



Habitat
for Humanity®



THRIVENT®

Partners in building better futures



BRING FAITH BUILDS TO LIFE IN YOUR CONGREGATION

Church awareness and fundraising guide

Partnering with Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent in a Faith Build is an exciting way for members of your congregation to make an immediate impact where they live, work and worship. Faith Builds projects call people to leave the halls of the church to serve in the way the original apostles served.

Churches are invited to participate in Faith Builds through prayer, volunteerism, and financial support. Here are some ideas for putting faith into action to help a local family in need of simple, decent, affordable housing.

Prayer support

- Lift the Faith Builds up in prayer; pray for all persons in need of shelter.
- Put a brief article in the church newsletter and bulletin about the ministry of Habitat for Humanity and Faith Builds.

Volunteer off-site

In addition to volunteering on the build site, there are many nonconstruction activities adults and older children can participate in. For example:

- Create a display as a visual reminder of the Faith Builds project for display in your church. Update it frequently to show progress and photos of activities.
- Plan an educational workshop or social event. Work with the local Habitat office to invite members of a Habitat homeowner family to speak during the event to share how owning a home has made a difference in their lives.
- Organize children's activities:
 - Make a welcome basket or other housewarming gifts for the homeowner family.
 - Sing a song at the dedication ceremony.
 - Tour the work site and learn about sweat equity from a homeowner.
 - Decorate blocks or bricks that can be used as fundraising items.

Fundraising ideas

While the majority of funds for the Faith Builds Generosity Challenge may come from individual donations, significant funds are often raised during special events and activities. Projects like these can help keep members of the church excited and involved in the Faith Builds:

- Take a special offering or have a special pledge Sunday. (Use construction hats as offering plates.)
- Plan a social and spice it up with a Faith Builds speaker and entertainment.
- Trade treasures at a garage sale.
- Get creative with a craft show with a portion of the sales donated to the Faith Builds projects.
- “Buy a brick” event: Create a grid on a poster with a drawing of a house. Sell sections of the grid, or “bricks” and write donors’ names in the spaces.
- Hold a “2x4 Sunday”: Sell the 2x4s that you will use for construction to members of the congregation. Invite purchasers to sign the 2x4 and write encouraging messages on them.
- Organize a concert. Invite congregation members or other local artists to give a benefit concert to help raise funds for the Faith Builds projects.
- Collect aluminum cans.
- Host a bake sale or craft sale.
- Organize a group in your church to make a dinner and sell meal tickets.
- Thrivent members can apply for Thrivent Action Teams to organize fundraisers, including any of the above suggestions as well as other fundraising event ideas they may have.

... serve the Lord with all your heart.
—1 Samuel 12:19-21

Together, we can raise walls, funds and prayers to make a difference in the life of a local family who needs our help!

