

BABY BOTTLE BLESSINGS FAQs and TIPS

Great, I'm ready to start, what do I need to do?

-  Call or email us to let us know how many bottles you will need (they come 30 to a crate). Email Dawn@assurancecare.org if you need to know how many your church received last year. Our telephone number is 859.278.8469.
-  Schedule a time to pick up your bottles (*this ensures someone is available to greet you and give you your order*). Our hours are: Mon & Wed 8am – 5pm; Tues & Th 9am – 8pm; and Fri 8am – 3pm.

What's the best way to announce the Campaign to our church?

-  Have your Pastor announce from the pulpit!
-  Include ad/announcements in your weekly bulletin (Downloadable materials: <http://assuranceforlife.org/baby-bottle-blessings/>)
-  Include announcements in other church communications as well: blogs, newsletters, Facebook groups, etc.
-  Do a skit or slide show explaining how you want members to pick up, fill, and return their bottles.
-  Hang posters around the church (don't forget at the exits) to remind everyone to take and return their bottles! (We have posters available – just ask!)

I'm not big on public speaking, what should we share about Assurance to get people interested?

-  Our clients tell it best – show a video during service, or if you have the capability, loop the videos or ads on monitors in the hallways (check with your A/V team). You can find all sorts of videos here: <http://assuranceforlife.org/client-testimonials/>
 - If not during service, consider showing it during adult Sunday school classes or on Midweek services. Let us know if you need the video in **DVD format**.
-  Have an **Assurance Staff member come and visit** your church to share a 1st hand look at all that goes on with the help of your congregations' generous donations! Call Dawn at 859.278.8469 and we'll be happy to set up a visit!

-  We keep stats on all that God does here at Assurance – check out this slide and feel free to share the information with your church:
<http://assuranceforlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2017-Results-Slide.jpg>

How do we make sure everyone who wants a bottle gets one?

-  Of course, we all miss services from time to time, so if you have the space, please have bottles available for pick-up throughout the campaign window.
-  Many churches station volunteers outside the sanctuary to distribute them to people as they are leaving the service. Recruit some volunteers to help you do that!
-  Make it fun to grab their attention:
- Have a baby Crib outside your Sanctuary door filled with baby bottles and hand members bottles from the crib as they walk by.
 - Have the children in your children's ministry hand out the bottles to passersby (*who can resist the face of a child?*).

How can we keep people excited throughout the Campaign?

-  Set a goal for how many bottles your congregation will fill this year and remind people of that goal.
- Invite individuals to pick up additional bottles throughout the campaign
-  Hold a fun competition between ministries to see who collects the most “filled” bottles
- Perhaps some friendly competition among Sunday School classes would work with your group?
-  Weekly reminders during service or maybe a different example about how God is using Assurance to impact lives each week of the collection period would keep the effort fresh in the minds of those who took bottles.

Okay, all our bottles have been given out, now what?

-  Remind your folks that a “full” bottle could be as simple as putting a check in the bottle, could be filled with cash, filled with coins, or any combination of those options.

-  Some people feel weird about bringing back empty bottles – remind them that **even an empty bottle has value**, it's one less we'll need to replace, so please encourage them to return any bottles they take!
-  Collect the bottles – Make sure in the last weeks of the campaign to remind people of the collection date. Again, you will likely want to arrange for volunteers to station themselves in a highly visible place to collect the bottles.

We have tons of full bottles and a lot of empty ones too, what should we do?

-  Congratulations and THANK YOU – Rejoice in all you and your congregation have done in support of this work that God has given us!
-  **No need to count** – For collection during the official BBB Campaign (Mother's Day – Father's Day), all bottles can be brought to our collection location on the Monday following Father's Day (you'll receive an email prior to the Collection Date with specific details.) We will have volunteers there to receive your bottles and help unload your vehicle.
-  If your church is running the campaign at an alternate time, you can return them any day of the week during our operating hours. Please call us ahead of time, so we can be sure to have someone available to receive and unload your bottles!
-  If you need us to pick up the bottles from your location, just let us know!