



Worship in Pink Sample Script

Please use as much or as little of the following information as you need.

Susan G. Komen is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists fighting to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find the cures

The Greater Fort Worth Affiliate has asked our congregation to designate a weekend in October as **Worship in Pink Weekend** to raise breast cancer awareness by distributing breast cancer educational materials to our [church/synagogue/mosque/other religious organization]. Today, we as a community of faith have partnered with Komen Greater Fort Worth to open the lines of communication about breast health, promote breast cancer education, and celebrate the lives of those who have fought and continue to fight breast cancer.

Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among women (except for skin cancer) and is the leading cause of cancer death among women age 20–59. 1 in 8 women in the U.S. will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. There are 2.9 million breast cancer survivors in the U.S.

Early detection is critical for best treatment options and survival.

- If breast cancer is diagnosed in the early stages, the five year survival rate is 99%.
- If the breast cancer is diagnosed in later invasive stages, the survival rate drops to 23%.
- African American women have the highest rate of late stage diagnosis, almost double the stage IV rate of other women.
- 47% of insured women age 40 and older are not getting mammograms every year.

At least 90% of breast cancers in the U.S. have NO genetic link. Only 5-10 percent of breast cancers in the U.S. are due to inherited mutations in the BRCA1 or BRCA2 breast cancer genes (less than 1 percent of the general population).

Breast cancer knows no age, race, religion and socioeconomic status boundaries.

- Breast cancer typically strikes women during their most productive years both professionally and personally.
- Breast cancer affects family, friends and co-workers. These Co-survivors live through the joys and struggles with the survivor and are critical to feel the effects too.

Men can get breast cancer too. About 2,000 men are diagnosed with breast cancer annually in the U.S.

Young women can and do get breast cancer, even in their 20's.

Many women in the U.S. are getting their first mammogram later than recommended, not having mammograms at recommended intervals or not receiving appropriate and timely follow up of positive screening results. This may lead to more advanced tumor size and stage at diagnosis.