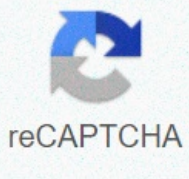




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## The lakes evangelical church

Churches provide a range of outreach services for their members and the surrounding community. They rely on donations, but often, many business opportunities exist that can generate a significant amount of revenue. Member-driven business activities that don't rely on the church's resources can help maximize profit potential. Revenue from business activities must be used for religious purposes and reported to the IRS in order for the church to maintain a nonprofit status. Church members can donate or create items for a church bazaar. A bazaar is similar to a flea market in that there are a wide variety of items available, but proceeds from a bazaar benefit a charitable cause or nonprofit organization. Request articles from the congregation based on the time of year. For example, during October and November, you might request Christmas decorations members no longer use in preparation for a December bazaar. Post a notice in your church bulletin requesting business owners in the congregation offer significant discounts to members of the church if a certain number of members commit to making a purchase. Sell the coupon to the committed customers in advance of purchase for the discounted price. The church can split the profits with the business owners. Invite prominent choirs and Christian music artists to perform at a weekend concert series. Purchase wholesale snacks to sell at a concession stand. Choose a multicultural assortment of musical acts so that you can partner with other neighborhood churches to promote the concert. During special programming on weekends or in the evenings, provide childcare for a small fee. Use volunteers from the Sunday School to oversee the children. If you are selling tickets to your program, you could tout free childcare to attract more parents to attend your paid event. Benzinga's Top Ratings Upgrades, Downgrades For June 24, 2021 Seeking Alpha Catalyst Watch 10 Best Stocks to Buy That Will Get You Through the Day Church & Dwight Co Inc. Q1 adjusted earnings Beat Estimates Church & Dwight Q1 2021 Earnings Preview Church & Dwight declares \$0.2525 dividend Church & Dwight Recalls Select Vitafusion Gummy Products Benzinga's Top Ratings Upgrades, Downgrades For April 19, 2021 7 Recession-Proof Stocks to Buy Church & Dwight Co Inc. 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Q1 adjusted earnings Beat Estimates 5 Stocks to Buy For Big Gains On CARES Act Stimulus Page 2 Social distancing pair trade runs wild again Procter & Gamble warns on duration of pandemic 7 Reasons Not to Buy Into the Hype Over Reynolds IPO Church & Dwight Co Inc. Q3 Profit Advances 7 Stocks the Insiders Are Buying on Sale 10 Excellent Stocks to Watch for 2020 and Beyond Church & Dwight Co. Raises 2019 Outlook - Quick Facts Church & Dwight Affirms FY19 Earnings Outlook - Quick Facts Church & Dwight Co Inc. Q1 Earnings Rise Church & Dwight Co Inc. Q4 Income Falls Church & Dwight Co Inc. Raises 2018 Outlook - Quick Facts Church & Dwight Co Inc. Q3 Income Advances Church & Dwight Co Inc. Q2 adjusted earnings Beat Estimates Church & Dwight Raises 2018 Outlook - Quick Facts Church & Dwight Co Inc. Reports Advance In Q1 Profit Earnings In Focus: Feb. 5 (CHD, HES, MAC) Church & Dwight Co Inc. Profit Climbs 8% In Q3 Page 3 Keep up with the latest daily buzz with the BuzzFeed Daily newsletter! Even though church attendance in America is steadily declining, you shouldn't have any trouble practicing your chosen religion. There are still millions of people attending thousands of churches and places of worship across the country. We know the most sinful cities in the United States, but let's look at the other side of things. Getting right with God is easy in these 15 cities with the most churches. PropertyShark divided populations by the number of houses of worship to discover the cities where churches are most prevalent (broken down into the average number of people per church). We're guessing No. 1 on the list probably won't shock you, but the No. 2 city is surprising. 15. San Francisco San Francisco has a surprising number of churches. | Heyengel/Stock/Getty Images Average people per church: 1,565 people San Francisco residents work too much and never go on vacation, so heading to mass for a spiritual reboot is probably a good idea. There are plenty of options in that department with 528 houses of worship within the city limits. Next: This big city isn't short on houses of worship. 14. New York City The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. | Theo Wargo/Getty Images Average people per church: 1,353 The most populous area in the United States is also one of the cities with the most churches. New York City houses 6,160 holy places within the city limits or one church for every 1,353 inhabitants. Next: A city making up for lost time. 13. Miami A look inside St. Brendan's Catholic Church in Miami. | Rob Földy/Getty Images Average people per church: 1,303 Miami's first church wasn't established until 1921, according to the PropertyShark data, but it's making up for lost time. In less than 100 years, it's built 462 houses of worship or one for every 1,300 people. Next: A cemetery is this city's signature holy site. 12. Phoenix Phoenix has more churches than you realize. | Dreamframer/Stock/Getty Images Average people per church: 1,291 PropertyShark includes cemeteries as religious places, and Phoenix has one of the largest in the country. The National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona covers 225 acres north of downtown, and when you include the many historical churches in town, there's a holy place for every 1,291 Phoenix residents. Next: The future isn't looking too good, but this city still makes the list. 11. Chicago A funeral mass at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago. | Nam Y. Hub/Getty Images Average people per church: 1,224 Even though the Chicago archdiocese is planning to close 100 churches in the future, for now, Chicago still ranks as one of the cities with the most churches. It has a huge number of Christian churches, and when you include mosques and Jewish temples, there's a holy place for every 1,224 people in the city. Next: This city's oldest church has tons of history. 10. Boston Paul Revere and Old North Church (background) share an important role in history. | Three Lions/Getty Images Average people per church: 1,107 When you travel to Boston, the Old North Church is practically a must-see. It's where Paul Revere launched his legendary ride to warn everyone about the impending British invasion. It was built in 1723, so it's the oldest in town, but it's far from the only holy site in Boston, which has 575 religious venues. Next: A famous pastor's church is hardly the only religious venue in town. 9. Houston Joel Osteen's Lakewood Church is one of the thousands in Houston. | Cindy Ord/Getty Images Average people per church: 1,085 Joel Osteen is one of the richest pastors in the United States, and his Lakewood Church packs in 52,000 parishioners every week, but it's hardly the only religious site in town. With 1,991 houses of worship, it's one of the cities with the most churches in the U.S. Next: Almost everyone goes to church, and there are plenty to choose from. 8. Charlotte, N.C. Dale Earnhardt fans stand outside Charlotte's Calvary Church during his memorial services. | Donald Miralle/Allsport Average people per church: 1,053 Only 17% of Charlotte residents aren't religiously active, according to the Public Relations Research Institute, which is one of the lowest big-city rates in the country. Everyone goes to church, and there are plenty to choose from since it has 736 religious venues within city limits. Next: Religion is very important to the residents of this city. 7. Dallas Police officers attend a funeral at the Potter's House Church in Dallas. | Justin Sullivan/Getty Images Average people per church: 909 More than 55% of Dallas residents identify as religious, according to Sperling's Best Places, which is nearly 6% higher than the national rate. Religion is very important there, and with close to 1,400 venues, it boils down to one church for every 909 people. Next: A city that beats Dallas by a nose. 6. Columbus, Ohio Columbus has several megachurches among its many places to worship. | David Rigg/Stock/Getty Images Average people per church: 907 Columbus can't compare to the nearly 1,400 religious venues in Dallas, but it's still one of the cities with the most churches. The city has some of the largest churches in Ohio, and there's a religious site for every 907 people who live there. Next: This city is a Christian hotbed. 5. Memphis, Tenn. The Mason Temple Church of God in Christ in Memphis. | Joe Raedle/Getty Images Average people per church: 804 The oldest building in continuous use in Memphis is Calvary Episcopal Church, which dates to 1832. Nearly 64% of people identify as religious, and most of them are Christian as a little over 2% are Jewish, Muslim, or other faiths. Next: This city has the largest church in North America. 4. Washington, D.C. Inside the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. | Doug Mills/Getty Images Average people per church: 738 Even though it's getting more difficult for them to attend masses, most presidents identify with specific religions. The Commanders in Chief who can sneak away for sermons have plenty of options since Washington, D.C., is one of the cities with the most churches. The largest church in North America, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, is less than four miles from the White House. Next: The second city from a southern state on our countdown. 3. Jacksonville, Fla. Jacksonville's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. | Stephen Morton/Getty Images Average people per church: 562 Jacksonville is one of the largest cities in America based on square mileage, and it's also one of the cities with the most churches. If its 1,488 holy sites were divided equally among the population, there would be one church for every 562 residents. Next: It's not a religious city, but it has plenty of religious venues. 2. Seattle It's not a very religious place, but Seattle still has a lot of churches. | Peter Muller/Getty Images Average people per church: 481 Seattle resides at the other end of the spectrum as Charlotte with 33% of residents claiming they aren't religious. Despite that, the city houses 1,355 churches or other holy sites, one for every 481 people. Next: Far and away the No. 1 city. 1. Indianapolis Indianapolis has a plethora of churches within its city limits. | RudyBalasko/Stock/Getty Images Average people per church: 289 The city and state that gave us very religious Vice President Mike Pence is far and away the No. 1 city with the most churches. It has nearly 2,900 churches and other religious sites, one for every 289 people who live in the city. Check out The Cheat Sheet on Facebook! Read more: These Are the 15 Greenest American States Putting the Environment First Churches, Integrated Auxiliaries, and Conventions or Associations of Churches Overview of tax-exempt status for churches, integrated auxiliaries and conventions or associations of churches. Exemption Requirements - 501(c)(3) Organizations A brief description of the requirements for exemption under IRC Section 501(c)(3). Unrelated Business Income Tax Unrelated business income tax requirements for tax-exempt organizations. Filing Requirements A brief description of annual filing requirements for tax-exempt churches and religious organizations. The Restriction of Political Campaign Intervention by Section 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Organizations Political Campaign Activity by section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations Special Rules Limiting IRS Authority to Audit a Church Overview of rules on tax inquiries and examinations of churches. Tax Information for Charitable Organizations Tax information for charitable, religious, scientific, literary, and other organizations exempt under Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") section 501(c)(3). Publication 4573, Group Exemptions PDF A publication describing, in question and answer format, the federal tax rules that apply to group rulings of exemption under Internal Revenue Code section 501. Webinar for Churches and Religious Organizations A survey of tax-exempt status for churches and religious organizations Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 21-May-2021 If you're a person of faith, one way to meet people is through church. Churches today offer many different ways to get connected so you can make a new friend or two. Here are five habits that can increase your chances of meeting someone new. Start Going at the Same Time Every Week In order to meet regular attendees, try for some consistency. Go at the same time and sit in the same pew or seat every week. Eventually, you'll see people you recognize and can say hello or make small talk. Allow your regular attendance to be the first step in connecting with others. Some ideas for getting to know people in this type of setting include: Smiling at people at they sit down. Saying "good morning" at the beginning of service and "have a good day" at the end before you leave. Introducing yourself to someone you see every week. ("Hi, it's good to see you again today. I'm Jane.") Asking a question. ("I was just curious, have you ever attended the community fun event here?") Asking them out for coffee after the service. ("I'm fairly new here and would like to get to know some people. Would you be interested in meeting up for coffee sometime after church?") Get Involved in Activities A great way to meet other people is to sign up for activities. Many churches have small groups or extracurricular events broken out by age or some other distinction. Again, check out the bulletin or website to see what's going on, and if you don't see something, be sure to ask. Sometimes activities get scheduled at the last minute and, as a result, they aren't listed somewhere, so asking around can help get you connected. Church activities today can include: Sporting events, like golf or volleyball. Community fund raisers. Walks that focus on a specific group or issue. Bible studies. Singles groups. Groups for women and men. Youth groups. Groups for people struggling with addiction. Classes that focus on a financially responsible life. Crafts. Seminars on self-help subjects or finding your life's purpose. There is no end to the variety of classes and events that can be offered at a church. Chances are the events change from time to time, so if you don't see something immediately that interests you, keep checking back. Ask About Welcome Packets for New Attendees Nearly every church has some sort of welcome it extends to new people. This could include a packet of information, a meeting with a member of the church, or even just a gathering space where you can grab a cup of coffee and chat with others. Look in your church bulletin or on their website for more information. If you can't find something, be sure to ask another attendee or call up their receptionist after the service. Volunteer There is perhaps no better way to get involved at church than by volunteering. Churches regularly look for new people to help with services and events. You might be asked to hand out bulletins at a service, answer questions for other newcomers, direct people to the proper area, or even lead a small group. Pray about how you can best put your individual skills and talents to use in the church. When you give this quiet consideration, you'll naturally see something that will come your way. Volunteering helps take the pressure off of getting to know people, because you'll be able to more naturally talk about things going on in the church or just in your life. The focus will be on helping others in some way, which puts you and a potential friend in a more positive space. New friendships formed from a common interest like this can be very beneficial to your well being. Be Genuine Since you're at a place of worship, it should go without saying that you shouldn't just join a church for the reason of meeting new friends. Be receptive of the message and allow your authentic enthusiasm help you attract new friends.

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