

Chapter 10

EVANGELISTIC CHURCH HOSTED BLOCK PARTY

EVANGELISTIC CHURCH HOSTED BLOCK PARTY*1

Why would the church want to have an Evangelistic Church Hosted Block Party?

- To meet community residents
- To build bridges between community and residents and the church
- To open doors for a new ministry outreach
- To have the opportunity for personal and intentional evangelism
- To share Jesus Christ and God's Good News with non-believers
- And, evangelism outreach is on God's agenda

The Evangelistic Church Hosted Block Party event is one of the most effective "tools" available to a church to use for Servant Evangelism outreach. It is a great way to get to know your neighbors, open doors for a new ministry, create a sense of community and build relationship bridges between individuals, families and a church, and . . . they are great fun. It is a perfect marriage between ministry and intentional evangelism.

Organizing a Block Party around a specific theme*2 is one way to create a deeper bond between the participants. The event gathering is fun mingling opportunities for neighbors who can meet each other, maybe for the first time. "This creates a friendly climate for evangelism as trained witnesses share the Gospel."*3

There are variations of the Evangelistic Block Party. Most of the following list*4 are hosted by an individual(s), but with minor changes they could be hosted by a church.

- Neighborhood Pasta Party
- Neighborhood Watch Block Party
- Neighborhood Super Bowl Block Party
- Children's Block Party
- Simultaneous Block Parties for Children
- City-wide Block Party
- Sports Block Party

PLANNING AND TRAINING FOR THE EVANGELISTIC CHURCH HOSTED BLOCK PARTY

To have a successful Block Party there needs to be good advanced planning, a large number of church members involved, follow-up, preparation for discipling new believers and much praying.

There are several excellent resources available, including volunteer training ideas, to help plan a good Evangelistic Church Hosted Block Party.

Special Evangelistic Events: The Evangelistic Block Party
By Toby Frost, Bill Sims and Monty McWhorter
North American Mission Board of the SBC
Alpharetta, GA

Evangelism Planner: Design Your Plan to Change Your World
North American Mission Board of the SBC
Alpharetta, GA

CD software with helps for planning the Block Party

A power point website training resource for The Evangelistic Block Party
www.findmichurch.org

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This is an excellent resource for planning, training volunteers and having a Church Hosted Evangelistic Block Party.