Summary of Common Evangelism Solutions for Orthodox Churches

- **Community Presence**
  Events like blood drives, medical outreach, and participation in local festivals help churches become visible and valuable contributors to their local neighborhoods.
- **Parish Culture and Hospitality**
  A shift in internal culture is key. Welcoming initiatives like “Pew Partners,” follow-ups, and better-organized coffee hours foster a community where visitors are not just noticed but truly received.
- **Personal Witness and Education**
  Testimonies, Q&A sessions, Orthodox teachings on evangelism, and well-designed websites all work together to inform and inspire both seekers and existing members.
- **Collaborative and Missional Engagement**
  Collaborating with other churches, hosting events off-campus, and using funds to serve others reflect a missional mindset that goes beyond self-preservation.
- **Spiritual Foundation**
  Prayer and devotion (e.g., Akathist services) ground all efforts in spiritual life, keeping evangelism rooted in worship rather than activity alone.

Community Outreach and Public Presence

- Blood drives
- Medical service events
- Paper shredding events
- Women’s tea
- Participate in local festivals
- Get in front of people
- Serve in the community with other churches
- Use festival funds to support other nonprofits
- Movie showing (e.g., *Sacred Alaska*) held outside of church
- Orthodoxy on Tap
- Increase parish visibility
- Create third spaces to present in the world
- Places for open conversation
- Speak to the culture we find ourselves in

Parish Hospitality and Internal Culture

- Coffee hour ministry
- More organized coffee hour
- No one sits alone
- Pew Partners (sit with visitors)
- Invite-a-guest day or ministry fair
- Follow up with visitors
- Welcome team
- Connect visitors to community and priest
- Mentors for catechumens (separate from godparents)
- Serve as a godparent
- Maintain patience
- A change of heart in the community
- Evangelizing our own churches

Teaching and Engagement

- Q&A sessions after coffee hour
- Parishioners sharing testimonies
- Sharing the life of your faith
- In real life connections
- Historical Orthodox understanding of evangelism
- Engaging websites
- Starting Christian schools

Spiritual Life

- Akathist of the Inexhaustible Cup
- Prayer Services for the outside community