

church homecoming poems

church homecoming poems are powerful expressions that celebrate the spirit of reunion, faith, and tradition within the church community. In this comprehensive article, we explore the significance of church homecoming poems, their role in fostering unity, and how they are used to commemorate milestone events. You'll discover the historical background of these poems, tips for writing your own, and a variety of themes and ideas to inspire creativity. We'll also provide examples and highlight ways poems enrich the overall homecoming experience. Whether you are seeking inspiration for a church event or wish to understand the deeper meaning behind these poetic celebrations, this guide covers all aspects. Continue reading to learn how church homecoming poems can uplift, unite, and preserve cherished memories for congregations everywhere.

- Understanding Church Homecoming Poems
- Historical Significance of Church Homecoming Events
- Popular Themes in Church Homecoming Poems
- How Church Homecoming Poems Strengthen Community Bonds
- Tips for Writing Meaningful Church Homecoming Poems
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- Incorporating Poems into Church Homecoming Celebrations
- The Lasting Impact of Church Homecoming Poetry

Understanding Church Homecoming Poems

Church homecoming poems are crafted to honor the tradition of gathering together, celebrating faith, and reconnecting with both past and present members. These poems are often read, recited, or displayed during annual homecoming services, serving as a tribute to the history, values, and enduring spirit of the church. By using poetic language, church homecoming poems evoke feelings of nostalgia, gratitude, and hope, reminding attendees of the blessings and milestones shared over time. They help encapsulate the emotional and spiritual significance of returning to one's spiritual home, making them a treasured component of church events.

Historical Significance of Church Homecoming Events

Church homecomings date back generations, especially within rural and small-town congregations. These annual gatherings were originally organized as a way to reconnect with former members, honor church founders, and celebrate the legacy of faith. The event typically includes special services, communal meals, and remembrance ceremonies. Poems became an integral part of these occasions, offering a creative medium to express collective gratitude and commemorate the journey of the church community. The tradition of church homecoming poems continues to be a meaningful way to preserve history and pass on stories of faith to new generations.

Key Elements of Church Homecoming Traditions

- Annual worship services and sermons
- Reunion of current and former congregation members
- Tributes to founding families and elders
- Shared meals and fellowship activities
- Special performances, including poetry readings
- Memorials for departed members

Popular Themes in Church Homecoming Poems

Church homecoming poems reflect a variety of themes that resonate with congregations. Common topics include gratitude for faith, remembrance of loved ones, the joy of reunion, and the importance of spiritual heritage. These poems often highlight the values of unity, tradition, and renewal, using vivid imagery and heartfelt language. By focusing on these themes, church homecoming poems help reinforce the purpose and meaning behind the celebration, ensuring that each event is both memorable and spiritually uplifting.

Examples of Frequently Used Themes

1. Thankfulness for God's guidance and blessings
2. Memories of church founders and elders

3. Reconnecting with friends and family
4. Renewed commitments to faith and service
5. Hope for the future of the church
6. Celebrating shared milestones and achievements

How Church Homecoming Poems Strengthen Community Bonds

Poetry has long been recognized as a tool for fostering connection and shared identity. Within the context of church homecoming, poems serve to unite attendees by highlighting common experiences, collective memories, and shared values. These works encourage reflection and dialogue, often sparking conversations about faith, tradition, and personal growth. Church homecoming poems can be used to welcome newcomers, honor long-standing members, and inspire everyone present to continue building a supportive and loving community.

Benefits of Including Poems in Homecoming Celebrations

- Encourages a sense of belonging and inclusion
- Offers comfort and inspiration to attendees
- Creates lasting memories associated with the event
- Honors the legacy of the church and its members
- Provides a creative outlet for expressing faith

Tips for Writing Meaningful Church Homecoming Poems

Crafting church homecoming poems requires thoughtfulness, reflection, and a deep understanding of the church's history and values. Whether you are an experienced poet or a first-time writer, there are several strategies you can use to create impactful and memorable poetry for your church's homecoming celebration. Consider the following tips to ensure your poem resonates with

your audience and captures the essence of the occasion.

Guidelines for Writing Effective Church Homecoming Poems

- Reflect on the church's history and key milestones
- Incorporate personal anecdotes and communal experiences
- Choose uplifting and inclusive language
- Use imagery and metaphors related to faith and unity
- Keep the tone heartfelt and sincere
- Consider the audience and the purpose of the event
- Edit and revise for clarity and emotional impact

Examples of Church Homecoming Poems

To provide inspiration and guidance, below are sample excerpts from church homecoming poems. Each example highlights a different theme and demonstrates how poetic language can capture the spirit of reunion and faith.

Sample Poem: "A Gathering of Hearts"

We come together, hand in hand,
On sacred ground where faith began.
Memories woven through each pew,
A tapestry of me and you.
Let gratitude and hope arise,
As we behold familiar eyes.
Our church, our home, where love is found,
United hearts on hallowed ground.

Sample Poem: “Honoring Our Heritage”

Upon these walls, stories remain,
Of every joy and heartfelt pain.
Founders’ dreams, their prayers and deeds,
Still guide us as we plant new seeds.
Today we gather, young and old,
With tales of faith yet to be told.
May we remember, honor, and strive,
To keep our church’s dream alive.

Incorporating Poems into Church Homecoming Celebrations

Integrating poetry into your church homecoming can be done in a variety of creative ways. Poems may be recited during worship services, printed in event programs, or displayed on decorative boards throughout the venue. Some churches invite members to write and share their own poems, making the celebration more interactive and personal. Poetry contests, group readings, or collaborative writing sessions can further engage the congregation and enhance the overall experience.

Creative Ways to Use Poems at Homecoming Events

- Opening or closing ceremonies
- Special readings during worship
- Inclusion in printed programs or newsletters
- Decorative displays around the church
- Collaborative writing workshops
- Poetry contests for members of all ages

The Lasting Impact of Church Homecoming Poetry

Church homecoming poems create enduring memories and contribute to the rich tapestry of church history. They serve not only as artistic expressions but also as cultural artifacts that capture the values, emotions, and aspirations of the congregation. By continuing to write, share, and preserve these poems, churches strengthen their sense of identity and provide future generations with meaningful connections to their spiritual heritage. The tradition of church homecoming poetry remains a vital and cherished part of celebrations, ensuring that the legacy of faith and unity endures.

Q&A: Trending and Relevant Questions about Church Homecoming Poems

Q: What is the purpose of church homecoming poems?

A: Church homecoming poems serve to commemorate reunions, celebrate faith, and honor the legacy of the church community. They help bring people together, evoke shared memories, and inspire gratitude and hope during homecoming events.

Q: How can I write a church homecoming poem?

A: Start by reflecting on the church's history, values, and memorable experiences. Use heartfelt language, vivid imagery, and focus on themes like unity, gratitude, and heritage. Incorporate personal stories or anecdotes for added impact.

Q: What are common themes found in church homecoming poems?

A: Common themes include thankfulness, remembrance, reunion, faith, commitment, and hope for the future. These topics help reinforce the significance of homecoming and the bonds within the church community.

Q: How are church homecoming poems typically shared?

A: Poems may be recited during worship services, printed in programs, displayed around the church, or shared in newsletters. Some churches also host poetry readings or contests as part of the celebration.

Q: Can children participate in writing church homecoming poems?

A: Yes, involving children in poem writing or readings adds a special touch to the celebration and encourages younger members to connect with church traditions.

Q: Why are poems important in church homecoming celebrations?

A: Poems provide a creative and emotional way to express the spirit of homecoming, honor history, and unify the congregation. They help make the event memorable and meaningful for all attendees.

Q: What styles of poetry are suitable for church homecoming?

A: Both traditional rhyming poems and free verse are suitable. The most important aspect is sincerity and relevance to the occasion, rather than strict adherence to a particular style.

Q: How can a church preserve its homecoming poems?

A: Churches can archive poems in annual records, publish them in commemorative booklets, or create a dedicated section on bulletin boards to keep the tradition alive and accessible.

Q: Are church homecoming poems used only during annual events?

A: While most commonly featured during annual homecomings, these poems can also be used at special anniversaries, memorials, or other significant church gatherings.

Q: What impact do church homecoming poems have on congregations?

A: These poems foster unity, promote reflection, and strengthen the church's sense of community. They help preserve traditions and instill a deeper appreciation for the shared journey of faith.

Church Homecoming Poems

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Church Homecoming Poems: Celebrating Faith and Community

Are you searching for the perfect words to capture the joy, reflection, and spiritual renewal of a church homecoming? Look no further! This post offers a collection of inspiring church homecoming poems, designed to evoke heartfelt emotions and strengthen the bonds of your faith community. We'll explore various themes, styles, and examples to help you find the perfect poem for your upcoming homecoming service, whether you're looking for something to read aloud, include in a program, or simply to reflect on privately. Let's delve into the power of poetry to celebrate this special occasion.

H2: The Significance of Homecoming in the Church

Church homecomings are more than just reunions; they are powerful celebrations of faith, fellowship, and shared history. They represent a homecoming not only to a physical building but also to a spiritual family. These events provide opportunities for:

Renewed Commitment: Homecomings reaffirm individual commitments to the church and its mission.

Community Building: They foster a sense of belonging and strengthen connections within the congregation.

Spiritual Reflection: They provide a space for personal reflection on one's spiritual journey.

Celebrating Milestones: Homecomings often coincide with anniversaries, achievements, or significant events within the church's history.

Reaching Out: They offer a chance to reconnect with former members and welcome newcomers.

H2: Types of Church Homecoming Poems

The type of poem you choose will depend on the overall tone and message you wish to convey. Consider these styles:

Traditional Hymns: Adapt existing hymns to fit the homecoming theme, focusing on verses that speak of returning to God and community.

Free Verse: This style allows for greater flexibility in expressing emotions and experiences, capturing the unique spirit of your church.

Narrative Poems: Tell a story about the history of your church or the journey of a returning member.

Acrostic Poems: Create a poem where the first letter of each line spells out a significant word, such as "Homecoming," "Faith," or "Community."

Lyrical Poems: Emphasize emotion and imagery, evoking feelings of joy, gratitude, and spiritual renewal.

H2: Examples of Church Homecoming Poems

While creating a personalized poem is ideal, here are a few examples to inspire you:

Example 1 (Free Verse):

- > The doors swing open, familiar faces gleam,
- > Years melt away, like sunlit mountain streams,
- > Voices rise in praise, a joyful, heartfelt sound,
- > Homecoming's grace, on hallowed ground.

Example 2 (Traditional Style):

- > We come this day, with hearts renewed,
- > To share in faith, a brotherhood,
- > With grateful hearts, and spirits bright,
- > We celebrate the Lord's own light.

Example 3 (Narrative Poem - excerpt):

- > From humble roots, this church did grow,
- > Through trials faced, and seeds we sowed,
- > Today we gather, side by side,
- > Our shared heritage, our joyful pride.

Remember to adapt these examples to reflect the specific history and character of your church.

H2: Writing Your Own Church Homecoming Poem

If you're feeling creative, consider writing your own poem. Here are some tips:

Identify your theme: What message do you want to convey?

Choose your style: Select a style that suits your writing skills and the tone of your homecoming.

Use vivid imagery: Paint a picture with your words, evoking emotion and memory.

Keep it concise: A shorter poem is often more impactful.

Read it aloud: This will help you identify areas for improvement in rhythm and flow.

H2: Incorporating Church Homecoming Poems into Your Service

Poems can be incorporated in several ways:

Readings: Have a member of the congregation read the poem aloud during the service.

Program inclusion: Print the poem in your homecoming program.

Projection: Project the poem onto a screen during a specific part of the service.

Musical accompaniment: Set the poem to music for a more emotional impact.

Conclusion

Church homecoming poems offer a powerful way to celebrate faith, community, and shared history. By utilizing various styles and approaches, you can craft a poem that resonates deeply with your congregation, capturing the essence of this special occasion and inspiring renewed commitment and fellowship. Let the power of poetry enrich your homecoming celebration.

FAQs

1. Where can I find more examples of church homecoming poems? You can search online for "church homecoming poems" or browse through poetry anthologies focusing on faith and community.
2. How long should a church homecoming poem be? There's no set length; aim for a length that effectively conveys your message without being overly long or short.
3. Do I need to be a poet to write a church homecoming poem? No, heartfelt sincerity and a clear message are more important than perfect poetic form.
4. Can I use a poem from another source, with proper attribution? Yes, but always obtain permission from the copyright holder and provide clear attribution.
5. What if I can't write a poem but still want to incorporate poetry into my homecoming service? You can ask a talented member of your congregation to write one, or select a pre-written poem that

aligns with your theme.

church homecoming poems: Poems for America Carmela Ciuraru, 2007-11-01 An inspiring anthology that celebrates our nation with more than one hundred of the greatest poems ever written about the landscapes, institutions, and transforming events of America. This remarkable volume commemorates our country's struggles and triumphs with poems chronicling the American experience in all its vastness, from the late seventeenth century through the present day. Alongside poems about New York, Florida, and California are descriptions of railroads, amusement parks, hotels, and road trips; scenes of rural and western life; vivid descriptions of our grandest cities; and poems that illuminate the complexity of the most shameful chapters in U.S. history, such as slavery and the oppression of Native Americans. Taken together, these poems -- whether voices of celebration or dissent -- honor the astonishing and enduring spirit of our nation. Here are classics such as The Battle Hymn of the Republic, Crossing Brooklyn Ferry, and Paul Revere's Ride; works by American masters, including Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Wallace Stevens, Marianne Moore, Langston Hughes, and Elizabeth Bishop; and lesser-known gems by important American writers, such as Ernest Hemingway's I Like Americans and Henry David Thoreau's Our Country. Also featured are poems by contemporary talents, including Richard Wilbur, Philip Levine, Adrienne Rich, Yusef Komunyakaa, Rita Dove, and Sherman Alexie. A timeless volume that traces the history of the United States through verse, Poems for America is essential for poetry lovers and for anyone who appreciates the rich and fascinating story of our nation.

church homecoming poems: New and Selected Poems Marjory Wentworth, 2014-03-14 An inspiring assortment of new and best of works by South Carolina's poet laureate New and Selected Poems includes more than fifty poems from Marjory Wentworth's previous three collections, Noticing Eden, Despite Gravity, and The Endless Repetition of an Ordinary Miracle, plus twenty-eight new poems. This collection serves as a capstone to Wentworth's tenure as South Carolina poet laureate, a title she has held since 2003. Thematically Wentworth's poems invite us to view nature as a site of reflection and healing, to consider the power of familial bonds and friendships, and to broaden our awareness of human rights and social justice. Regional settings appear throughout, indicative of Wentworth's commitment to represent her adopted home state of South Carolina in her work. She skillfully employs a variety of forms, from prose poems to sonnets to elegies to list poems, making for a rich and interesting trek through this best of collection of her poems to date. This collection includes a foreword by the poet Carol Ann Davis, author of Psalm and Atlas Hour and assistant professor of English at Fairfield University.

church homecoming poems: Ego-Tripping and Other Poems for Young People Nikki Giovanni, 1993-11-01 Insightful and fun, this collection of poetry captures the essence of the African American experience for young people.

church homecoming poems: Little Girls In Church Kathleen Norris, 2014-10-30 Although Kathleen Norris's best-selling Dakota: A Spiritual Geography has brought her to the attention of many thousands of readers, she is first and last a poet. Like Robert Frost, another poet identified with a particular landscape, she can reveal the miraculous in the ordinary, and she writes with clarity, humor, and deep sympathy for her subjects.

church homecoming poems: Poems of the American South David Biespiel, 2014-08-05 This one-of-a-kind collection of poems about the American South ranges over four centuries of its dramatic history. The arc of poetry of the South, from slave songs to Confederate hymns to Civil War ballads, from Reconstruction turmoil to the Agrarian movement to the dazzling poetry of the New South, is richly varied and historically vibrant. No other region of the United States has been as mythologized as the South, nor contained as many fascinating, beguiling, and sometimes infuriating contradictions. Poems of the American South includes poems both by Southerners and by famous observers of the South who hailed from elsewhere. These range from Herman Melville, Walt Whitman, Edgar Allan Poe, and Francis Scott Key through Langston Hughes, Robert Penn Warren,

Wallace Stevens, Elizabeth Bishop, James Dickey, and Donald Justice, and include a host of living poets as well: Wendell Berry, Rita Dove, Sandra Cisneros, Yusef Komunyakaa, Naomi Shihab Nye, C. D. Wright, Natasha Trethewey, and many more. Organized thematically, the anthology places poems from past centuries in fruitful dialogue with a diverse array of modern voices who are redefining the South with a verve that is reinvigorating American poetry as a whole.

church homecoming poems: *Why I Wrote This Poem* William Walsh, 2022-12-20 An anthology of a different sort, this volume presents a representative sample of contemporary American poems in 2023, with a road map of their origins. Bringing a diversity of styles and sensibilities, 62 poets from across the United States--some well known, some up-and-coming--illuminate their craft. Each poet contributes one poem, accompanied by an essay discussing their creative process and how the verse came to fruition.

church homecoming poems: *Run to the Tomb* , 2016-03 This story-telling anthem distinctly captures the despondency surrounding the crucified Savior. A soulful gospel solo and lively music help portray the disciples' excitement when they realize that Jesus is indeed alive. O What a Happy Day!

church homecoming poems: *The Oxford Illustrated Book of American Children's Poems* Donald Hall, 1999 An anthology of American poems, is arranged chronologically, from colonial alphabet rhymes to Native American cradle songs to contemporary poems. 50 illustrations, 20 in color.

church homecoming poems: *Favorite Poet's Poems 2010* Poets World-Wide, 2010-05-26 This book includes some wonderful poetic works both in content and form, that is full of variety and much diversity of thought that poets get just through living, loving, caring and by sharing their feelings. Inside the pages you will see much spirituality expressed with good moral values to follow, included are many purposely written poems for children, so aimed to give guidance whilst delightedly reading. Thus this great 2010 book is for all ages to read, to be greatly moved by and hopefully be guided into finding the peace of heart that comes with the true loving of each other!.

church homecoming poems: *Making Tracks for Jesus* P. A. Cooks, 2008-02-19 Making Tracks for Jesus is a completely, integrated, inspirational-centered approach to releasing the God given potential trapped within you. If you have been frustrated by your dreams, ideas and visions, this book will activate your hidden treasures and ignite the wheels of your spiritual productivity. It will release a path to personal fulfillment, purpose and efficiency. This book imposes an array of thoughts that inspires one to be close to family and loved ones. It is a compilation of short stories and poems about life's tribulation. Furthermore, this book contains salutations, addresses for special occasions, annual days, spirited welcomes and responses with general presentations and introductions. A 'must have' for ministers, leaders, church workers, libraries, speakers, and followers of Christ. This author has written this book from his past experiences and involvements with a consortium of churches from Louisiana to California. These inspirational works can be useful to those who never tire in kingdom building to bring forward God's work.

church homecoming poems: *Homecoming* Sue Ellen Frye, 2008-06-30 You are invited to Homecoming at Bethel Baptist Church in Shadyside, NC. The service promises an inspiring sermon and unexpected comedy. Get ready to enjoy a covered dish meal and to learn some of the cooks recipes. After Homecoming, meet Estelle who sees a Naked Man in a distant yard. Next observe a beekeeper and his wife who care for The Last Swarm and spend a morning with Constance who insists on perfection in Still Life. Finally travel with two retirees who downsize and learn when to let go in Grannys Bowling Ball. EXCERPT FROM Homecoming Loretta Wiseman moved the coconut cake one more time. It took up almost a whole shelf in the refrigerator. Thank goodness tomorrow is Homecoming Sunday, she thought. I won't have to shift the milk carton and tea pitcher around this Tupperware cake holder anymore. Folks at Bethel Baptist looked forward to Loretta's coconut cake on Homecoming Sunday. Tuesday night she had mixed the shredded coconut, sugar, and sour cream. On Wednesday she made the cake layers and stacked them with the coconut filling. Then, it was a four-day wait. Keeping her husband Luke away from the cake was almost as much trouble as

making room for it in the refrigerator. Loretta pulled a package of Mom & Pops country ham from behind the Tupperware cake cover. She balanced it on a carton of eggs in her right hand and closed the refrigerator. Loretta had worked at The Posy Patch until noon. Saturday was usually her day off, but there was a big funeral at the Presbyterian Church tomorrow. She had spent the morning making the casket spray of red roses and baby's breath. It was one of the biggest ones she had ever done. Loretta filled a pot with water and placed it on the large rear burner of her aging electric stove. She punched the high button. The eggs could boil while the ham was frying. Tomorrow morning she would get up early to boil the eggs, bake biscuits for the ham, and cook two packages of lima beans she had frozen back in July. Mandy, her daughter, would be coming tomorrow morning with her fruit salad. Mandy lived in Winston-Salem with her boyfriend Richard. Loretta and Luke liked Richard, a Wake Forest Law School graduate, but they did not approve of Mandy living with him. Four years ago when Mandy told her parents she was moving into Richard's new house, Loretta and Luke had raised a fuss. It was worse than when Mandy decided to transfer from a small Baptist college to the University in Chapel Hill. That university was where she picked up so many of her liberal ideas. Mandy came home telling Loretta and Luke which wine to drink with chicken, pork, or beef. Iced tea or strong coffee had always been good enough for them. She talked about abortion rights, women's rights, and gay rights. Luke and Loretta thought she sounded like a leftist. Their daughter did have a good paying job thanks to the interview her college arranged with a bank. Until she landed that position, Mandy had vowed she would go to New York City to find a job. Loretta and Luke were thankful their only child did not end up in the North. Winston-Salem was only an hour and a half away. Mandy had not spent a night under her parents' roof in four years. Luke had made it clear to his daughter she would not share a bed in his house with a man who was not her husband. You're twenty-three. Why don't you get married? he had asked her. We're not ready. We want to make sure this'll work. Mandy had explained. As Loretta fried ham for her biscuits, she thought of her daughter's words. She was past being angry and hurt with Mandy. But she really didn't understand today's young people. Seemed like they were not ready to face the real world. The phone rang and interrupted her thoughts. She glanced at the stove clock and saw its hands at 5:30. Luke's calling to find out what's for supper, thought Loretta. Her hands ached. He'd have to be happy with a BLT tonight. He could save his appetite for Homecoming. Hello, Loretta said as she

church homecoming poems: Word in the Wilderness Malcolm Guite, 2014-12-09 For every day from Shrove Tuesday to Easter Day, the bestselling poet Malcolm Guite chooses a favourite poem from across the Christian spiritual and English literary traditions and offers incisive reflections on it. A scholar of poetry and a renowned poet himself, his knowledge is deep and wide and he offers readers a soul-food feast for Lent.

church homecoming poems: Tell It Again Larry Caylor, 2012-06-25 A Collection of Poems, Musings and Children's Stories

church homecoming poems: How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place (from "Requiem") Johannes Brahms, Billie Nastelin, Organ and piano duet teams will appreciate Billie Nastelin's skillful arrangement of the beautiful How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place from the Brahms Requiem. Each player has opportunities with both melody and accompaniment, and congregations and audiences will request this over and over. Two copies of the music are included. Also arranged for organ/piano duet by Nastelin: And the Glory of the Lord, from Messiah (GOPD9901),

church homecoming poems: Chasing God, Serving Man Tommy Tenney, 2001 This guide is distinctively designed to help the reader develop the principles set forth in the book. Explore further, practical ways of balancing worship to the Lord with service to fellow man.

church homecoming poems: Children and Youth Say So! G. Chambers, 2006-08 Skits, recitations, and poetry for Black History month, Kwanzaa, and other celebrations in the church--Cover.

church homecoming poems: Jacqueline's Poems, "I Just Called to Say I Love You" Jacqueline J. Howard, 2009-05

church homecoming poems: The Singing Bowl Malcolm Guite, 2013-10-25 Malcolm Guite's

eagerly awaited second poetry collection 'The Singing Bowl' takes its name from the breathtakingly beautiful opening poem, a sonnet which connects poetry and prayer. It includes poems that seek beauty and transfiguration in contemporary life; sonnets inspired by Francis and other outstanding saints; poems centred on love (which might be used at weddings), others on parting and mortality (which might be used at funerals). A further group, [Jamming your Machine], searches for the life of the spirit in the midst of the modern era and includes an ode to an iPhone.

church homecoming poems: The Poetry Connection Kinereth D. Gensler, Nina Nyhart, 1978 Poems that are meant to stimulate children's writing.

church homecoming poems: The Poet X Elizabeth Acevedo, 2018-03-06 Winner of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, the Michael L. Printz Award, and the Pura Belpré Award! Fans of Jacqueline Woodson, Meg Medina, and Jason Reynolds will fall hard for this astonishing New York Times-bestselling novel-in-verse by an award-winning slam poet, about an Afro-Latina heroine who tells her story with blazing words and powerful truth. Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers—especially after she catches feelings for a boy in her bio class named Aman, who her family can never know about. With Mami's determination to force her daughter to obey the laws of the church, Xiomara understands that her thoughts are best kept to herself. So when she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she doesn't know how she could ever attend without her mami finding out. But she still can't stop thinking about performing her poems. Because in the face of a world that may not want to hear her, Xiomara refuses to be silent. "Crackles with energy and snaps with authenticity and voice." —Justina Ireland, author of Dread Nation "An incredibly potent debut." —Jason Reynolds, author of the National Book Award Finalist Ghost "Acevedo has amplified the voices of girls en el barrio who are equal parts goddess, saint, warrior, and hero." —Ibi Zoboi, author of American Street This young adult novel, a selection of the Schomburg Center's Black Liberation Reading List, is an excellent choice for accelerated tween readers in grades 6 to 8. Plus don't miss Elizabeth Acevedo's With the Fire on High and Clap When You Land!

church homecoming poems: How To Boost Your Church Attendance Jack Hyles, 2023-05-01 In How to Boost Your Church Attendance, you'll find an outline that helped him as he worked to reach Hammond, IN through First Baptist Church. The methods and practices in this book are proven and can help your church grow.

church homecoming poems: Waiting on the Word Malcolm Guite, 2015-08-31 For every day from Advent Sunday to Christmas Day and beyond, the bestselling poet Malcolm Guite chooses a favourite poem from across the Christian spiritual and English literary traditions and offers incisive seasonal reflections on it. A scholar of poetry as well as a renowned poet himself, his knowledge is deep and wide and he offers readers a soul-food feast for Advent. Among the classic writers he includes are: George Herbert, John Donne, Milton, Tennyson, and Christina Rossetti, as well as contemporary poets like Scott Cairns, Luci Shaw, and Grevel Lindop. He also includes a selection of his own highly praised work.

church homecoming poems: Something Told the Wild Geese Rachel Field, 2018-04-09 Rachel Field an American novelist, poet, and children's fiction writer. Who is best known for the Newbery Award-winning Hitty, Her First Hundred Years, now has a newly completed title to add to her list of works, Something Told The Wild Geese. a new and fully illustrated children's book based on the poem written by Rachel field.

church homecoming poems: Poetry and Prayer Francesca Bugliani Knox, John Took, 2016-03-03 Interdisciplinary and ecumenical in scope, Poetry and Prayer offers theoretical discussion on the profound connection between poetic inspiration and prayer as well as reflection on the work of individual writers and the traditions within which they stand. An international range of established and new scholars in literary studies and theology offer unique contributions to the

neglected study of poetry in relation to prayer. Part I addresses the relationship of prayer and poetry. Parts II and III consider these and related ideas from the point of view of their implementation in a range of different authors and traditions, offering case studies from, for example, the Bible, Dante, Shakespeare and Herbert, as well as twentieth-century poets such as Thomas Merton, Denise Levertov, W.H. Auden and R.S. Thomas.

church homecoming poems: Proverbs from the Poet Preacher Ralph Vile, 2008-12 Just as the biblical book of Proverbs reveals the wisdom of an ancient king of Israel who dedicated himself to Jehovah in his youth, so too this book presents the wit and wisdom of a modern school teacher and church leader who committed himself to Christ at the age of seven. Compiled, arranged, and edited by Ralph Vile's eldest son, John, this book contains some 2,500 of Ralph's aphorisms from a fifty-year period, arranged under more than 200 topics covering the range of practical and spiritual living. A unique mix of universal truths and deeply held personal opinions from a man with a good sense of humor who loves both rhymes and paradoxical word plays, this book will amuse, challenge, and inspire general readers as it provides insights, illustrations, and reflections for pastors and speakers. RALPH VILE has spent most of his life in Luray, Virginia in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. Born in Colonial Beach, Virginia and committing his life to God at the age of seven, Ralph served in the U.S. Navy and attended college where he met his wife Joanna. After brief service on the mission field in Costa Rica, the couple returned with their growing family to Virginia. There they began teaching in public schools as they raised five children and two grandchildren; furthered their educations; and served God through music, teaching, and in other leadership capacities at the Mt. Carmel Regular Baptist Church. Ralph has been writing poems, some of which have been collected in Xulon's *We Are His Poets* (the first volume of *Valley Verses*) and *Let the Bells Ring Out on Christmas Morning*, and proverbs for more than fifty years.

church homecoming poems: Knoxville, Tennessee Nikki Giovanni, 1994 Describes the joys of summer spent with family in Knoxville: eating vegetables right from the garden, going to church picnics, and walking in the mountains.

church homecoming poems: Amazing Peace Maya Angelou, 2010-11-03 This dazzling Christmas poem by Maya Angelou is powerful and inspiring for people of all faiths. In this beautiful, deeply moving poem, Maya Angelou inspires us to embrace the peace and promise of Christmas, so that hope and love can once again light up our holidays and the world. "Angels and Mortals, Believers and Nonbelievers, look heavenward," she writes, "and speak the word aloud. Peace." Read by the poet at the lighting of the National Christmas Tree at the White House on December 1, 2005, Maya Angelou's celebration of the "Glad Season" is a radiant affirmation of the goodness of life.

church homecoming poems: Parable and Paradox Malcolm Guite, 2016-05-27 Since the publication of the bestselling *Sounding the Seasons*, Malcolm Guite has repeatedly been asked for more sonnets. This new collection offers a sequence of 50 sonnets that focus on many passages in the Gospels: the Beatitudes, parables and miracles, teachings on the Kingdom, and the 'hard sayings' - Jesus' challenging demands with which we wrestle. In addition this collection includes: •A sequence of seven sonnets on 'The Wilderness', exploring mysterious stories of divine encounter such as Jacob's wrestling with the angel. •Poetic reflections on music, hospitality and ecology. •Seven short poems celebrating the days of creation. •A biblical index pairing the poems with scripture readings for use in worship.

church homecoming poems: God Has a Name John Mark Comer, 2024-10-15 What you believe about God sets the foundation of the person you will become. In *God Has a Name*, pastor and New York Times bestselling author John Mark Comer invites you to rethink many of the prevalent myths and misconceptions about God and weigh them against what God actually tells us about himself. After all, what you believe about God will ultimately shape the type of person you become. We all live at the mercy of our ideas, and nowhere is this more true than our ideas about God. The problem is many of our ideas about God are wrong. Not all wrong, but wrong enough to form our souls in detrimental and disheartening ways. *God Has a Name* is a simple yet profound guide to understanding God in a new light-focusing on what God says about himself in the Bible. This one

shift has the potential to radically alter how you relate to God, not as a doctrine, but as a relational being who responds to you in an elastic, back-and-forth way. John Mark Comer takes you line by line through Exodus 34:6-8--Yahweh's self-revelation on Mount Sinai, one of the most quoted passages in the Bible. Along the way, Comer addresses some of the most profound questions he came across as he studied these noted lines in Exodus, including: Why do we feel this gap between us and God? Could it be that a lot of what we think about God is wrong? Not all wrong, but wrong enough to mess up how we relate to him? What if our God is really a projection of our own identity, ideas, and desires? What if the real God is different, but far better than we could ever imagine? No matter where you are in your spiritual journey, God Has a Name invites you to step into a fresh and biblically rooted vision of who God is that has the potential to alter your life with God and shape who you become.

church homecoming poems: *Best Poems of 1995* Cynthia A. Stevens, Caroline Sullivan, 1995

church homecoming poems: *In a Prominent Bar in Secaucus* X. J. Kennedy, 2007-09 2008 American Library Association Notable Book in Poetry For more than half a century, readers and listeners have taken special pleasure in the poetry of X. J. Kennedy. In *In a Prominent Bar in Secaucus* is an ample gathering of his best work: memorable songs, startling lyrics, poems that tell poignant stories, character studies that vie with those of Edwin Arlington Robinson. A master of verbal music, Kennedy has long been praised for his wit and humor; as this collection reveals, many of his poems also reach surprising depths and heights. Donald Hall comments, many of Kennedy's poems are wit itself. His wit is his way of understanding. No one else writing is capable of the effects in which Kennedy specializes. This book skims the cream from several slim volumes and six past collections including the prize-winning *Nude Descending a Staircase*, *Cross Ties*, and *The Lords of Misrule*. It restores to print over fifty poems unavailable for decades and adds more than two dozen new poems collected for the first time. Kennedy has long occupied a unique place in American poetry; In *a Prominent Bar in Secaucus* now offers the first comprehensive collection to span his entire career.

church homecoming poems: *The English River* Virginia Astley, 2018 Virginia Astley has been a much admired songwriter and musician since the 1980s, known for her engaging lyrics as well as for her melodious style. 'The English River' is her first book-length poetry collection, showing many new sides to this multi-talented artist: as poet, nature writer, storyteller and photographer.

church homecoming poems: *Poems and Prose* Georg Trakl, 2005 The historical archives of Elizabeth Hawley-for more than 40 years the meticulous chronicler of mountaineering expeditions in Nepal-are now available on this searchable CD.

church homecoming poems: *St Peter-On-The-Wall* Johanna Dale, 2023-05-15 The Chapel of St Peter-on-the-Wall, built on the ruins of a Roman fort, dates from the mid-seventh century and is one of the oldest largely intact churches in England. It stands in splendid isolation on the shoreline at the mouth of the Blackwater Estuary in Essex, where the land meets and interpenetrates with the sea and the sky. This book brings together contributors from across the arts, humanities and social sciences to uncover the pre-modern contexts and modern resonances of this medieval building and its landscape setting. The impetus for this collection was the recently published designs for a new nuclear power station at Bradwell on Sea, which, if built, would have a significant impact on the chapel and its landscape setting. *St Peter-on-the-Wall* highlights the multiple ways in which the chapel and landscape are historically and archaeologically significant, while also drawing attention to the modern importance of Bradwell as a place of Christian worship, of sanctuary and of cultural production. In analysing the significance of the chapel and surrounding landscape over more than a thousand years, this collection additionally contributes to wider debates about the relationship between space and place, and particularly the interfaces between both medieval and modern cultures and also heritage and the natural environment.

church homecoming poems: *Bach's Architecture of Gratitude* James Crooks, 2024-05-14 Every lover of music finds themselves, at privileged moments, in ecstasy – certain that what they are hearing has captured, somehow, an incontrovertible truth. In *Bach's Architecture of Gratitude* James Crooks explores this profound aesthetic experience in a case study of J.S. Bach's Mass in B Minor –

widely considered among the greatest works of the western choral canon. The book begins with an investigation of compositional principles – of what we might call the mass’s musical architecture. Crooks argues that in its cathedral-like structure, Bach gives us a detailed map of the spiritual journey it triggers. This journey culminates in our apprehension of the world as a gift. And that means, in turn, that the mode of knowing appropriate to its musical ecstasy is gratitude. In the gratitude of aesthetic experience, we learn something crucial about the genuine nature of our own identity, our relations with others, and the character of the things around us. Bach’s genius lies in his capacity to frame these lessons in the mass’s choruses, solos, and duets. Spotlighting the wisdom embedded in gratitude, Bach’s *Architecture of Gratitude* celebrates music as a pathway to understanding our deepest selves and our intimacy with the world.

church homecoming poems: In Search of Singularity Joanna Krenz, 2022-08-22 In *In Search of Singularity* introduces a new “comparative” methodology that seeks to understand how the interplay of paired texts creates meaning in new, transcultural contexts. Bringing the worlds of contemporary Polish and Chinese poetry since 1989 into conversation with one another, Joanna Krenz applies the concept of singularity to draw out resonances and intersections between these two discourses and shows how they have responded to intertwined historical and political trajectories and a new reality beyond the human. Drawing on developments such as AI poetry and ecopoetry, Krenz makes the case for a fresh approach to comparative poetry studies that takes into account new forms of poetic expression and probes into alternative grammars of understanding.

church homecoming poems: *Robert Morgan* Robert M. West, Jesse Graves, 2022-06-07 For more than fifty years Robert Morgan has brought to life the landscape, history and culture of the Southern Appalachia of his youth. In 30 acclaimed volumes, including poetry, short story collections, novels and nonfiction prose, he has celebrated an often marginalized region. His many honors include four NEA Fellowships, a Guggenheim Fellowship and an award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, as well as television appearances (*The Best American Poetry: New Stories from the South*, *Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards*). This first book on Morgan collects appreciations and analyses by some of his most dedicated readers, including fellow poets, authors, critics and scholars. An unpublished interview with him is included, along with an essay by him on the importance of sense of place, and a bibliography of publications by and about him.

church homecoming poems: Introduction to African American Studies Talmadge Anderson, James Benjamin Stewart, 2007 There is an ongoing debate as to whether African American Studies is a discipline, or multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary field. Some scholars assert that African American Studies use a well-defined common approach in examining history, politics, and the family in the same way as scholars in the disciplines of economics, sociology, and political science. Other scholars consider African American Studies multidisciplinary, a field somewhat comparable to the field of education in which scholars employ a variety of disciplinary lenses--be they anthropological, psychological, historical, etc., --to study the African world experience. In this model the boundaries between traditional disciplines are accepted, and researches in African American Studies simply conduct discipline based an analysis of particular topics. Finally, another group of scholars insists that African American Studies is interdisciplinary, an enterprise that generates distinctive analyses by combining perspectives from d

church homecoming poems: *The Vintage Book of African American Poetry* Michael S. Harper, Anthony Walton, 2012-02-01 In *The Vintage Book of African American Poetry*, editors Michael S. Harper and Anthony Walton present the definitive collection of black verse in the United States--200 years of vision, struggle, power, beauty, and triumph from 52 outstanding poets. From the neoclassical stylings of slave-born Phillis Wheatley to the wistful lyricism of Paul Lawrence Dunbar . . . the rigorous wisdom of Gwendolyn Brooks...the chiseled modernism of Robert Hayden...the extraordinary prosody of Sterling A. Brown...the breathtaking, expansive narratives of Rita Dove...the plaintive rhapsodies of an imprisoned Elderidge Knight . . . The postmodern artistry of Yusef Komunyakaa. Here, too, is a landmark exploration of lesser-known artists whose efforts birthed the Harlem Renaissance and the Black Arts movements--and changed forever our national

literature and the course of America itself. Meticulously researched, thoughtfully structured, The Vintage Book of African-American Poetry is a collection of inestimable value to students, educators, and all those interested in the ever-evolving tradition that is American poetry.

church homecoming poems: *Jennings Co, in - Pictorial* , 1999-06-15

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