

# welcome for church homecoming

Welcome for Church Homecoming: Celebrating Faith, Fellowship, and Family

**Welcome for church homecoming** is more than just a greeting; it's an invitation to reconnect, rejoice, and renew faith with members of your spiritual community. A church homecoming is a cherished tradition that brings together congregants old and new, providing a special opportunity to celebrate the church's history, honor its members, and strengthen bonds of fellowship. Whether your church is hosting a homecoming event for the first time or has a longstanding tradition, creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere is essential to making everyone feel part of something meaningful.

In this comprehensive guide, we'll explore how to craft a memorable church homecoming celebration—from planning and invitations to activities and heartfelt welcomes—all aimed at fostering a sense of belonging and spiritual renewal.

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## The Significance of a Church Homecoming

### Why Celebrate a Church Homecoming?

A church homecoming serves multiple purposes:

- **Reunion and Reconnection:** It allows members to reconnect with friends, family, and fellow believers they may not have seen in a while.
- **Honoring History:** It's an opportunity to celebrate the church's heritage, milestones, and the journey of faith.
- **Spiritual Renewal:** The event encourages spiritual growth and recommitment to faith.
- **Community Building:** Strengthens bonds within the congregation, fostering a spirit of unity and support.
- **Outreach:** Welcomes visitors and newcomers, inviting them into the church family.

### Benefits of a Well-Organized Homecoming

- Creates lasting memories.
- Reinforces the church's mission and values.
- Inspires renewed enthusiasm for church activities.
- Attracts new members and visitors.

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## Planning a Memorable Church Homecoming

## Setting the Date and Theme

Choose a meaningful date: Many churches select a date coinciding with an anniversary, harvest festival, or a special religious occasion.

Select a theme: A unifying theme sets the tone and guides planning. Examples include:

- “Reuniting in Faith”
- “Celebrating Our Heritage”
- “A Journey of Faith and Fellowship”
- “Gathering in Grace”

## Organizing the Program

Create a balanced schedule that includes:

- Welcome speeches
- Musical performances
- Testimonials and sharing
- Special sermons
- Fellowship meals
- Fun activities for all ages

## Inviting Guest Speakers and Performers

Consider inviting:

- Former pastors or church leaders
- Gospel singers or local musicians
- Community figures or church alumni

## Publicity and Invitations

Effective outreach ensures a good turnout:

- Send personalized invitations via mail, email, or social media.
- Use flyers and posters around the community.
- Announce during Sunday services and church events.
- Encourage members to invite friends and neighbors.

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## Creating a Warm Welcome for Attendees

## Greeting Guests

- Designate friendly greeters at entrances.
- Provide welcome signs with warm messages.
- Offer programs or schedules upon arrival.
- Have volunteers ready to answer questions.

## Welcome Speech and Opening Remarks

Kick off the event with a heartfelt welcome:

- Acknowledge special guests and visitors.
- Share the significance of the occasion.
- Encourage participation and fellowship.

## Personal Touches

- Distribute small tokens or souvenirs like bookmarks or magnets with the church logo.
- Set up a photo booth to capture memories.
- Provide refreshments and snacks to foster informal mingling.

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## Engaging Activities for a Meaningful Homecoming

### Spiritual Activities

- Revival or Special Sermon: Focus on themes of reconciliation, renewal, and community.
- Testimony Sessions: Invite members to share their faith journeys.
- Prayer Circles: Pray for the church, community, and individuals in need.

### Musical and Artistic Presentations

- Choir performances
- Gospel singing groups
- Musical skits or dance performances
- Choir or congregational singing of favorite hymns

### Fellowship and Entertainment

- Potluck Dinner: Encourage sharing of traditional family recipes.
- Games for All Ages: Organize relay races, scavenger hunts, or bingo.
- Memory Lane Displays: Photos and memorabilia showcasing church history.

## Community Service Initiatives

- Organize a charity drive or outreach project.
- Offer free health screenings or community assistance.

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## Making Visitors Feel at Home

### Personal Invitations

Encourage church members to personally invite friends, family, and neighbors.

### Hospitality Teams

Form teams dedicated to welcoming and assisting visitors throughout the event.

### Follow-Up

- Collect contact information for future communication.
- Send thank-you notes or follow-up messages.
- Invite visitors to upcoming church events and services.

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## Post-Homecoming Celebration

### Sharing the Experience

- Compile photos and videos to share on social media.
- Write a newsletter article highlighting the event's success.
- Share testimonials from attendees.

## Strengthening the Church Community

- Plan regular fellowship events.
- Establish small groups or Bible studies.
- Encourage continued involvement and service.

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## Tips for a Successful Church Homecoming

- Start Planning Early: Give ample time for organization and promotion.
- Involve the Congregation: Encourage member participation in planning and execution.
- Create an Inclusive Environment: Welcome visitors and new members warmly.
- Ensure Accessibility: Make sure the venue is accessible to everyone.
- Emphasize Worship: Keep spiritual focus at the core of the celebration.
- Be Flexible and Adaptable: Be prepared to adjust plans as needed.

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### Final Thoughts: Embracing the Spirit of Welcome

A church homecoming is more than an event; it's an expression of love, unity, and faith. A warm, genuine welcome can transform a simple gathering into a memorable celebration that renews spirits and deepens bonds. By thoughtfully planning and executing your church's homecoming, you create an environment where everyone feels valued and inspired to continue walking the path of faith together.

Remember, every smile, handshake, and kind word contributes to building a stronger church community. So, prepare your hearts and hands to welcome everyone with open arms, making this homecoming a beautiful testament to the love of Christ and the strength of your congregation.

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Keywords: Welcome for church homecoming, church celebration, church reunion, faith community, fellowship, church event planning, spiritual renewal, church outreach

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the traditional purpose of a church homecoming celebration?

A church homecoming is traditionally held to celebrate the congregation's history, reconnect with members and former members, and honor the church's heritage and community spirit.

### How can I prepare for a church homecoming event?

You can prepare by inviting friends and family, volunteering to help with event logistics, bringing a favorite dish for the fellowship, and reflecting on your personal connection to the church's history.

### What are some meaningful ways to participate in a church homecoming service?

Participate by sharing stories or testimonies, singing special hymns or songs, offering prayers for the

congregation, or contributing to a slideshow or display of church history.

## **Are there special activities or traditions associated with church homecomings?**

Yes, many churches host picnics, reunions, guest speaker sessions, choir performances, and historical displays to celebrate their legacy and foster community bonds.

## **How can I make the most of a church homecoming if I am a visitor?**

Arrive early, participate in fellowship activities, introduce yourself to members, attend the service actively, and consider staying for post-service gatherings to connect with the community.

## **What is the significance of inviting former members to a church homecoming?**

Inviting former members helps rekindle relationships, honors their contributions, and reinforces the church's sense of family and continuity across generations.

## **Are there any modern trends or ideas to enhance traditional church homecoming celebrations?**

Yes, incorporating multimedia presentations, social media campaigns, interactive displays, and live streaming services can modernize the event and reach a wider audience.

## **Additional Resources**

Welcoming Spirit: Celebrating Church Homecoming with Joy and Unity

A church homecoming is more than just a gathering; it's a heartfelt celebration of community, faith, tradition, and renewal. It's an occasion to reconnect with old friends, honor the church's history, and renew spiritual commitments. As churches prepare for this special event, the way they welcome attendees sets the tone for the entire celebration. A warm, genuine, and thoughtfully planned welcome creates an atmosphere of inclusivity, reverence, and joy that resonates throughout the day.

In this comprehensive guide, we will explore every facet of extending a welcoming for church homecoming, from initial planning to post-event reflections. Whether you're a church leader, volunteer, or member, understanding the depth of this occasion will help you foster a memorable, meaningful experience for everyone involved.

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# The Importance of a Heartfelt Welcome

A warm welcome is the foundation of a successful church homecoming. It does more than just greet attendees; it sets a spiritual tone and affirms their sense of belonging. When people feel genuinely welcomed, they're more likely to participate actively, reconnect with the community, and deepen their faith.

Why a warm welcome matters:

- Builds community bonds: It helps people feel seen and valued.
- Encourages participation: A friendly greeting invites attendees to engage in activities.
- Creates a positive atmosphere: It sets the tone for a joyful and reverent celebration.
- Reflects Christ's love: Genuine hospitality demonstrates Christ's love in action.

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## Pre-Event Planning for a Warm Welcome

Effective welcoming begins long before the event day. Planning ensures that every detail aligns with the goal of making attendees feel appreciated and comfortable.

### 1. Establish a Welcoming Committee

- Recruit a diverse team of volunteers committed to hospitality.
- Assign roles such as greeters, ushers, information desk staff, and hospitality coordinators.
- Provide training emphasizing kindness, attentiveness, and responsiveness.

### 2. Prepare Welcome Materials

- Create welcoming signage: banners, directional signs, and event programs.
- Develop informational packets or flyers highlighting church history, upcoming events, and contact information.
- Consider including small tokens of appreciation, like church pins or bookmarks.

### 3. Communicate the Event Details

- Use multiple channels: church website, social media, emails, and phone calls.
- Encourage members to invite friends, family, and neighbors.
- Share heartfelt messages about the significance of homecoming.

## **4. Coordinate Special Elements**

- Plan for special music, testimonies, or guest speakers.
- Arrange for a welcoming team to greet visitors as they arrive.
- Prepare for hospitality activities such as receptions or fellowship meals.

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## **Creating a Warm and Inviting Atmosphere on the Day**

On the day of the homecoming, every detail should reflect warmth, friendliness, and reverence.

### **1. Greeting and Front Door Hospitality**

- Have smiling, approachable greeters stationed at entrances.
- Offer assistance with parking, seating, or locating facilities.
- Provide welcome programs or brochures upon arrival.

### **2. Personalized Interactions**

- Encourage greeters to introduce themselves and ask visitors about their connection to the church.
- Use names when possible to foster personal relationships.
- Offer a warm handshake, hug, or friendly wave to break the ice.

### **3. Staff and Volunteer Attire**

- Dress in welcoming, coordinated attire—such as church-branded shirts or scarves.
- Use name tags to facilitate personal connections.

### **4. Creating a Sense of Tradition and Heritage**

- Incorporate elements that reflect the church's history—photos, memorabilia, or historical displays.
- Share stories or testimonies that highlight the church's journey and community impact.

### **5. Ensuring Comfort and Accessibility**

- Check that seating, restrooms, and facilities are accessible.
- Provide services for individuals with special needs.

- Offer hospitality amenities like water stations or refreshment tables.

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## **Enhancing the Experience with Music and Worship**

Music is a powerful tool in creating a welcoming and spiritually uplifting environment.

Strategies include:

- Inviting familiar and beloved choir or music groups.
- Incorporating congregational singing with hymns and contemporary worship songs.
- Planning special musical pieces that celebrate the church's heritage.
- Ensuring sound systems are clear and accessible to all.

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## **Engaging Activities to Foster Connection**

A homecoming is an ideal opportunity to deepen relationships within the church community.

Activities to consider:

- Testimony Sessions: Invite members to share their faith journeys.
- Reunions and Reconnects: Organize spaces for old friends to meet and reminisce.
- Family and Youth Activities: Include children's programs, games, or creative workshops.
- Photo Booths: Set up themed photo areas for memories.
- Fellowship Meals: Host potlucks or catered dinners to encourage fellowship.

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## **Post-Event Reflection and Follow-Up**

A warm welcome doesn't end when the event concludes. Follow-up helps sustain the sense of community and sets the stage for ongoing engagement.

Steps for effective follow-up:

- Send thank-you notes or emails to attendees and volunteers.
- Share photos and highlights from the event via social media and church newsletters.

- Invite feedback through surveys to learn what worked and what could improve.
- Encourage new visitors to become involved in ongoing church activities.
- Plan subsequent events to maintain the momentum of community building.

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## Key Tips for a Memorable Welcome

- Authenticity: Be genuine in your hospitality; avoid scripted or robotic greetings.
- Inclusivity: Ensure all feel welcome regardless of age, background, or status.
- Attention to Detail: Small gestures—such as offering a warm smile or a helpful hand—make a big difference.
- Spiritual Focus: Remember that the ultimate goal is to honor God and foster spiritual growth.
- Flexibility: Be prepared to adapt to unforeseen circumstances or special needs.

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## Conclusion: Celebrating with Joy and Purpose

A church homecoming is a special occasion that celebrates the church's legacy and renews its mission. The way you extend your welcome can transform an ordinary gathering into an extraordinary spiritual reunion. By thoughtfully planning, sincerely welcoming, and actively engaging attendees, your church can create an environment where everyone feels loved, valued, and inspired to grow in faith.

Remember, every smile, handshake, and word of encouragement contributes to an atmosphere of Christ's love. Let the spirit of hospitality shine brightly, making this homecoming not just a celebration of the past but a beacon of hope and unity for the future.

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### **welcome for church homecoming: KJV Standard Lesson Commentary® 2025-2026**

Standard Publishing, 2025-06-03 As the world's most popular annual Bible commentary for more than three decades, Standard Lesson Commentary (SLC) provides 52 weeks of study in a single volume. Designed for all types of Bible study, every lesson includes: Printed Scripture text in either KJV or NIV® Verse-by-verse commentary to explain and interpret Scripture Discussion questions to spark conversation and deeper reflection How to Say It pronunciation guide for biblical names and places Verbal illustrations that connect lesson themes to modern life Learning activities to encourage life application This Quarter in the Word daily Bible readings to encourage study

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**welcome for church homecoming: The United Church of Christ in the Shenandoah Valley** H. B. Cavalcanti, 2010-08-20 While congregational studies have expanded our understanding of American religion, little is known about the local practices of a single denomination at its smallest jurisdiction. This book explores how national denominational commitments are affecting the practices of local United Church of Christ congregations inside a single association in the Shenandoah Valley. Nationally, the UCC defines itself as a united and uniting church in its ecumenical work; as multiracial and multicultural in its diversity; as accessible to all in welcoming those with disabilities; as open and affirming for its LGBT members; and as a just peace church in its support of social justice. So, how fully have local congregations embraced these commitments? Might congregations be more attached to their older identities, particularly in areas where the church's predecessors were strongly rooted? Or are the national church's commitments being lived out at the grassroots level? The book measures congregational life in one of the UCC's oldest and smallest associations. Books on congregational studies either focus on a case study of a particular congregation, or large-scale surveys of U.S. congregations that explore aggregate data to explain their work. This book looks instead at a group of local congregations inside a small judicatory (the Shenandoah Association) of the United Church of Christ to explain religious life at the grassroots level.

**welcome for church homecoming: Reflections of Grace** Jacob Harris, 2024-11-07 Reflections of Grace began spontaneously one afternoon as author Jacob Harris sat bedside in a hotel room, dreading feelings of complacency in his faith. Therefore, that night he began to write devotionals to be shared on the Enriching Grace website ([enrichinggrace.com](http://enrichinggrace.com)). From that point on, feelings of complacency turned into constant reflections of grace. This work is a 365-day collection of devotionals that are purposed to point the reader to a deeper understanding of grace via Harris's own struggles, funny experiences, and thoughts. It is his hope that as you read and reflect day-to-day, you yourself become a reflection of grace.

**welcome for church homecoming: Publications of the Virginia War History Commission** Virginia War History Commission, 1925

**welcome for church homecoming: Publications of the Virginia War History Commission: Virginia war letters, diaries and editorials** Virginia War History Commission, 1925

**welcome for church homecoming: *Welcoming Each Wonder*** Tom Gordon, 2011-07-07 A second book of stories for every week of the Christian year, and a few more besides. Relates to lectionary cycle A. Tom Gordon's stories are a product of his awareness of the issues of our current age. As a consequence, what he offers are truly contemporary parables, drawing our attention to facets of our modern living and pointing us to lessons and truths that have universal relevance.

**welcome for church homecoming: *More African American Special Days*** Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan, 2010-12-01 By blending the traditional elements of the worship service with African American culture, Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan once again provides a practical resource for planning more of the special Sundays that congregations celebrate throughout the year. *More African American Special Days* contains fifteen services for special occasions, including: Pastor's Day, Men's Day, Women's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Kwanzaa, M.L. King, Jr. Day, Watch Night, Usher's Day, Homecoming/Family Reunion, Deacon's/Steward's Day, Deaconess/Stewardess Day, Youth Rite of Passage, Board of Christian Education, and Women's Missionary Society Day.

**welcome for church homecoming: *The Letter to the Philippians*** G. Walter Hansen, 2009-10-05 In this commentary G. Walter Hansen offers rich exposition of the text of Philippians as well as wisdom and maturity in its application. In so doing he emphasizes partnership--the social and corporate dimensions of community--in the progress of the gospel. After a select bibliography, Hansen's introduction sets forth the historical setting of the church in Philippi, the nature and occasion of the letter, and a preview of two key themes--the gospel of Christ and the community in Christ. The commentary itself discusses Philippians in light of these themes, considering Paul's greetings, reports of gospel ministry, imperatives for citizens worthy of the gospel, recommendations of two Christ-like servants, and disclosures of his personal experience. Hansen's treatment as a whole is distinctive for the way it draws out and highlights the themes of partnership, citizenship, and friendship in Paul's Philippian letter. With themes and emotions so varied, the letter to the Philippians needs a commentator with a sure grasp and a warm heart. . . . Hansen writes with admirable clarity and simplicity, even when he is unpacking notoriously complex matters. -- D. A. Carson (from the preface)

**welcome for church homecoming: *...As He Was Known*** Aletha V. Smithson, 2007-04 In today's competitive book market, publishing your book is just the beginning. As a newly published author, its time to tell the world about your book, share your creation, and drive sales. If that prospect scares you, don't let it! You don't have to be a marketing expert to create, manage, and execute an effective marketing campaign. *Your Voice in Demand: The AuthorHouse Guide to Marketing and Promoting Your Book* provides the background and advice you'll need to effectively support your marketing and sales goals. With this handy reference from the marketing and promotions team at AuthorHouse, you'll learn how to: Create a marketing and promotion plan Use the web as a marketing and sales tool Employ public relations to generate interest Set up book signings and author tours Take advantage of conferences and shows Apply direct marketing techniques Leverage advertising as a tool Establish a retail sales program Become a guerilla marketer.

**welcome for church homecoming: *Radical Welcome*** Stephanie Spellers, 2021-11-16 For the fifteenth anniversary of its publication, this revised edition features a new introduction from the author on the state of the church and its "radical welcome" today, along with new reflections on how it continues to reshape the church. This book is at once a theological, inspirational, and practical guide for congregations that want to move beyond diversity and inclusion to present a vision for the church of the future: one where the gifts, voices, and power of marginalized groups bring new life to the mainline church. Based on two years of work and over 200 interviews with people in congregations all around the United States—in urban, suburban, and rural settings—it asks the question: How do we face our fears and welcome transformation in order to become God's radically welcoming people? Each chapter introduces a particular congregation and the challenges it faced,

and lays out the theological underpinnings of tackling fears head-on to embrace change as a welcome part of community life. This new edition features essays from Michael B. Curry, Mark Bozzuti-Jones, Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, and Mark Richardson.

**welcome for church homecoming: Creating a Prodigal-Friendly Church** Jeff Lucas, 2009-05-26 Most of us have prodigals in our lives, whether a child, brother, sister, husband, wife, or friend. The ache for these dear ones is like no other. They may hurt us and disappoint us, but somehow we cannot stop loving them. And yet we cannot live their lives for them. The Prodigal-Friendly Church looks at why people leave the church, how we can retain them, how we can reach those who have already gone, and how we can help those who return feel like they belong. Jeff Lucas offers no easy recipes for success, but plenty of truth-telling, hope, and encouragement. This book discusses the principles of: • Reach: How do we reach those who've already left the church? • Return: How do we help people return to the church? • Retain: How do we retain the people we've worked so hard to reach? Ultimately we are called to bring our prodigals to the cross of Christ, for there we find the mingling of our own utter helplessness and God's total power to intervene and save. When the Father's house is filled with the Father's love, there is hope that the prodigals will come home.

**welcome for church homecoming: Everyone Leads** Chris Lowney, 2017-04-04 Drawing on decades of leadership experience, bestselling author Chris Lowney examines the profound challenges facing the global Catholic Church, shares real-life stories of Catholics making a difference, and offers practical suggestions for change. The Catholic Church is suffering its worst decline in five centuries—a precipitous slide that will turn catastrophic unless reversed by fundamental changes in strategy, culture, and leadership style. Even the inspiring leadership of Pope Francis will not reverse the slide without a strategy for action, from the grassroots through the hierarchy. Chris Lowney, a former Jesuit seminarian and business executive who now chairs one of the world's largest Catholic ministries, not only outlines the challenges but also maps the path forward in *Everyone Leads*. After a bracing review of the church's global struggles—from clergy shortages to declining participation—Lowney draws on two decades of change-management experience to propose an EASTeR strategy of five transformational principles: be entrepreneurial, be accountable, serve, transform, and reach out. These five ideas can catalyze profound change in every parish, in how bishops think, and in the roles laypeople play in leading the church. Filled with real-life examples, *Everyone Leads* outlines strategies that anyone can employ—from the pews to the pulpit—to strengthen the church. As a former business executive who lectures globally about leadership, Lowney speaks credibly about the institution's challenges and potential. And, as chair of one of Catholicism's largest hospital systems, he writes “from within” as a Catholic who loves his church and is committed to seeing it flourish.

**welcome for church homecoming: Open Doors and Closed Windows of the First Baptist Church of Reidsville, North Carolina**, 1948

**welcome for church homecoming: *Welcoming the Word in Year C*** Verna Holyhead, 2006 Weekly selections on the Sunday lectionary for Year C. The Old and New Testament readings are tied to contemporary concerns, and the reflections are infused with the spirit of the Rule of St Benedict. A sourcebook for pastoral ministry or a reference for personal or communal reflection.

**welcome for church homecoming: *Michigan Christian Advocate***, 1919

**welcome for church homecoming: Jubilee** Toni Tipton-Martin, 2019-11-05 “A celebration of African American cuisine right now, in all of its abundance and variety.”—Tejal Rao, The New York Times JAMES BEARD AWARD WINNER • IACP AWARD WINNER • IACP BOOK OF THE YEAR TONI TIPTON-MARTIN NAMED THE 2021 JULIA CHILD AWARD RECIPIENT AND THE 2025 WINNER OF THE JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD A BEST COOKBOOK OF THE YEAR: The New York Times Book Review, The New Yorker, NPR, Chicago Tribune, The Atlantic, BuzzFeed, Food52 Throughout her career, Toni Tipton-Martin has shed new light on the history, breadth, and depth of African American cuisine. She's introduced us to black cooks, some long forgotten, who established much of what's considered to be our national cuisine. After all, if

Thomas Jefferson introduced French haute cuisine to this country, who do you think actually cooked it? In *Jubilee*, Tipton-Martin brings these masters into our kitchens. Through recipes and stories, we cook along with these pioneering figures, from enslaved chefs to middle- and upper-class writers and entrepreneurs. With more than 100 recipes, from classics such as Sweet Potato Biscuits, Seafood Gumbo, Buttermilk Fried Chicken, and Pecan Pie with Bourbon to lesser-known but even more decadent dishes like Bourbon & Apple Hot Toddlies, Spoon Bread, and Baked Ham Glazed with Champagne, *Jubilee* presents techniques, ingredients, and dishes that show the roots of African American cooking—deeply beautiful, culturally diverse, fit for celebration. Praise for *Jubilee* “There are precious few feelings as nice as one that comes from falling in love with a cookbook. . . . New techniques, new flavors, new narratives—everything so thrilling you want to make the recipes over and over again . . . this has been my experience with Toni Tipton-Martin’s *Jubilee*.”—Sam Sifton, *The New York Times* “Despite their deep roots, the recipes—even the oldest ones—feel fresh and modern, a testament to the essentiality of African-American gastronomy to all of American cuisine.”—*The New Yorker* “*Jubilee* is part-essential history lesson, part-brilliantly researched culinary artifact, and wholly functional, not to mention deeply delicious.”—*Kitchn* “Tipton-Martin has given us the gift of a clear view of the generosity of the black hands that have flavored and shaped American cuisine for over two centuries.”—*Taste*

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**welcome for church homecoming:** *Beyond the Children's Corner* Margaret Pritchard

Houston, 2020-08-30 This is a practical handbook for churches on how to become more welcoming

to children and families in worship. It is designed to encourage PCCs and ministry teams to reflect on the spiritual needs of children, the pastoral needs of families, and how to remove barriers and manage change effectively.

**welcome for church homecoming: What You Do in the Dark** Deborah Marbury, 2002-05-27  
The 2nd Edition of the San Diego Poetry Annual continues the tradition of celebrating the talent, diversity and perseverance of poets who live, study, work or were born in San Diego County. Also included -- a special section of poems written during the Idyllwild Arts summer poetry program, 2007. Copies of this and the inaugural edition are donated in the name of contributing poets to public and college libraries throughout San Diego

**welcome for church homecoming:** *The Wisconsin Presbyterian*, 1924

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