

Other Ideas

- ◆ T-shirts and reunions are fun. Consider having one of the families, or participants, create a graphic design that you have pre-printed on shirts. Or make iron-on decals and have shirt-making be one of your reunion activities.
- ◆ If this is a large group gathering, have name tags that are colored coded by family groupings.
- ◆ Set up a photo display with lots of old photos. Let participants guess who's who.
- ◆ Create a "message of love" board and invite participants to share words of thanks and appreciation. "Post-it" work great if you are indoors but not outdoors. Try stringing a clothes line against a wall and have people hang their notes on the clothes line. Use bright painted clothes pins.
- ◆ Appoint an official photographer to be sure you get photos of everyone. If your reunion extends beyond a one day event, do a power point/ slide show at your closing. Take a large group photo and send a copy to everyone after the event.
- ◆ A talent show would make for a fun evening program. Pack extra props that might be used in skits and encourage participants to bring musical instruments.

A Blessing...

A blessing is a thank you,
a wish, a dream,
a message of hope,
an acknowledgement
of joys and sorrows,
a celebration, a passing of time,
a gathering of people and
thoughts, a reflection,
a time to be still,
a time to jump with joy,
a time of quiet meditation,
a gift of love and a prayer.

**God's grace to you as you
share this blessing.**

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**A Blessing
for Reunions**

*We gather to
remember, honor and
renew relationships.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

If in a group, share in reading.

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

These are the happenings of our lives, those we share with family, with friends and co-workers. These are the experiences and the people who help us shape and define who we are.

Creator God, we thank you for the gift of those who walk the varied paths of lives with us. Amen.

Deuteronomy 32:1

“Remember the days of old, consider the days long past. Ask your father and he will inform you, your elders, and they will tell you.”

Deuteronomy 32:1

We love to remember, especially the good times, and tend to put our own spin on the past. It is, therefore, helpful to listen to the memories of others, both those younger and those older than we are, for that is how we grow.

Faithful God, our memories are gifts to our future. As you are part of our memory, so you will be there for our future as we laugh and weep, mourn and dance and love along with these with whom we have shared our lives. Amen.

1ST Peter 2:17

“Honor everyone.”

1ST Peter 2:17

There can be no healing, no reconciliation, no growth without respect and honor for those with whom we share our time and our life.

God of Peace, we are ever grateful for the honor you pay us. Help us to extend that honor to all those around us. Amen.

Hebrews 13:1

“Let mutual love continue.”

Hebrews 13:1

The greatest gift we can give, the greatest gift we can receive, is love.

Loving God, you are the source of love for you first loved us. Help us to live in gratitude for your love, for the love of others, and for the ability to love. Amen.