

Over the past 50 years, the majority of American churches have become divorced from the communities in which they are located. They have a physical address in the community, but citizens of the community don't know the church exists. Fortunately, many churches today are reversing that trend. They are proactively and strategically seeking to be a positive influence in the community. Here are ten things to consider for your church to be a positive influence in your community.



Some churches pray for a different aspect of the community every week in the worship services. These prayers

become an impetus for many church members to get involved in the community.



For some churches, the most valuable facility that can be used by your community is the parking lot during the week. Other churches allow schools to have large assemblies in the church.



Church leaders must be intentional and strategic about ministering to and getting involved in the community or it just won't happen. Community

involvement should have the same priority on the calendar as an internal church event.



During the year, recognize and thank key groups in the community, such as first responders, the mayor and city council members, and sanitation workers who keep the community clean.



Church members may be able to serve in some of those events. One church makes certain that it sets up a church tent at every outside community event. Members

of the community know they can get free water and sometimes popcorn at the tent.



FUNCTIONS

These functions might be city council meetings, chamber of commerce meetings, planning and zoning meetings, and various school meetings and functions.



ORGANIZATIONS

These organizations include chambers of commerce, civic clubs, and elected positions in the schools and government. Schools, in particular, typically welcome community volunteers.



Church members should be prepared to help in any way during a community crisis. A number of churches have become temporary

shelters for community members displaced due to tornadoes, hurricanes, or floods.



Facebook algorithms allow you to be precise and focused on sending your message. With just minimal expense, the church can connect with potentially thousands in the community, depending on the population base.



The members should be reminded the church is in its specific community for a reason. With that mindset, members will be prepared and eager to serve the community as needed.

