



Tips for Hosting a Movie Night Featuring *The Wish... A Story of Hope, Faith and Generosity*

Why Host a Movie Night?

Jesus told parables because they were succinct and communicated a larger principle about the kingdom of God. There is power in story. Stories entertain, educate, inform and inspire us. They challenge and motivated us. We watch movies and we are moved by them. Movies make us angry, make us laugh and, sometimes, cause us to cry. A movie night is a festive way to bring your church members together outside of traditional services -- and it can double as an effective fundraiser.

Movies are a powerful and influential medium. Movies also provide an incredible outreach opportunity. People like movies; not all people like church, or at least they think they don't like church. They catch a preview of a film and are excited about it in a way they'd never imagine being excited to walk into a sanctuary. When you open a movie night for your community, you provide people with a new and compelling reason to visit a church, opening the door to conversations, new friendships, and the opportunity to share the gospel in a unique and powerful way.

Host a movie night and allow the power of a story to change and save lives in your community by learning about organ, eye and issue donation and transplantation.

How to Host a Movie Night at Your Church

1. Select your movie event date, time and theme.

Planning a movie event is a great way to host an outreach event in your church. First, select a date that allows you sufficient time (4-6 weeks) to announce your event in the church or advertise your event in the community. Second, pick a time that will maximize attendance; and third, plan your event around a theme and/or ministry (couples, youth, wellness, community outreach, etc.).

For instance, Fireproof is a great choice for a couple's date night. Courageous is perfect for a men's event.

2. Contact your Donate Life State Team Representative to support your event.

Your movie event is a great way to make a difference in your community. If you would like a Donate Life representative (<http://donatelife.net/get-involved-locally/>) to attend your movie night, call or email your State Team representative for a local contact.

3. Spread the word.

Make announcements at your church. Post an announcement in your church bulletin. Invite your members to tell their friends. Create flyers and post them in the church vestibule and throughout your church's facilities. Advertise to your community with signs or door-to-door visits. Use social media to announce your event and most importantly, ask your pastor or priest to mention the movie night during church services to encourage church members to attend.



Downloadable resources to help promote your event are available at DonateLife.net/TheWish. Contact us through the link on that page with your church movie event information/announcement and we will gladly add it to The Wish website and social media platforms.

4. Get a Site License.

Federal regulations require a Site License to show a film in a public setting (see below for more detail). A Site License gives your church permission to show the corresponding movie an unlimited number of times for up to one year. You can visit DonateLife.net/TheWish to download your free site license. Please sign the Site License and keep on file.

5. Invite the stars of the film to your movie event.

You are welcome to invite the stars and writer/director to attend your movie night event. If you would like the requirement information, please contact us through the link on DonateLife.net/TheWish. *Appearances are based on availability.*

6. Get ready.

All you really need to host a movie night is a big screen, a projector and a place for people to sit; but you can also have some fun with it! Try setting up a tent and showing the movie outside. Rent a popcorn machine or buy candy and sodas at a local wholesaler to create a concession stand. You can even donate the proceeds to support church members going on mission trips. The possibilities are limitless!

7. Maximize the impact.

After showing the movie, have your pastor lead a discussion. Suggested concepts and passages are included in the The Wish Small Group Participant's Guide which can be found on DonateLife.net/TheWish. Also, be sure and distribute The Wish Take Away Cards (which you may print in color or back & white) to encourage viewers to consider registering as a lifesaving and healing organ, eye and tissue donor.

8. Follow up.

Continue the conversation about organ, eye and tissue donation and transplantation in your church by inviting a local Donate Life representative to provide a speaker that can answer questions about donation and transplantation. Develop ministries and initiatives like an organ donor ministry, participation in National Donate Life Month (April), an annual organ donor event day, etc.

Why Do Churches Need a Site License?

We've all seen those warnings at the beginning of every movie. The FBI displays those messages as a simple reminder: if you share a movie in a way that's not allowed, you can be in a lot of trouble. The reality is that most people don't understand what is legal or illegal use of a movie. And if you plan to host a movie night at your church, this is an important thing to know.

When you buy a movie, you are entitled to use it for personal purposes only. It is illegal to share it publically or with a large group of people without proper permission. Many churches have purchased licenses that allow them to show video clips or excerpts from movies, but these licenses do not give permission to share the entire film. That's where a Site License comes in. When you acquire a Site License for a movie, it allows your church to show that movie to your congregation legally, as many times as you like. To download a copy of your FREE Site License, go to DonateLife.net/TheWish.

