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I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness. They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

—Psalm 145 NRSV

Take a Church Tour

Members from all generations use your church building. Have you ever stopped to list the different rooms, who uses them and why? Why not celebrate this resource with a CHURCH TOUR? This would work well with the confirmation class, new members, church council...

Take a walk through and around your church building. Beforehand, ask each member of the “class” to research and be tour guide to one part of the building. In each area or room the guide can tell the rest of the class what takes place there. (Sunday school classrooms, quilting supplies, food preparation, worship, offering count...)

Or invite your congregational leaders as guides. Ask them to tell of the mission of the church that they help with (choir, food pantry, cleaning...) This is a great “early-in-the-year-get-acquainted” project. Visit the popular places like the sanctuary and fellowship hall, but don’t forget the less travelled areas like the Pastor’s office, the sacristy and the furnace room.

Make it a learning experience. Provide a map or a “bird’s eye view” of your church and get the group to label the parts.

Pray together for the work done in each area. Remember it is not the building that makes the church—it is the people and their activities. Consider singing “We Are the Church”.¹

¹ “The Avery and Marsh Song Book,” p.32, “We Are the Church,” copyright 1972, Richard K. Avery and Donald S. Marsh, Port Jervis, N.Y.

