

# New Year's Ideas and Church Planning



- **New Year's Eve Watch Night Service** – Hold a church service the night before the new year with different activities in different areas depending how big you want you such as:
  - **Moonbounce** – For smaller children if you are planning on outdoor activities.
  - **Balloon Artists** – Someone who can make hats, animals, etc. out of balloons.
  - **Board Games** – Ask people to bring their favorite board games, covering all ages. Place tables and chairs in one area (gymnasium, fellowship hall, etc.). Have a few extra games on hand to use, if necessary.
  - **Videos** – This is an important area of the church where the children could sit down and perhaps calm down. Have a variety of short Christian videos for children on hand such as Veggie Tales.
  - **Restaurant** – Set up small tables and chairs near the kitchen where adults and teens, in particular can just hang out and chat with each other.
  - **Kid's Corner** – Put out the New Year's arts and crafts material, including face paints.
  - **Sports Games** – If your church has a gymnasium, you can play some active sports games such as basketball or floor hockey. There are still many circle games and chasing games that can get rid of excess energy even if there is no sports equipment.
  - **Talent Show** – Organize a talent show that could include individual or family performances, serious or funny talents.

Preaching and then at the end of service before 12 midnight have the whole congregation on their knees praying in the New Year.
- **Music Oriented New Year's Eve Watch Night Service** – Hold a church service with all different types of worship and then at the end before 12 midnight have the whole congregation on their knees praying in the New Year.
- **Food and Fellowship New Year's Eve Watch Night Service** – Serve up some great food such as a Pancake Breakfast or any type of breakfast food after ringing in the New Year. If you don't want a full meal then simply serve snacks and beverages. This will be a great way also to start your new year with great fellowship with friends and family at church.
- **Movie or Skits New Year's Eve Watch Night Service** – Have a movie or skits for your church family to enjoy before midnight and make sure that is age appropriate for the kids also. Many church like to show movies that will help to save visitors or members who are not saved. Have prizes for the members who bring the most guests to the service such as a clock, nice calendar, daily devotional book, etc.

- **Church-Wide Talent New Year's Eve Watch Night Service** – Try your best to get every church member involved with any type of talent that might have, and have each one take a 10-15 minute slot.
- **Testimonial New Year's Eve Watch Night Service** – Have each church member testify and give their blessings from the previous year of what God has done for them. You can have the children in other rooms doing crafts, games, etc. to give them something to do.
- **Church Memory Lane New Year's Eve Watch Night Service** – Have a PowerPoint of photos and church events throughout the previous year for everyone to see and enjoy and/or you can simply have a scrapbook available also full of photos and memories of the previous year. Be sure to include all the new members of the church from the previous year.

After all the Pre-New Year's church activities, always remember that before midnight (12 a.m.) to have the entire congregation praying in the New Year.

## Have a Happy & Blessed New Year!!

