful and separated from God, so we cannot know Him personally or experience His love. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
 There is a solution. Sin affects us so much we won't seek God on our own. Therefore God takes the initiative and draws us to His Son Jesus Christ - who is the only way to the Father (John 14:6). "God demonstrates His own love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)
 Yet, it is not enough simply to affirm these truths...
 We must each receive Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord; then we can know God personally and experience His love. The Bible says, "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved" (Romans 10:9-10).
 You are invited to begin your relationship with Jesus Christ today. You can express your faith in Christ through prayer.
 Dear God, I recognize that I am a sinner and cannot save myself. I choose to repent of my sin and turn my life over to You and ask Jesus Christ to forgive me and become my Lord and Saviour. I believe that Jesus died for me and rose from the dead. Come into my life and change me forever. Amen.
 If you desire to begin a new life of following Jesus, please speak to a Pastor and/or visit our Guest Reception following the service. Let us know so that we can celebrate with you and assist you to grow in this new relationship with God!

Alpha Time Line
 July and August:
 Ask God to help you for whom to pray that they would be in a closer relationship with God. Make a list and pray daily.
 Late August:
 Ask God to guide you as to friends and by what means to invite the people in Alpha.
 Early September:
 Try to invite.
 Brochures will be available if you need them.
 Fall Alpha Dates:
 Sunday Alpha Begins begins Sept. 13th at 9:00 a.m. in Highline Ground Cafe.
 Monday Alpha Luncheon begins Sept. 14th at 12:00 p.m. in Gym Foyer.
 Thursday Alpha Dinner begins Sept. 17th at 6:45 p.m. in the Gym.

Highway 242
 Welcome to Highway 242! We are a group of young people who are on a journey. We're looking for answers, for meaning and for life's purpose. We don't have it all figured out, but we're trying really hard to break the mold and to be followers of Jesus Christ. Visit www.highway242.com for all summer youth events.

DONOR DAY CAMP
 Donor Day Camp is a great way for children to build lasting memories and have a fun day. Camp runs from Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is designed for children ages 4 to 11. For more information, pick up a brochure at the Information Desk or at the Church Office during the week.

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near."
 Isaiah 55:6

The page of the bulletin and then an expanded view of the gospel presentation.

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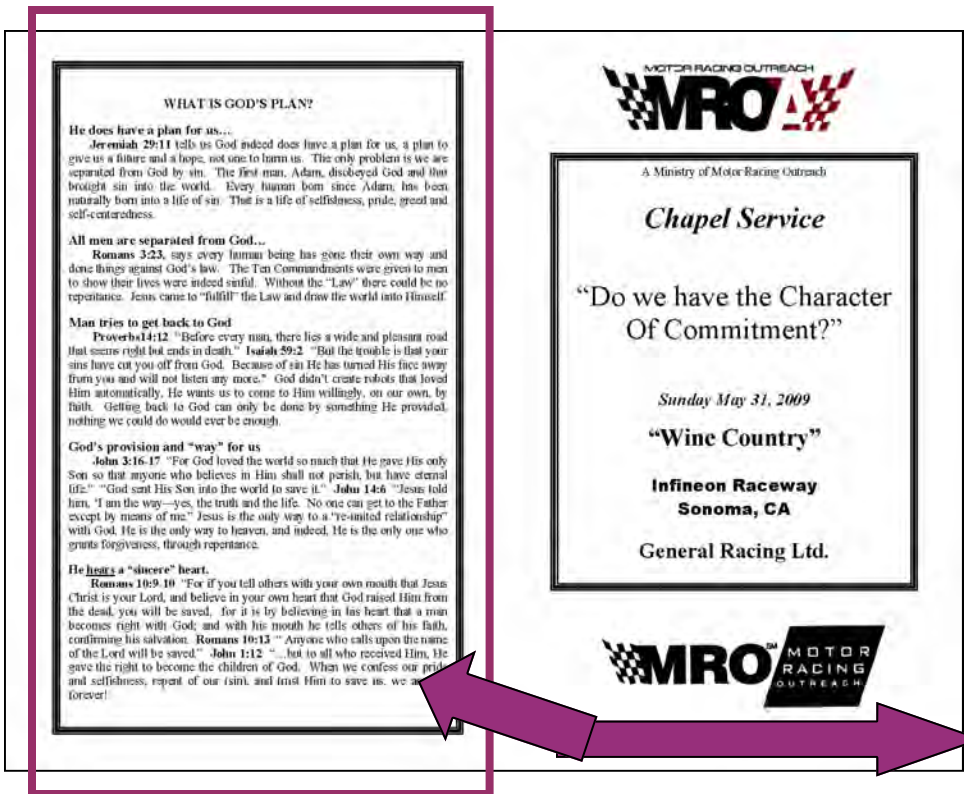
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Here is a lengthy, Bible-based gospel presentation, from a Chapel Service for race-car drivers. Because the Chapel Service doesn't have to pass on much of the information of regular churches, it emphasizes the most important thing—God's plan of salvation.



The page of the bulletin and then an expanded view of the gospel presentation.

WHAT IS GOD'S PLAN?

He does have a plan for us...

Jeremiah 29:11 tells us God indeed does have a plan for us, a plan to give us a future and a hope, not one to harm us. The only problem is we are separated from God by sin. The first man, Adam, disobeyed God and that brought sin into the world. Every human born since Adam, has been naturally born into a life of sin. That is a life of selfishness, pride, greed and self-centeredness.

All men are separated from God...

Romans 3:23, says every human being has gone their own way and done things against God's law. The Ten Commandments were given to men to show their lives were indeed sinful. Without the "Law" there could be no repentance. Jesus came to "fulfill" the Law and draw the world unto Himself.

Man tries to get back to God

Proverbs 14:12 "Before every man, there lies a wide and pleasant road that seems right but ends in death." **Isaiah 59:2** "But the trouble is that your sins have cut you off from God. Because of sin He has turned His face away from you and will not listen any more." God didn't create robots that loved Him automatically, He wants us to come to Him willingly, on our own, by faith. Getting back to God can only be done by something He provided, nothing we could do would ever be enough.

God's provision and "way" for us

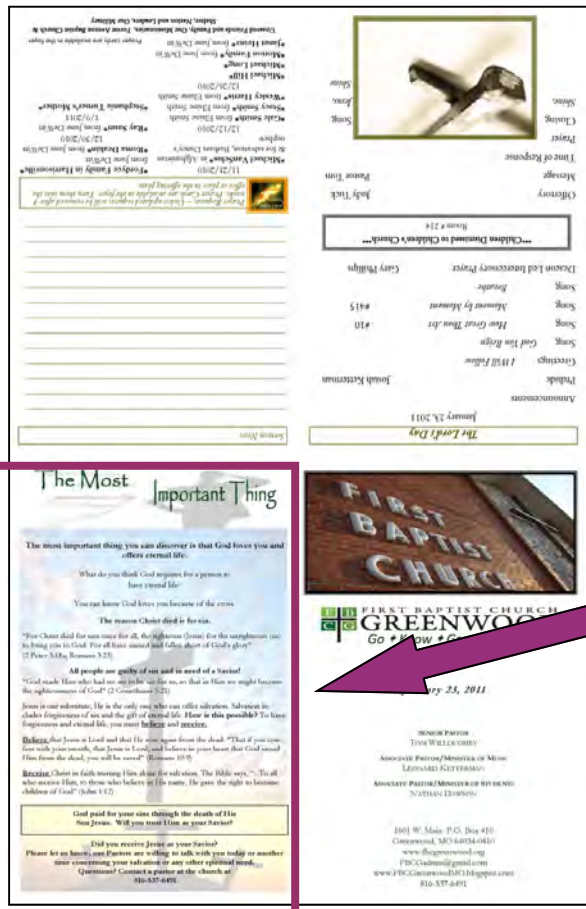
John 3:16-17 "For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son so that anyone who believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." "God sent His Son into the world to save it." **John 14:6** "Jesus told him, 'I am the way—yes, the truth and the life. No one can get to the Father except by means of me.'" Jesus is the only way to a "re-united relationship" with God, He is the only way to heaven, and indeed, He is the only one who grants forgiveness, through repentance.

He hears a "sincere" heart.

Romans 10:9-10 "For if you tell others with your own mouth that Jesus Christ is your Lord, and believe in your own heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved, for it is by believing in his heart that a man becomes right with God; and with his mouth he tells others of his faith, confirming his salvation. **Romans 10:13** "Anyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved." **John 1:12** "...but to all who received Him, He gave the right to become the children of God. When we confess our pride and selfishness, repent of our (sin), and trust Him to save us, we are His forever!"

This gospel presentation is from a fantastic bulletin that packs a huge amount of information into one 11x17 page folded in quarters, to see the whole bulletin, go to:

<http://www.effectivechurchcom.com/2011/02/great-church-bulletin-sample-order-of-service-newsletter-evangelism-tract-refrigerator-reminder-and-more-all-on-one-sheet-of-paper/>



The page of the bulletin and then an expanded view of the gospel presentation.

The Most Important Thing

The most important thing you can discover is that God loves you and offers eternal life.

What do you think God requires for a person to have eternal life?

You can know God loves you because of the cross.

The reason Christ died is for sin.

“For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous (Jesus) for the unrighteous (us) to bring you to God. For all have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory” (2 Peter 3:18a; Romans 3:23)

All people are guilty of sin and in need of a Savior!

“God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

Jesus is our substitute, He is the only one who can offer salvation. Salvation includes forgiveness of sin and the gift of eternal life. **How is this possible?** To have forgiveness and eternal life, you must **believe** and **receive**.

Believe that Jesus is Lord and that He rose again from the dead. “That if you confess with your mouth, that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9)

Receive Christ in faith trusting Him alone for salvation. The Bible says, “...To all who receive Him, to those who believe in His name, He gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12)

God paid for your sins through the death of His Son Jesus. Will you trust Him as your Savior?

Did you receive Jesus as your Savior?
Please let us know, our Pastors are willing to talk with you today or another time concerning your salvation or any other spiritual need.
Questions? Contact a pastor at the church at
816-537-6491

This presentation uses a holiday to tie into eternal questions about “life, death, who is Jesus really?”

It also invites people to interact and check out the website for more information which is a wonderful alternative if people aren't ready for inter-personal interaction.

The image shows a church bulletin for First Central Baptist Church, Resurrection Sunday Worship Services, dated April 8, 2017. The bulletin includes a 'Week at a Glance' table, a 'Looking Ahead' section, and a 'Response Card' form. A purple box highlights the 'Response Card' form, which contains a message about Easter and a prayer for salvation.

Week at a Glance

Sun 8	Mon 9	Tue 10	Wed 11	Thurs 12	Fri 13	Sat 14
Worship 10:30-11:00 am				Lenten Bible Study 8:30 am		Worship 10:30 am
Worship 11:00 am				Women's Ministry Meeting 7 pm		
Worship 11:00 am				Men's Prayer Meeting - Cliff Meier's		
Worship 11:00 am				Senior Saints Luncheon - Dean Bennett's		
Worship 11:00 am				Women's Ministry Team Meeting		
Worship 11:00 am				Children's Ministry		
Worship 11:00 am				Women's 1-Day Retreat at Westfield EPC		
Worship 11:00 am				Ad-Church Fellowship at the gym		
Worship 11:00 am				Games Club with Sue Lopez - Sam Seiser		
Worship 11:00 am				Welcome Team		
Worship 11:00 am				Christian Hobbies for Quilting		

Looking Ahead

Apr 15 9:45 am Noah - a Man of God (see below)

16 6 pm Soapmaking

18 8 pm Missions Committee Meeting

17 8:45 pm Women's Ministry Prayer Team - Lisa Galaska's

18 9:30 pm ANAMA Open House

19 7:30 PM Men's Prayer Meeting - Cliff Meier's

21 Noon Senior Saints Luncheon - Dean Bennett's

26 7 pm Women's Ministry Team Meeting

28 8:30 am Children's Ministry

29 9:45 am Games Club with Sue Lopez - Sam Seiser

30 7 pm Welcome Team

May 2 6 pm Christian Hobbies for Quilting

7 6:30 pm

Calendar Notes

April 13 THIS FRIDAY - Free Concert with the Anny Needham Band. This is a great outreach event! Invite your friends! Invitations available in the foyer and on the 2nd floor bulletin board.

Next Sunday, April 16th ALL adult Sunday School classes will be in the sanctuary for a special presentation by Richard Prehn - "Roads A Man of God"

Make a note! Sunday April 23rd is our next all-church fellowship in the gym during the Sunday School hour. Join us for fellowship and say hello to folks you haven't seen in a while, or introduce yourself to people you don't know!

Monday, April 24th - 7 pm - an informal evening of friendship, fellowship and a special guest: Sir Lancelot of Mrs. Burger's Bloomers. Coffee, tea and dessert provided. Invite your friends! Sign up on the Women's Bulletin Board.

Please bring a donation for the Lord's Pantry - details and suggestions are on the women's Bulletin Board.

You'll enjoy this evening - even if you are not a gardener!

Response Card

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home: _____ Cell: _____

Church: _____

Worship check one: Visitor Regular attendee Member

I would like:

To be baptized

To be confirmed

To be a member

To be a leader

Please print clearly. We will safeguard your information and only reveal what is

The page of the bulletin and then an expanded view of the gospel presentation.

Did Easter bring up questions about life, death, who is Jesus really?
We know we don't have all the answers for you in one hour, so we'd like to invite you to visit our website — www.firstcentralbaptist.com for answers to questions you may have. On our website you will find links to additional websites that you might find helpful.

The Romans Road

Romans 3:10 — As the Scriptures say, "No one is righteous—not even one."

Romans 3:23 — "For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 5:8 — "But God demonstrates His love toward us, in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 6:23 — "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 10:9 — "That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Romans 10:13 — "For whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Would you like to follow the Romans Road to salvation? If so, here is a simple prayer you can pray to God. Saying this prayer is a way to declare to God that you are relying on Jesus Christ for your salvation.

The words themselves will not save you.

Only faith in Jesus Christ can provide salvation!

"God, I know that I have sinned against you and am deserving of punishment. But Jesus Christ took the punishment that I deserve so that through faith in Him I could be forgiven. With your help, I place my trust in You for salvation. Thank You for Your wonderful grace and forgiveness - the gift of eternal life! Amen!"



Following are some additional ways holidays provide opportunities to create Bulletin Inserts that challenge people to think about their eternal destiny.

All of the examples are on www.effectivechurch.com.com.as reproducible PDFs and editable MS Publisher files

An Easter Bulletin insert

still have questions?

Many people do.

You've just heard the story of Jesus rising from the dead but after you leave the church, when brunch is over and you've had your fill of chocolate you might wonder—

Is it just a story?

Or did it really happen?

And if it did, what does it mean to me?

If you've got those questions, we've got options for you—on the back of this sheet we hope you'll check out the websites and events we've got to help you in your research.

Take all the time you want.
The issues are worth it.



Websites that might be useful for additional exploration of the Christian faith:

www.JesusCentral.com: Here is how they describe this website: JesusCentral.com seeks to offer the general public a highly credible, educational reference on Jesus (note: our Editorial Chair holds a PhD in Religious Studies from Stanford University). . . . The educational approach is to offer historically accurate material and to portray Jesus in a manner that is of most relevance to the audience. Upon studying material of the JesusCentral.com, one should at least have an accurate, basic understanding of Jesus' core message, Jesus' self-stated purpose, who Jesus claimed to be, why Jesus was controversial and executed, and what caused such a massive following of Jesus, significantly impacting Western Civilization.

www.equip.org: this is the website of the Christian Research Institute and Hank Hanegraff, the Bible Answer Man. Though this site is a goldmine to find in-depth and well-researched answers on the Christian faith they are not easy to find. You have to go to the bottom left corner of the home page, and type in a topic or click on the Topical Index which will take you to a list of their great, free articles. Search around on the site, it is worth it.

www.whoisjesus-really.com: great site to explore the basics and more about Jesus.

www.ivpress.com/questioningfaith/resources: great list of topics/questions of all sorts about the Christian faith with links to answers.

www.rbc.org: Though a lot of this website is for people who are already Christians, click on their "10 Reasons to Believe Section" good, clear explanations about the Christian faith.

www.leestobel.com: great series of videos answering all kinds of topics about the Christian faith, one caution, if you don't have a fast, high bandwidth connection, ignore this one.

http://www.needhim.org: a beautifully designed site that approaches questions about the Christian faith from the viewpoints of the ages and life experiences of the different people asking questions.

An Easter Bulletin insert



Thank you for sharing Easter
with us at
OUR CHURCH

The message of Easter
If Jesus had stayed in the grave—
When you feel lonely you'd be truly alone.
When you feel afraid your fears would win.
When you feel helpless you'd be defeated.
When you die you'd face eternal darkness.

But Jesus didn't stay in the grave
and if He is your Savior and Lord—
You'll never be alone, He's always with you.
Your fears can be erased by His love.
He's there to help you in every trying time.
When you die, you'll enter joy and life!

**That's the message of Easter—
Jesus is Risen—Rejoice!**

To continue your experience of Easter
Joy, on the back of this page we have re-
sources to help answer questions about
Easter and information on activities you
and your family may enjoy.....



**For one like this on
the back you could
list church activities
that will help them
find out more about
salvation in Jesus.**

A Christmas Bulletin insert



Because he didn't stay
a baby. . .
we want to tell you
the rest of the story. . .

At Christmas we focus on the baby in the manger, the angels' praise, and the shepherds' worship, but there is much more to this story.

The angels' praise and the shepherds' worship weren't solely for a cute baby with a touching back-story about his parent's struggles that brought them into a barn for their baby's birth.

The praise and worship were for the fulfillment of centuries of prophetic promises. Though their words were often dimly understood and often misinterpreted, the prophets' consistent message was that God had not abandoned a world that had turned its back on Him.

The praise and worship were because the temple sacrifices of thousands of innocent lambs would cease now that the redemption they represented had come to earth. Immanuel, "God with us" was no longer a vague promise, but a baby in the manger. The redemption He would purchase with this death on the cross would pay *our sin* debt in full.

The praise and worship were for what that baby would become: a teacher, healer, and ultimately the Savior of humanity.

The praise and worship were because that baby was living proof that someday, anyone and everyone, no matter what their past, if they accept the salvation the Savior would offer, could walk with God in peace, full of joy, and forever.

Our church is here to share that story in all its fullness, to answer your questions, and to help you grow as a disciple of Jesus.

We'd consider it a privilege to share it with you and on the back of this piece are opportunities to explore the Christian faith and to interact with us.



If you are considering becoming a Christian...

This is not a decision to be taken lightly. It is not a quick fix, fire-insurance, one more thing to try to make you feel better. It is an eternal commitment to Jesus Christ as Forgiver and Leader of your life. Please take time to explore these sites, ask questions, and carefully consider the most important decision of your life.

Who is Jesus? <http://www.whoisjesus-really.com/>
Lots of questions answered here about Jesus.


Christian Research Institute: <http://www.equip.org/>
This is the website of the Christian Research Institute and Hank Hanegraff, the Bible Answer Man. It has many resources that answer questions about the Christian faith and other religions in depth. Excellent books and resources are also available.

Questions answered about Jesus and the Christian faith by former atheist reporter, Lee Strobel: <http://www.leestrobel.com/>
Great writing, videos, excellent books to answer questions about the Christian faith.

Once you become a Christian you need to grow in your faith— these sites will help:

<http://www.crosswalk.com/>
<http://www.equip.org/> (repeated from above because good for all stages of Christian life)
<http://www.ewordtoday.com/bible/today.htm>
<http://www.gotquestions.org/>
<http://www.oneplace.com/>
<http://www.biblestudytools.com/>
<http://www.rbc.org/>

A Valentines Day Bulletin insert



Thou hast made us for
thyself, O Lord . . .

and our
hearts are
restless . . .

until they rest in thee.

If you are looking for love this Valentine's Day—real, satisfying, lasting love, there is only one place you can truly find it—in Jesus.

The man who wrote the quote above tried it all. He was brilliant, and admired. Unmarried, he had fathered a son, but he was empty inside.

Empty until he met Jesus. In Jesus, Augustine found what his heart was seeking—a love he could eternally rest in.

This Valentine's Day, stop looking for love in unsatisfying places. Consider Jesus and let him fill the empty place in your heart.

On the back of either a bulletin insert or a postcard, then let people know that you want them to find real love in Jesus.

You might:

- Announce an upcoming sermon series
- Provide some links to evangelistic websites
- Invite them to a seeker small group
- Ask them to join a FaceBook group on Finding real love . . . in Jesus or whatever topic you might think up
- Let them know you have people they can email or call if they have questions about the Christian faith.
- Use it as a time to launch or invite people to an upcoming Alpha course
- Launch or announce any other exciting, interesting or any other event your church is doing to introduce people to the Christian faith, your church and Jesus

*****For additional resources, links you can use for your website, etc., go to my website, this page has a list of gospel, apologetic and Christian growth sites you can recommend:

<http://www.effectivechurchcom.com/2009/12/faith-resources/>

Valentine's Day is one holiday you know you can speak to the real needs of people, because everyone needs love.

Pray lots that your church might use it as a time to channel this God-given desire into a love for Jesus.

This Mother's Day, give Mom something better than flowers or chocolate

Better than flowers or chocolate—how can that be? Flowers are a treasured tradition and chocolate is, well—chocolate—what more needs to be said?

You know Mom will appreciate these things, but there is something that would mean even more.

You already know what that is. You know she would love it if every Sunday you were where you are now, with her in church.

It isn't simply your physical presence that is meaningful, although she loves to be with you. What would make it meaningful is if you were coming as a faithful follower of Jesus.

There may be many reasons why "faithful follower of Jesus" does not describe your life today. Maybe:

- When you were young, you were excited about the church and Jesus, but you feel you've outgrown it.
- You had questions the church couldn't answer, so you went looking elsewhere and never came back.
- Life is simply too busy and church never was much of a priority.

Whatever the reason, take some time to consider Jesus. Here are some websites that might be useful:

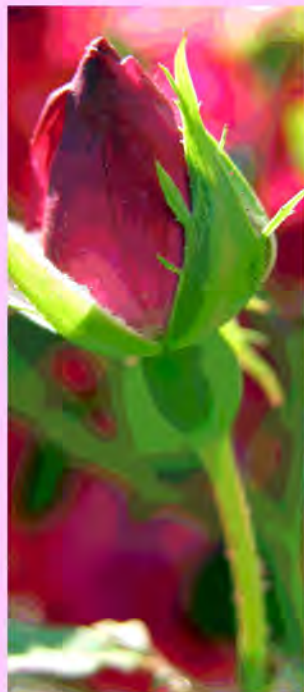
<http://www.whoisjesus-really.com>

<http://www.allaboutjesuschrist.org/who-is-jesus-n.htm>

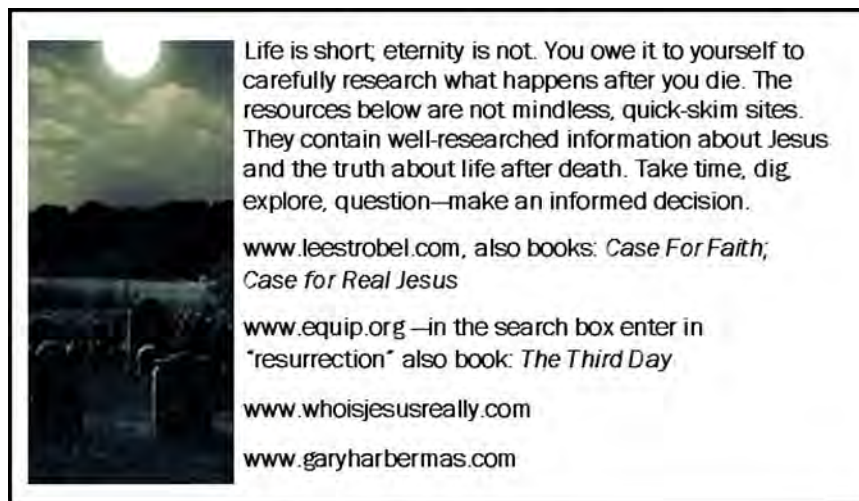
<http://www.christiananswers.net/jesus/home.html>

<http://www.whosjesus.com>

After doing that—tell Mom about it, talk about it and give her joy that won't fade like even the most beautiful flowers do.



As the previous bulletin inserts for Easter, Christmas, and Valentine's Day, plus the ones on these pages for Mother's Day and Halloween illustrate, you can use ANY occasion as an opportunity to challenge people to think about their eternal destiny and relationship to Jesus and provide resources for more exploration.



More ideas you could use to create your own gospel presentation.

Sample Gospel Presentations to use in bulletins, postcards, any publications.

We invite you to join us for Christmas Season Sunday Services and Children's programs 10 am every Sunday in December. Stay for goodies afterwards—we look forward to meeting you!



Even if you can't come to church, please remember that the message of Christmas is that God came to earth in the form of a person—Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus grew up not only to become the greatest teacher and miracle worker the world had ever seen, but to die a unique death.

In His death, Jesus was not a victim of evil men. Jesus willingly gave up His life and died on the cross so that He could pay the penalty for our sins.

The story doesn't end with His death. Jesus rose from the dead and demonstrated that He was God.

When we believe that Jesus died for our sins and we accept the forgiveness He offers us, and decide to follow Him, Jesus promises to give us eternal life.

If you'd like your sins forgiven; if you'd like to be at peace with your God; if you'd like to live forever, tell Jesus you are a sinner and you need His salvation. Ask Him to come into your life to be your Savior and Lord.

After you do that, please read the Bible to learn how to live as a Christian. Talk to God daily in prayer. Go to a church and get to know other followers of Jesus and grow in your faith.

At Westminster Presbyterian, we are here to help you find out about God and to grow as a Christian. Please join us on Sunday mornings at 10 am to learn more!

The example to the left here was used on a postcard inviting people to a Christmas series of sermons and a candlelight service.

The example below came out of a church bulletin.

It doesn't take much space to share our most important message.

Are you sure of your relationship with God?

You can be if you follow God's instructions on how to have a right relationship with Him. Here is what to do:

1. Admit that you have rebelled by not following God's perfect law (Romans 3:23; I John 1:9).
2. Believe that Jesus is God's only son, and that his death and resurrection is the only possible payment for your rebellion (John 3:16; Romans 3: 23-26).
3. Ask Jesus to take the penalty for your rebellious actions (sins) so that you can be declared right with God (Romans 10:9; John 1:12).
4. Commit to place God first in your life by studying and obeying God's truth in the Holy Bible (I Timothy 3:16,17).

In order to have a right relationship with God, pray through the steps above and then commit yourself to grow in your new Christian life by daily talking to God in prayer and reading the Bible.

Some useful verses

Create your own! Below are some summary Bible verses that outline God's plan of salvation.

Humanity's situation:

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Hebrews 9: 27 Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.

God's solution

John 3: 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,[1] that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in [1] Christ Jesus our Lord.

How to respond:

John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

Romans 10: 9 If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

God's promise:

1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Revelation 3:20 [Jesus is speaking] Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

Below is a brief summary of how a person becomes a Christian. Study each of the Scriptures in your Bible.

1. **You are a sinner.** Romans 3:10, 23
2. **Your sins separate you from God.** Romans 6:23a; Isaiah 59:2
3. **God loves you & Jesus died for you.** Isaiah 53:4-6; John 3:16; Luke 19:10; Rom. 5:8-10
4. **You must receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior.** John 1:11-13

HOW TO RECEIVE JESUS AS YOUR LORD AND SAVIOR

1. **Believe in Jesus** John 3:16; Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8-10. *(Belief is faith, trust, dependence, reliance upon Jesus alone for your salvation.)*
2. **Repent of your sins.** Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31; II Peter 3:9 *(Repentance is a change of the mind caused by a sorrow for sin & leading to a reformation of life.)*
3. **Confess Jesus before men.** Matthew 10:32-33; 16:15-16; Romans 10:9-10 *(Confession is a public acknowledgment of your faith in Jesus.)*
4. **Be baptized into Christ.** Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-5; I Peter 3:21 *(Baptism is immersion in water of a repentant believer in Jesus.)*
5. **Live a Christian life.** Acts 2:42; Matthew 6:33; Revelation 2:10b *(Christian living is allowing Jesus to control your everyday life.)*

HOW TO GROW AS A CHRISTIAN

Once a person becomes a Christian, he begins a process of spiritual growth that will continue the rest of his life. One verse of Scripture gives a good summary of how the early Christians grew in their faith. Read Acts 2:42.

1. **Bible Study.** They listened to, studied and obeyed what the apostles taught. For us, that means we should read, study and obey the Bible, especially the New Testament.
2. **Fellowship.** The Bible word for fellowship means "sharing". They shared together with other Christians in times of public worship and study. They shared their material possessions in support of the church and the poor. They shared their lives with one another.
3. **Communion.** They partook of the Lord's Supper on a regular basis (at least weekly). This reminded them that Jesus died for them.
4. **Prayer.** They communicated with God concerning every area of their lives.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF SMYRNA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

If you obey God's plan of salvation presented under "How To Become a Christian" at this church you automatically become a member unless you request otherwise. If you have already obeyed the plan of salvation, all you have to do is express your desire to be a member.



1. The most important message of our church is *the Gospel*, the good news of how to find salvation in Jesus.

2. The church bulletin is an ideal place to begin the conversation about it.

3. Each of your churches can express it in your own way, but whatever you do, do something!

4. Continue the conversation via social media links, web resources to explore, and personal contacts.

5. Pray God will use what you create to change lives for eternity!



For more training in creating effective church communications:



Effective Church Communications Training website: <http://www.effectivechurchcom.com>

The Effective Church Communications website has articles, many training videos, ready-to-print templates and PDFs for church communicators. It has hundreds of entries that can do everything from equip a beginning church communicator to challenging a senior staff member to be more effective in their church communications. Please sign up for our email updates and you'll get short notices each week on new material posted on the site.

To stay connected, get notices of new materials and resources and to be challenged in church communications:

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/yvonprehn>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/EffectiveChurchCommunications>

YouTube videos: <http://www.youtube.com/yvonprehn>

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/yvonprehn>

Yvon Prehn's books in paperback

A growing selection is available at <http://www.amazon.com>. Just enter "Yvon Prehn" in the search box to go to her list of books.

Digital versions and downloadable e-books are available from:

Smashwords: <https://www.smashwords.com/profile/view/yvonprehn>

For additional questions about the Effective Church Communications ministry, to request free reprint permission of articles, for interviews or contributions to websites or books, **email: yvon@effectivechurchcom.com**