

Midwest Baptist Association – Block Party Training

9:15 Welcome – overview & prayer:

9:30 Transformation Stories – sharing the evangelistic thread running through the lives of people as they experience the impact of servant evangelism and special events as trust relationships were built and the Gospel was communicated in word & deed

9:45 Building an Evangelistic Vision: Intentional & Strategic

Think about a comprehensive outreach process: that involves everyone!!

1. Praying –
 - a. actively praying for the lost
 - b. prayerwalking neighbourhoods
 - c. continually discover lost people & examine their needs
2. Asking – inviting/bringing lost friends & family
 - a. create environments for evangelism to take place with a variety of ways for people to be involved
 - b. do intentionally evangelistic events
 - c. provide “open doors” and “entry points” for new people to take steps toward Christ & the church
3. Sharing – telling His story and your story of salvation
 - a. increase the number of times people hear a complete gospel presentation
 - b. provide for Scripture distribution in every person’s heart language
 - c. provide training for a variety of evangelism approaches (relational, servant, personal testimony, Just Walk across the room, Action-52)
 - d. give effective invitations when lost people are gathered

Casting a wider net = outreach events can be “doors of entry” to bring others to the Lord and into the church

10:00 The Who, What, Why, When & How of a Block Party Event:

Who can use the Block Party Trailer?

Any CNBC church or related ministry who intends to use it for evangelistic/community transformation purposes. Must receive initial orientation for proper packing and use of equipment.

What is a Block Party? – an intentional outreach event designed to connect Christians with the unchurched community in a fun, relational and effective way; as part of an overall evangelism strategy

Why host a Block Party?

- communicate to our community that we care and that our church is willing to meet them where they are engage more of our people in some type of outreach
- provide a fun and comfortable environment where our people can build trust relationships with the unchurched community
- make evangelism fun and bring down some of the “walls” between the church and the community; build a bridge

When? - Possible Uses of the Block Party Trailer:

- Community festival
- VBS promotion/conclusion
- Neighbourhood gathering
- Fall Festival
- Father’s Day Carnival
- Easter Party
- Christmas Celebration
- Summer Block Party
- Exploration of new communities/neighbourhoods
- Church Planting

How do you host a successful Block Party?

Qualities of a Successful Block Party Event:

1. Intentionally evangelistic – part of your overall outreach vision; count conversations and be prepared to share; give out Bibles; tracts; simple invite cards; brief testimony; play Christian music; intentional registration process for effective follow-up; what are some “next steps” for your guests?
2. Organized – have a plan
3. Intimate – relational; engage in conversations; listen to their stories;
4. Interesting – music; creative; interactive; use your talents; involve community organizations (fire truck; military; classic cars; yard sale; police fingerprint i.d. for children)
5. Contextual – appropriate for the audience
6. Bathed in Prayer – prayer walking

10:30 BREAK

10:45 Things to Consider:

1. Set a date & location and reserve the BPT
2. Plan the event; What will it look like? Decide on additional games, face painting, clowns, craft, etc.
3. Promote this FREE event – free advertising; door hangers; invite cards;
4. Get door prizes to be given away (ipod, gift baskets, movie tickets, etc). Delivering prizes to people that won provides a great opportunity to visit.

5. Registration Process is vital for effective follow-up. Build a bridge by having everyone fill out a simple guest card as they “enter” the event (name, address, phone number, email, kids names & ages; “I’d like more information about the church” and “I’d like to learn more about becoming a Christian.” Then give them 6 tickets for each person to use at every game, activity, food station.
6. Provide every family with a “goody bag” that may include a New Testament, gospel tract, Christian book, information about the church, invitation to a new message series or special event/VBS
7. Develop a Food Plan & budget (hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, etc.)
8. Music (need ipod or cd player to plug into sound system); play upbeat music
9. Enlist volunteers for Registration Table, 2 for each game & bouncer, 2 for each food item, minglers
10. Plan Follow-up with an email/visit/phone call to every person who registered

What is in the Trailer? (Color Handout)

How many leaders will I need? – everyone!

- **Event Coordinator**
- **Food Team Leader**
- **Program/Activity Leader**
- **Promotion Leader**
- **Prayer Leader**
- **Greeters/Registration Team Leader**
- **Sound System – Music & Emcee**
- **Everyone for Set-up and Take-down**

How do I reserve the BPT?

- Step 1 Visit the website at www.mbablockpartytrailer.com and check the calendar to see if the desired dates are available
- Step 2 Submit the “Request to Reserve” form by email to mbablockpartytrailer@gmail.com
- Step 3 Wait for confirmation by email or phone that dates have been initially reserved
- Step 4 Mail the completed MBA-BPT “Policies” form along with a cheque for \$150 made payable to the “Midwest Baptist Association”
- Step 5 Look at the website for further information about equipment usage and clean-up as well as additional instructions for arranging the pick-up and drop-off of the trailer.

Reservation Guidelines:

A reservation will be held for 14 days upon the receipt of a "Request to Reserve" form by email.

The signed "Policies" document and the \$150 fee must be received by the MBA within 14 days to confirm the reservation. If the application and deposit are not received within 14 days, the Trailer will be made available again on a first come, first serve basis.

The Trailer may be reserved up to 6 months in advance of the use date.

The Trailer may not be reserved more than 3 times by any one church during the peak use season (June-August)

When more than one church request the Trailer for the same date (i.e. Canada Day) there will be an effort to give fair and equal access to the Trailer

12:00 Walk everyone through the Unloading, Set-up, Operation, Clean-up, Take-down and Loading of the equipment

Have lunch with some hotdogs on the bbq and enjoy some popcorn & sno-cones