

Witness to God's Presence

The theme, Witness to God's Presence, starts with Genesis and ends with the Church. The Bible is full of characters that witness the very existence of God in their lives and pass that experience on to future generations. The acknowledgment that God exists and is present in our lives is a primary cornerstone of our Judeo-Christian faith. To know, feel, sense and experience God in our own personal and corporate lives is a continuing witness to that existence. We are called to share that witness because our God is an awesome God.

Creation

Bedouin Encampment: Hear the story of Creation and have the opportunity to say it in their own words using "creation day bags."

Bible @ Your Fingertips: View animated story of Creation and do other activities. Learn ways to be good stewards. Make a slide show presentation. Software included.

Bible Improv: Become the Board of Directors in heaven and help God create the last piece of creation – humans.

Created by the Spirit: Make stationery that will be sold to raise money to support the environmental agency selected by the *Faith Today* workshop. Use recycled materials to reinforce the idea of good stewardship. *This workshop is shared with *Faith Today* as a combined purchase.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Experience many different wonders of Creation through the food that we eat. Hear the story of Creation, look at a variety of seeds, and make and share muffins and fruit salad.

Faith Today: Share the story, Brother Eagle, Sister Sky by Susan Jeffers, as an avenue to explore stewardship of the earth. Research and select one environmental agency to support. *This workshop is shared with *Created by the Spirit* as a combined purchase.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear the Creation story from both Genesis and Psalm 8. Write letters to God, create a mural, or create a nature basket centerpiece.

Moved by the Spirit: Hear the story of Creation and work in small groups to make a creation scene using a wide variety of props (ribbon sticks, fabric, hula-hoops, Body Sox™, etc.)

Puppetry: Hear the story of Creation through the words of Old Turtle, using the book entitled Old Turtle by Douglas Wood. Create a puppet play based on this book.

Video Live!: Videotape original Public Service Announcements for each day of Creation and share them with the congregation.

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the incredible diversity and interrelatedness of Creation and discover ways to be stewards of the earth.

Plagues and Passover

Bedouin Encampment: Using lots of props, participate in the telling of the story using a rhyming script. Very fun!

Bible @ Your Fingertips: View animated story of Moses and Pharaoh. Learn about the heroines of the Exodus story. Make your own Haggadah. Software included.

Bible Improv: Assembled in the Boardroom of Heaven are God and the Heavenly Host. Ponder how they respond to the groans of the Hebrew people in slavery in Egypt. Eventually, the Board will decide to call on Moses, send the plagues and initiate the Passover event.

Created by the Spirit: Learn about the Exodus story from the point of a view of an apprentice Egyptian scribe. Use clay tablets to practice hieroglyphic writing.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: A simple Seder meal will be prepared and shared by the class.

Faith Today: Watch a movie clip about how individual courage emerged to counteract the Holocaust and discuss how God uses us as the instruments of peace and salvation.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: (*SLAVE QUARTERS*): Two storytellers, Shiphrah and Puah, tell their story of the genocide of the Hebrew baby boys, their relationship with God and the salvation of Moses. Make a basket to remember both the salvation of Moses and the people of Israel.

Moved by the Spirit: Playing games like Plaguescotch, Pharaoh May I, and Leapfrog (Passover), learn about how God convinced Pharaoh to free the Hebrew slaves. Create a reenactment of the crossing of the Red Sea.

Puppetry: Hear the story of the Exodus from a picture book and then choreograph a puppet show to the song "Pharaoh, Pharaoh."

Video Live!: Prepare several elements of the Seder meal for a videotaped cooking demonstration.

Where in the World Is?: Participate in a mock archeological dig to uncover Egypt's past and its connection to the Exodus story

Wandering in the Wilderness

Bedouin Encampment: In the Jewish tradition, make a Sukkoth shelter and enact the story of God's salvation in the Wilderness. Weave the curtains that enfold the Ark of the Covenant.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Watch an animated story. Use interactive map to trace the route to the Promised Land. Create a "Wandering-in-the-Wilderness maze." Software included.

Bible Improv: In the Boardroom of Heaven, God ponders with the Cherubim how the Hebrews will recognize God's presence. Build a life size Ark of the Covenant and a mercy seat, the sanctuary where Yahweh would dwell.

Created by the Spirit: Explore the story of the Wilderness Experience by writing postcards back to the people who stayed in Egypt.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Welcome to the Wander Inn, a progressive meal on a journey of discovery about the Wilderness Experience.

Faith Today: Compare architecture of the Tabernacle with Solomon's Temple and today's churches.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Miriam, Moses' sister, or Aaron, Moses' brother, will tell the Wilderness story. Make a miniature version of the Ark of the Covenant as a personal remembrance of God's presence in our lives.

Moved by the Spirit: A variety of group games will reinforce the concept that the Ark of the Covenant went before the Hebrews at all times.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show to the song "Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet" using flashlights and props.

Video Live!: Make a short "animated" video using puppets or other characters to portray Moses and the Hebrew people.

Where in the World Is?: Associate different items on a map of the Sinai to mark the path that Moses and the Hebrews might have taken through the desert.

The Incarnation

Bedouin Encampment: Hear the story of The Other Wise Man, by Van Dyck. Make star ornaments as a reminder that God is always present in our lives.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Watch an animated story. View multi-cultural masterpieces of art. Learn about the “Visitors from the East” who brought gifts to Jesus. Software included.

Bible Improv: Using pantomime, ponder what Mary said to Elizabeth when they met, as well as the conversation between Zechariah and Joseph. How did they understand the presence of God in their lives through the announcements about their sons’ lives?

Created by the Spirit: Make candles to explore how Jesus is the Light of the World.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make stuffing with each ingredient having a different symbolic meaning. *This workshop shares half its time with *Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast*.

Faith Today: Alternative approaches to gift giving and mission will be explored in this workshop.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: The Innkeeper tells the story of Jesus’ birth. *This workshop shares half its time with *Eat Your Way through the Bible*.

Moved by the Spirit: Create a human bicycle wheel to represent the way we are connected to the Incarnate God.

Puppetry: Using the classic story/song The Friendly Beasts, the class will become all the animals at the manger. The prayer of St. Francis of Assisi will also be shared.

Video Live!: Stage a talk show to explore the various eyewitness accounts of the Christmas event.

Where in the World Is?: An exploration of crèches from around the world will help the class learn about the presence of God as experienced by other cultures.

Feeding of the 5,000

Bedouin Encampment: The boy who shared his food has grown up and shares his reflections on the day he met Jesus. Create gospel memory books.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Watch the *Miracle of the Loaves and Fish* animated story, do map exercises, and view multi-cultural masterpieces of art and the shrine of this miracle. Software included.

Bible Improv: How do you feed a crowd on \$2.00 a day? A contemporary version of the *Feeding of the 5,000* will be created by your own thespians.

Created by the Spirit: Gyotaku, a Japanese printing process using fish, will be used to explore the story of the five loaves and two fish.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: A simple fish chowder and bread will be prepared as the class learns about this miracle. This food will be shared with members of the congregation or others in need.

Faith Today: By exploring issues of hunger and justice, learn that the story of the Feeding of the 5,000 can be a model for our own actions. Participation in a program such as Heifer Project International will be encouraged, as they strive not only to feed the hungry but empower those who are hungry to be self-sufficient.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: "I was hungry and you fed me." The storyteller is a woman who encountered Jesus on the hill in Galilee. She shares how her life was changed forever. Make clay fish or bread to remember this miracle.

Moved by the Spirit: Fun picnic activities will get to the heart of the story – how did Jesus (and how do we) view hunger in our midst? Relay races, Frisbees and piñatas are just a few of the many possibilities.

Puppetry: Picnic basket, fish and bread puppets tell the story of this miracle through a fun and creative puppet activity.

Video Live!: Create an on-location broadcast from the hillside in Galilee. Conduct interviews with those present at the Feeding of the 5,000.

Where in the World Is?: Experience a variety of activities that build awareness of the uneven distribution of resources in the world and how this contributes to world hunger. One of the best lessons you'll ever do.

The Lord's Prayer

Bedouin Encampment: "*Hallowed be thy name...*" Explore the idea of a holy time and space for prayer in our everyday lives.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Learn about the Lord's Prayer using interactive lesson with animated story, maps and other hands-on activities. Software included.

Bible Improv: "*Thy will be done...*" What does it mean to do God's will and how do we hear what God's will is for us? Create a contemporary skit to illustrate a way of discerning God's will.

Created by the Spirit: "*Thy kingdom come...*" A metal or paper punch activity will help explore the idea of God's Kingdom.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: How does "*daily bread*" translate into our general nutritional needs? Understand how God provides for us by sampling food from the food pyramid.

Faith Today: "*Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.*" Consider fences and bridges as symbols of separation and connection to God and one another. Watercolors and Shrinky Dink™ ornaments will reinforce this symbol.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Corrie Ten Boom, a survivor of the Holocaust, will tell her powerful story of forgiveness. Make a book of prayers.

Moved by the Spirit: Explore physical attitudes of prayer as well as experience some musical interpretations of the Lord's Prayer.

Puppetry: "*Lead us not into temptation...*" Create a puppet show to explore the temptations that are all around us and how our faith helps us to resist temptations.

Video Live!: What happens when you pray? A dialogue between God and a prayer group will be taped in this workshop. This is a great presentation before the congregation.

Where in the World Is?: How has the Lord's Prayer spread around the world? How is the Lord's Prayer spoken around the world? The prayer will be shared in many different languages.

The Last Supper

Bedouin Encampment: The traditions of communion will be explored through song, movement and hymnody.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Watch an animated story, do map exercises, and view multi-cultural masterpieces of art. Learn about traditional Passover foods. Software included.

Bible Improv: “Readers Theater” activities will take the class through the story of the Last Supper.

Created by the Spirit: Simple “stained glass” window decorations of the chalice and bread will be created to help the children remember the Last Supper.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make connections between the Seder meal and the Last Supper and explore the references Jesus made about being the “Bread of Life.”

Faith Today: Communion traditions and doctrine of your congregation will be the focus of this workshop.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: While celebrating the Seder one year after the death of Jesus, the disciples share with each other why almost all of them abandoned Jesus and then look into the future to see what happened to them. Very simple script cards provided. Great lesson to use during Holy Week for an intergenerational event.

Moved by the Spirit: Study the body language conveyed in Leonardo da Vinci’s Last Supper as a way to understand the dynamics of that night. Recreate the painting using the participants as Jesus and the disciples. Other classical artwork may also be “recreated.” Another great intergenerational event.

Puppetry: Shadow puppets will be used to learn about Holy Week and the Last Supper.

Video Live!: Holy Week from a mouse’s perspective (aka *An American Tail*) will be the focus of this fun video production that the class will create. Full scripts and stage directions are provided.

Where in the World Is?: Create travel brochures that invite people to follow in Jesus’ footsteps during Holy Week.

Walk To Emmaus

Bedouin Encampment: Explore the Christian perspective on death by studying what Jesus and Paul say about resurrection. Make sympathy cards for those who were mourning the death of Jesus.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: View animated story, do map activity and explore the prophecies of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Software included.

Bible Improv: Create a drama that enacts the Bible story from the empty tomb to the appearance of Jesus in Jerusalem.

Created by the Spirit: The children will create the sign of the name of "JESUS" that can only be identified from a distance, thus connecting with the Luke 24 passage, "then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him".

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make meringue while learning about life and death, the symbolism of the egg, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Faith Today: Starting with the walk to Emmaus, discover how the gospel message was spread, via word of mouth, letters, a printed Bible, and those who live a life of faith.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: A first person story will be told about the walk to Emmaus, making the connections with many of the bread passages of the Bible (The Exodus/Seder Meal, manna in the Wilderness, Feeding of the 5000, Lord’s Prayer, Last Supper).

Moved by the Spirit: Experiment with optical illusions to experience the passage from Luke 24, “then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him”.

Puppetry: Recreate the Bible story from the Crucifixion to the Resurrection to the Ascension.

Video Live!: “Geraldo Riviera” goes on an expedition to discover the tomb of Jesus, only to find it empty. His encounter with Mary Magdalene and “the gardener” help him to understand the resurrection. Full script provided. Great fun!

Where in the World Is?: Starting with the walk to Emmaus, learn how Christianity views death and life after death. They will then explore how various faiths view that same issue.

Paul on the Road

Bedouin Encampment: Paul will tell his own story of what actually happened one day on the road to Damascus then will make a mobile to highlight his three missionary journeys.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Watch an animated story of Paul's conversion and do other activities. Use interactive map to trace Paul's journeys. Software included.

Bible Improv: Paul came to know Jesus in a very dramatic way, directing the focus for the rest of Paul's life. Through creative drama activities, explore how our own lives are directed by our knowledge of Jesus.

Created by the Spirit: Through the use of "Sunprints" and "Scratchboards", learn about conversions and transformations.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Foods that transform before our eyes can be symbols of our own potential for transformation. Cut out cookies will serve as reminders that we can be like Paul and continually witness the presence of God.

Faith Today: Ananias' act of kindness towards Saul helped to change Saul's life. When do we experience similar acts of kindness? Do we always know the outcome of our acts of kindness? What can we do today to make our world a better place?

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Meet Ananias, a follower of Jesus, who answered God's call and went to care for Saul. Share a simple meal with Ananias.

Moved by the Spirit: The song "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" will be used to explore the story of Paul's conversion. Musical, physical, and meditative activities will allow participants to know what they can do to be a witness to God's continued presence.

Puppetry: Enact a puppet show about the day that Paul fell off his horse, using a Bryan Sirchio song by the same name.

Video Live!: In an on-the-spot newscast, get the latest scoop about Paul's surprising conversion.

Where in the World Is?: Explore the world of Paul. Discover the places of Paul's travels and ministry.

Witnesses Today

Bedouin Encampment: The teacher will tell contemporary stories of faith. Members of the congregation may be invited into the class to witness their faith stories. The class will recall Biblical stories they have learned throughout the year.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Review the stories from the past year using an interactive Biblical time line. Create a digital collage. Software included.

Bible Improv: Play charades or "Pictionary" to review the stories of the year.

Created by the Spirit: Hear the scripture from Matthew 25:34-40 as well as contemporary stories that exemplify how individual people have made a difference in the lives of others, even in very small ways. Reflect on how they have helped others. Draw a self-portrait as an expression of how they individually are God's presence on earth.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Taste chocolate chip cookies that are made with equal amounts of all the ingredients. Then make the correct recipe, learning that even a small amount of some ingredients (gifts or talents) is enough to flavor the whole batch of cookies.

Faith Today: Hear stories about people whose faith has led them to be God’s presence on earth ... or who experienced God’s presence in the form of someone else helping them. Make a photograph essay to symbolize how we all function as the body of Christ.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Share a synopsis of the stories from the past year using various candies as prompts. Very fun! Make a “rebus” or picture story for several of the stories.

Moved by the Spirit: Select several games to play as a review of favorite stories of the year. Hear the story “The Bible in a Deck of Cards.”

Puppetry: Create a puppet show to the story The Great Stone Face by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Video Live!: Hear the story of Mother Teresa and view segments from the movie, “Mother Teresa: In the Name of God's Poor”. Videotape what each child wishes to do with their lives “in the name of God.”

Where in the World Is?: Select and prepare a “Missionary Bear” to send to another church in the community or in another state, making connections with the broader church.

The Covenant

The theme of the Covenant is woven throughout the scriptures. Starting with Noah and Abraham, we witness a special relationship between God and all of humankind. The descendants will be known as God’s people, receiving the Ten Commandments as the laws of the Covenant. Jesus comes to live among humankind to be the fulfilled Covenant in our midst. He lives out the demands of the Covenant, to love the Lord God with all one’s heart, soul, and strength. The Covenant is now between individuals and God. We are called to live up to the demands of the Covenant and remember that we are God’s people.

Noah’s Ark

Bedouin Encampment: Hear the story of the Great Flood from Noah’s perspective. Build an altar to the Lord and decorate a stone to take home as a reminder that we are all descendents of Noah and part of the Covenant people.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use *Cal & Marty’s Scripture Memory Game* to explore scripture and then investigate issues of bio-diversity and extinction. Make a Noah’s ABC book. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Stand up comedy is the focus of this lesson. After hearing the story of Noah and the Ark, listen to Bill Cosby’s Noah skits. Learn the basic elements of comedy and tell some jokes about Noah’s Ark.

Created by the Spirit: Experiment with water, light and prisms. There are two options in this lesson: create watercolor rainbow pictures or create a wall mural of a rainbow of hands.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Explore the different kinds and amounts of food that must have been on the Ark. Make the Ark and animals in gingerbread. The Ark and cookies can be raffled at the end of the rotation with the proceeds going toward a mission project of your choice.

Faith Today: Learn about covenants in ancient times and look at contemporary legal contracts. Write a personal covenant based on Micah 6:8 and seal it with official wax.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Meet Mrs. Noah and hear her story. Interspersed throughout the lesson Mrs. Noah will do needlework with the help of the class.

Moved by the Spirit: Perform a variety of team-building, cooperative activities as an expression of the covenant that God extends to us.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show about the experience of Noah on the Ark, including three Bill Cosby routines related to Noah.

Video Live!: Create a news broadcast of the events surrounding Noah's experience.

Where in the World Is?: Explore the story of Noah's Ark through the study of historical floods. Re-create a flood to see the effect of human intervention in nature.

Abraham

Bedouin Encampment: Abraham will use a sand map to tell his story of travel and encounters with God. Create a banner using sand art to reinforce our connection with Abraham.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use various Bible software to learn about the story. Make comic strips to reflect the characters and the relationship with God. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Hear the story of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar and improvise dilemmas that require some kind of reaction or intervention, whether from human or divine sources.

Created by the Spirit: Hear the story of the visit of the three strangers to the Oaks of Mamre. Choosing a scripture verse that reminds each child of the Covenant promise, create a decoupage reminder of our own connection to the Covenant.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: After hearing the story of the visit of the three strangers at the encampment of Abraham and Sarah, create a meal (or a portion of one) that might have been served to the three strangers.

Faith Today: By placing picture cards in sequence as a brief history of the region, see the difficult relationships between people of the Middle East. *The class will share the hour with *Where in the World Is?* as a combined purchase.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear the story of the Covenant as told by Sarah and Hagar. Eat pancakes and honey as they remember the hospitality shown to the three strangers who visit Abraham and Sarah. Make a benevolent sewing project for abandoned children to remember that we are all children of God.

Moved by the Spirit: Experience the nomadic lifestyle of Abraham and Sarah as they erect and dismantle the campsite with each new phase of the story. Great lesson is learning to hear God's voice and responding to it.

Puppetry: Perform the story of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar using a "promise" song.

Video Live!: Design and "script" a promotional video for a trip that follows in Abraham's footsteps.

Where in the World Is?: Overlay a map of the Holy Land in the time of Abraham with a present day political map. See where these current boundaries divide up the land of the Covenant and are a source of tensions in the region. *The class will share the hour with *Faith Today*.

The Ten Commandments

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Moses tell the story of the Ten Commandments. Make beaded bracelets that can serve as reminders of our own relationship to this Covenant.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Make the connection between the rules of a game and the Ten Commandments. Create a calendar with each month expressing a commandment. Software not included.

Bible Improv: By creating contemporary dramas or pantomimes, the class will explore the Ten Commandments. The game of Charades is an added bonus and may be the format for younger children.

Created by the Spirit: Compare the Ten Commandments to Micah 6:8 and explore how to be in right relationship with God. Make a fabric heart creation that includes the scripture.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Hear the story of the Ten Commandments and make either heart shaped cookies or a jelly roll cake that will remind them of the words of Jeremiah: “I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.”

Faith Today: Presented with scenarios that involve a choice of ethics and faithful behavior, decide how to respond to them in relation to the Ten Commandments.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast (AKA The Dear Abby Column at the Sinai Word): Become the staff of “Dear Abby”, responding to the dilemmas of the readers in light of the Ten Commandments.

Moved by the Spirit: Create a sequence of body movements to respond to the Ten Commandments. Possible teachers include a dance instructor, an aerobics instructor, a PE teacher who teaches creative movement, a rhythmic gymnast, a break-dancer, a liturgical dancer, or a person well acquainted with sign language.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show of the Ten Commandments using the song, “The Perfect Ten.”

Video Live!: Watch a clip from deMille’s movie, *The Ten Commandments*. Compare the scripture to the script of the movie. Create a dialogue between Moses and God for the scene where the Ten Commandments are being etched.

Where in the World Is?: Explore how the Ten Commandments were interpreted by various prophets and make a mezuzah to remind them of God’s presence in our lives.

Messengers of the Covenant

Bedouin Encampment: Meet one of the shepherds who heard the angels’ message and went to see Jesus on the night of his birth. Make wool or sheep ornaments.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Study the Christmas story with Bible software and then create a newspaper, *The Messenger*, telling about the details and items of interest. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Hear the Christmas story and ponder the future life of Jesus Christ. Using the story or song, “Mary, Did You Know?”, create a slide show for each of the scenes in the song to be shown sometime during Lent.

Created by the Spirit: Hear the Christmas story and then consider how all the different people in the story spread the news of Jesus’ birth. Create a banner or altar cloth with symbols of these messengers on them.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Hear Matthew 2:1-12 and make a fruitcake to remind them of the jewels in the crowns of the three kings.

Faith Today: Use Bible skills to learn about angels who announced the birth of Jesus. View a clip from “It’s a Wonderful Life” to open discussion about the mission of angels.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Hear Gabriel’s story of the Annunciation. Explore the concept of angels via a bible study on (a) how other people confirmed the Annunciation to Mary or (b) how angels appeared to other people, proclaiming the birth of the Son of God. Make angel ornaments decorated with sealing wax as a sign of the covenant.

Moved by the Spirit: Explore and enact masterpieces of art that depict the various scenes of the Christmas story.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show to the song “We Three Kings”, making puppets and props.

Video Live!: Design an ad campaign commissioned by God for the announcement of the birth of Jesus. The ads may be print, video or computer-generated.

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the three magi: who they were, from where they came, what gifts they brought, and what legends emerged about their lives. Explore the astronomy of the Star of Bethlehem and make the connection with the night skies used in the Underground Railroad.

The Good Samaritan

Bedouin Encampment: Meet the Levite, the man who chose pass by the victim because he believed that he would be breaking Jewish law. As the class shares food around the table, the Levite shares his personal conflict regarding the situation and asks the class to help him discover options.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: After doing extensive Bible study create a rebus story or chain of love. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Ponder who might be the different characters in the story in today's world. Act out contemporary versions of this story as they understand it.

Created by the Spirit: Answer the question: "Who are you when no one is looking?" Make masks as the class ponders their individual identity and whether it is revealed or hidden.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Learn about the many herbs that appear in the Bible. Use herbs in a cooking or craft project, connecting common herbs with Jesus' command to show mercy to others.

Faith Today: Work on providing teddy bears to children in crisis.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: A teacher living at the time of Jesus will tell the class about rules and regulations for living a life that is right with God. Within that context, they will determine what the priest and the Levite could have done within the law as they hear the story of the Good Samaritan. Make a WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?) or friendship bracelet and learn the song, "They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love."

Moved by the Spirit: There are options based on the expertise of the teacher that might instruct the class on first-aid basics, physical therapy and/or how healing ministries can facilitate new spirits.

Puppetry: Discuss the cultural bias of the story. Create a Bunraku puppetry show where the students stand behind and move life-size puppets.

Video Live!: The scene is a 1950 detective's office. The detective receives a call about an interesting happening along the road to Jericho. Personal interviews with a Priest, a Levite and the Innkeeper help piece together an unbelievable story about kindness to a stranger.

Where in the World Is?: Examine the history of the difficult relationship between Jews and Samaritans at the time of Jesus. Make connections to those who are "invisible" in today's society and how we, as Christians, should respond.

The Prodigal Son

Bedouin Encampment: The Prodigal Son tells his story of selfishness, exploration, defeat and repentance. Watch a clip from the movie, *Amazing Grace* with Bill Moyers, and learn the song. Ponder the actions that separate us from God, write them on a paper and burn them in a bowl as a sign of repentance and grace. A great activity for Ash Wednesday.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Study the story using Bible software or *Prodigal Son CD* and then younger children create invitations to the reunion party and older children write a newspaper about the events. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Hear the scripture and then have the opportunity to consider contemporary settings for the story. Finish the story from the two brothers' perspectives.

Created by the Spirit: Hear the story of the Prodigal Son and make wire sculptures to interpret the emotions and interactions of the father, the Prodigal Son and the elder son.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Become the servants of the Prodigal Son's family, preparing the feast. As they cook or bake, they will be encouraged to voice the opinions of the various family members about this event.

Faith Today: Look at issues of inheritance, comparing biblical times and the present. Reflect on the value of God's unending love as you write a simple will.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: The father of the Prodigal Son will share his story and encourage journaling/drawing about similar situations in the participant's lives.

Moved by the Spirit: Hear the parable of the Prodigal Son, enacting it using spatial metaphors. Build a wall and a bridge to symbolize our relationship with God.

Puppetry: Learn the story of the Prodigal Son and create a puppet show using a contemporary parable of God's love, The Runaway Bunny by Margaret Wise Brown.

Video Live!: Many of the inanimate objects that the Prodigal Son encountered on his journey will become animated in this video and will tell of their experiences and impressions.

Where in the World Is?: Develop the connection between the family issues in the parable of the Prodigal Son and the issues that cause national/international conflicts. Hear the story of Sadako and the 1000 Paper Cranes, make origami cranes and pick a project that will connect them to world peace.

Woman with the Alabaster Jar

Bedouin Encampment: Meet the woman who anointed Jesus. She will share ways she remains mindful to the demands of the Covenant.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use *Cal and Marty's Scripture Memory Game* and *Life of Christ CD* to discover the story and prepare for Holy Week. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact each of the four Gospel versions of the story, discovering their similarities and differences. Create a contemporary version of the story.

Created by the Spirit: Create an "alabaster jar" as a commemoration of the extraordinary act of devotion on the part of the woman.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Hear the story of the *Woman with the Alabaster Jar*. Make taffy, experiencing the struggle between spiritual renewal and social action for justice.

Faith Today: Hear the story from the book of Luke. Consider different ways that they can be like the woman and pour out their love for Jesus in our world. Create a marbled picture frame that will help them remember this story.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: The storyteller will tell the story of the Woman with the Alabaster Jar. Study the scripture associated with the *fruits of the spirit*: Galatians 5:22-23a. Decorate stones, printing on them the fruits of the spirit words.

Moved by the Spirit: Pattern games, dominos and "Simon Says" are the key games for this lesson. Learn about the Bible story and the things they can do to help others know that Jesus includes everyone in his kingdom.

Puppetry: Using basic signs from American Sign Language, create a puppet show to tell the story.

Video Live!: Hear the story as told in Luke and then brainstorm contemporary characters and setting. Develop a simple dialogue and record a videotape of their present day story.

Where in the World Is?: Experiment with scales and create collages to understand the balance that is required between their spiritual life and our social justice life. Find evidence in their own church of how the congregation honors God and fulfills its covenant to serve the poor.

Crucifixion and Resurrection

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Andrew's story and then create pysanky-style eggs as a reminder of the sacrifice of Jesus and the further ministry of Andrew.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use the *Life of Christ CD* to take a tour through Jerusalem during Holy Week. With a drawing program, create a representation of the empty tomb experience. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Discover the differences between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. Create a variety of ads to publicize the "New and Improved" version of The Covenant.

Created by the Spirit: Make paper that is embedded with seeds as a reminder of Jesus' death and resurrection, the Old and New Covenants, and how we are each a seedling that God nurtures into our fullest potential.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make Empty Tomb Buns to reinforce the Easter story. Make multi-colored cookies in the shape of the cross and a rainbow to communicate the message of the New Covenant.

Faith Today: Discover the history behind a variety of crosses. Each member will design and make a cross that expresses a personal understanding of the covenant.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Joanna will share how the blood of Christ forged a new covenant between God and humankind. Individual banners will be created symbolizing the connection between the blood shed by Jesus and the wine used in the Eucharist.

Moved by the Spirit: Through the creation of different "musical" and movement activities, come to a deeper understanding of the development of God's Covenant with Israel and the establishment of the New Covenant through Jesus.

Puppetry: Enact the story of The Tale of Three Trees, making the props, rehearsing and performing the story. This makes a great presentation in a Holy Week worship service.

Video Live!: Using a "split screen" technique, classes will see the common elements of the Passion story of Jesus' last week and the life of the church today.

Where in the World Is?: Focus on one or two of the biblical covenants and create an audio/visual display about the geographical location associated with each particular covenant.

The Early Church as the Body of Christ

Bedouin Encampment: While involving the class in setting up a tent, Paul will tell about setting up the church in Corinth. Share an *Agape* meal (also known as a Love Feast) that involves personal witness, hymn singing, prayer, scripture and sharing of food.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Learn about Paul and the church in Corinth. Discuss the spiritual gifts that people have. Using the computer, create personal "Gift Boxes."

Bible Improv: After several warm-up exercises, enact a church's attempt to start a Christmas program. Discover that many talents are needed to create this program, just as many talents are needed within the church.

Created by the Spirit: Hear 1 Corinthians 12:21-31 and then create mosaic projects to come to a better understanding of what Paul meant about the Body of Christ.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make “Impossible Pie” and dump cake and then engage in some Bible study to compare the elements of the church to the ingredients just used. 13

Faith Today: Learn about the concept of the Body of Christ in relation to the church. Design a float or some sort of participation in an annual parade in your town. Both the process and the design will illustrate how your church is the Body of Christ.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Meet Priscilla, a friend of Paul’s who also made tents. Share her experience of founding and nurturing the church in Corinth. Make a leather craft to connect tent making and the Body of Christ.

Moved by the Spirit: Experience the inter-relatedness and value of each part of the Body of Christ through challenging and cooperative activities.

Puppetry: Explore how the human body works as an analogy to Paul’s reference to the Body of Christ. Produce a puppet show to portray this scripture.

Video Live!: Look at a car engine to discover how all of the parts work together to make the car run. Read the scripture to discover how all of the people of a church work together to make the church run. Make a video of the scripture using the car engine analogy.

Where in the World Is?: Study church architecture as a metaphor for the Body of Christ, particularly focusing on Notre Dame Cathedral and your own church. Videos, puzzles, books and computer games are used for visuals.

The Kingdom Parables

Bedouin Encampment: The storyteller is someone in the crowd who heard Jesus tell the parable of the Great Feast. Create invitations to your church for either worship or a particular event.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Do a scripture scramble using *Cal & Marty’s Scripture Memory Game*. Create a jigsaw puzzle of a favorite parable. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Contemporize the parable of the Great Feast, particularly focusing on excuses we make in our everyday lives that keep us from living a Christian life.

Created by the Spirit: Create a slide show of contemporary parables that point to a new vision of the Kingdom of God.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Progressively prepare a celebration meal over four weeks, to be shared with another local Sunday School, Meals on Wheels, Seniors group or homebound family in your congregation.

Faith Today: Participate in some role playing about inclusive/exclusive situations. Respond to the role-playing through a choice of art, journal writing or poetry.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Hear the story of the Great Feast from the perspective of the host and create invitations to the Feast. Connect this parable to the parable of the Landowner and the Vineyard through pantomime.

Moved by the Spirit: Explore the story of the Great Feast in scripture and play several games to express the different elements and ideas of this parable.

Puppetry: Facilitate a discussion about heaven by enacting a puppet show based on the book, The Next Place.

Video Live!: Create a video or radio advertisement for a new line of snack foods developed by the “Parable Products Company”.

Where in the World Is?: Connect the Kingdom Parables to the efforts of Habitat for Humanity to create housing for everyone on earth. Make *Peace Houses* as a reminder that even in their own homes, they can create the Kingdom of God with a peaceful attitude.

Messiah

The Messiah is Jesus Christ. From the time of the early prophets, the people of Israel placed their hope on the arrival of a deliverer. King David became the reference point for those prophets, promising a return to the throne of someone who would institute a New Kingdom. This deliverer, the Anointed One of God, the Messiah, would bring salvation from earthly oppression. Jesus' birth, baptism, crucifixion and resurrection fulfilled those prophecies. Whether explored in Handel's Messiah, Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel, or contemporary multi-cultural representations, Jesus Christ as the Messiah is the central figure of the Christian faith.

David

Bedouin Encampment: David will tell his own story of courage, leadership and how God is in the midst of our life choices. Make a ten-foot Goliath.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Using *Pathways through Jerusalem* explore Israel with King David. Play a scripture scrambler game as a way to discover the association between King David and the concept of a messiah. Create an illustration of a psalm. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact the scenes of David being anointed by Samuel, his slaying of Goliath, his adoption of a crippled boy (Mephiboseth) and his reproach by Nathan.

Created by the Spirit: Create an illumination or calligraphic rendering of a portion of a Psalm.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Create the many maps of Israel using pizza ingredients to define the political and topographical configurations of each map.

Faith Today: Compare the courage of David as he met Goliath with that of Sojourner Truth in her role against slavery. Create murals of Giant Problems in the world and what courage might be needed.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: The prophet, Nathan, will share how he was the spiritual adviser for David, guiding him in how to be God-centered. Use labyrinths to explore an avenue of personal faith journey. (If you can find a room-sized labyrinth, this is an incredible lesson for an intergenerational event.)

Moved by the Spirit: Slay Goliath! Play a variety of games that use a "home base", exploring how the Kingdom of David became the foundation for the future hopes of Israel.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show of David's encounter with Goliath.

Video Live!: This workshop just needs an emcee to act as a game show host. Videotape a "Concentration" game of turning over matched sets of graphics about David to reveal a rebus of the opening line of the 23rd Psalm. Older children can create more rebuses to feature of passages about David.

Where in the World Is?: Dig into the history of Jerusalem, the city of David. As you unearth artifacts, discover the rich heritage of this holy city.

Isaiah

Bedouin Encampment: Learn about Isaiah's vision of the Lord. Make a miniature throne and crown to symbolize the promise of a messiah.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: After reviewing the messianic prophecies of Isaiah through Bible study and computer programs, create a Prophet Box with scriptures from Isaiah and illustrations from clip art. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Recite verses from Isaiah that point to the Messiah and work with dowel rods to experience the scripture through movement. Play the improv game, *Countdown*, with these scriptures.

Created by the Spirit: Create dioramas to illustrate Isaiah's visions of the Lord.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Discuss how Israel struggled to act as a faithful community in a foreign land. Experiment with foods that they may have never eaten. Make *s'mores* to symbolize the promises of God sandwiched between the past and future of Israel.

Faith Today: Learn about prophets, the call of Isaiah and the issues of his time. Compare these with contemporary issues and make headline collages that could be found in both Isaiah's time and ours.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear the story of a woman who lived during Isaiah's life. Create kaleidoscopes as symbols of the way people viewed the Exile and the Messiah.

Moved by the Spirit: Play a game to simulate the history of the Divided Kingdom. Create and play carnival games for the messianic scriptures of Isaiah.

Puppetry: Discuss the concept of behaviors and their consequences while learning about Isaiah. Create a puppet show to the song "Flying (by the seat of your pants)."

Video Live!: View the opening scene of Disney's *The Lion King*, as if it were the dream of Isaiah holding up the long-awaited Messiah to the nation of Israel. Learn some of the prophecies of Isaiah about a messiah and create a movie trailer for the feature film: *The Messiah*.

Where in the World Is?: Create a map to illustrate the physical geography of the history of Israel from King David through the return from exile

23rd Psalm

Bedouin Encampment: A shepherd will tell about his everyday life and adventures. Review the 23rd Psalm and create woven headbands using drinking straws and yarn.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Introduce the 23rd Psalm with *Cal & Marty's Memory Game* or a crossword program. Find the 23rd Psalm on a software Bible and create a book of illustrations for each line of the psalm, using a choice of graphic design software. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact a script between some readers and God about the 23rd Psalm and focus a discussion on the phrase: "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil." Using Scratch-Art™ make signs saying "I fear no evil."

Created by the Spirit: Create a 3-D rendering of Psalm 23:4.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Discuss "preparing a table with your enemy" and reconciliation. Make lemonade from scratch (turning sour into sweet) and form breadsticks into shepherd's crooks.

Faith Today: Sequence footsteps that have the scripture of the 23rd Psalm written on them and consider the imagery of the 23rd Psalm in the light of the culture in which it was written. Write a new version of the 23rd Psalm, reflecting images that translate into today's world.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Recite the lines of the 23rd Psalm, line by line, while experiencing it through their senses. Make a booklet of the 23rd Psalm.

Moved by the Spirit: Recite the 23rd Psalm, work on memory activities and play three games that highlight different sections of the Psalm.

Puppetry: This lesson is based on Brian Sirchio's song, "Table of Friendship and Love." They will discuss the connection between preparing a table amidst enemies and the song and create a puppet show that both recites the 23rd Psalm and enacts the song.

Video Live!: Discuss imagery in the 23rd Psalm and select pictures for each verse. Videotape the pictures while the class recites the Psalm.

Where in the World Is?: Compare and contrast passages about shepherds in both Ezekiel and the 23rd Psalm. Learn about geography in the Holy Lands and create a job description for a shepherd. Using wood burning or paint, create a personal shepherd's staff.

Jesus as the Fulfillment of the Prophecies

Bedouin Encampment: Hear the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth and briefly experiment with magnifying glasses or microscopes to make a connection with Mary's song, *The Magnificat*. Make pinecone angels as a reminder of the angels who delivered the news from God or raffia wreaths to remind them of the eternal presence of God through Jesus Christ.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Find key verses in the Bible that explore the relationship between the Old Testament prophecies and their fulfillment in the New Testament. Use the Bible Dictionary software to explore the word *messiah*. Create Christmas Cards with scriptures from Isaiah, Luke and Matthew and illustrations from clip art. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact the story, *They Followed a Bright Star*, which follows the shepherds as they meet people along their journey to Bethlehem. Each person points toward the ministry of Jesus. Great for a Children's Christmas Program!

Created by the Spirit: Study the Bible for scriptures about light as a symbol of Christ's presence in our world. Create silhouettes as a way to convey the light of Jesus Christ amidst the darkness of the world into which he came.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make ice cream sundaes or baklava as an expression of the many layers of prophecy that preceded the birth of Jesus.

Faith Today: Ponder how your family is "wrapped up" in Christmas. Choose from many options: handmade gift wrap, posters depicting Christmas symbols, cartoons sharing the richness of our Christmas decorations, or wrapping gifts for people during the Church school.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear Anna's story and create votive holders as reminders that we celebrate the Light of the World during the Christmas season.

Moved by the Spirit: Using a large yarn web, discover the story of the first Christmas and connect sections of it to Old Testament Scriptures. Play Pottsie (a game similar to hopscotch) to reinforce elements of the story.

Puppetry: Enact the Christmas story from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke and sing *Away in the Manger* as a conclusion to the puppet show.

Video Live!: Study the characters who surrounded the Holy Family at the birth of Jesus and video the party that might have occurred after the naming ceremony in the Temple.

Where in the World Is?: Discover the many roads that were traveled to reach the Christ child by the shepherds, magi, Mary and Joseph.

Handel's Messiah

Bedouin Encampment: Meet with one of the shepherds from Jesus' day and hear how Handel interpreted these ancient experiences into timeless works of musical art. Create paper sheep and larger-than-life angels to decorate the storytelling room.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Become familiar with George Handel and his culture. Using a computer-based encyclopedia, compare aspects of fine art, architecture, furniture, music, dance, and fashion between the turn of the 18th C. and the turn of the third millennium. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Be the *Messiah* experts on a talk show, sharing your knowledge of its performance history.

Created by the Spirit: Explore how Handel's *Messiah* was interpreted by Timothy Botts' calligraphy. Create your own calligraphy expression of a musical passage of *Messiah*.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Interpret the texture, sound, atmosphere and movement of notes with arrangements of candy. You won't believe how effective this is in relation to listening to music. This is a great intergenerational event!

Faith Today: Learn about the recent history in South Africa and discover the inspiration that Mandela and Tutu draw from their own experience with Jesus Christ. Discover the efforts of Craig Kielburger as he attempts to liberate children who are enslaved. In light of this information, envision a way to respond to a current issue of their choice.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Handel tells his story and the class briefly explores the arts of the Baroque Period of the 17th and 18th century. Listen to various excerpts from *Messiah* and learn about the instrumentation used in the piece. At the end of the lesson Handel himself will direct the class in "singing" Behold the Lamb of God so that they can experience how the four choral voices work together in relation to the score.

Moved by the Spirit: Express a variety of *Messiah* pieces with movement and props.

Puppetry: Read the scriptures and the text of the chorus, *For the Glory of the Lord*. After listening to the music, break into groups based on the different sections of the music. There are different puppets for each section. Practice and perform!

Video Live!: Explore the scriptures in Revelation that provide the text for the *Hallelujah chorus*, listen to the music, and look at the score. Make a "teaching video" using word signs raised whenever that word is sung. High energy!

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the culture at the turn of the 18th century in relation to the turn of the millennium. Aspects of fine art, architecture, furniture, music, dance, and fashion will be compared.

Jesus' Baptism

Bedouin Encampment: John the Baptist speaks about his ministry. Use the baptism liturgy from your own church to enact the baptism of a doll or review the liturgy for the baptism of an adult. Use science experiments to ponder the meaning of baptism and how God forgives us of our sins.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: After doing Bible study using biblical software, illustrate the story in *Storybook Weaver*. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact the stories of Jesus' baptism and temptations. Create contemporary temptation stories that reflect the will of God.

Created by the Spirit: Create personal baptism banners with a dove motif, seen in graphic below.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Read the scriptures of Jesus' baptism and temptations in relation to feeding the hungry. Share the story of stone soup. Make heart shaped biscuits and soup for a local Senior Meal Program or a family in the church.

Faith Today: Read the four different accounts of Jesus' baptism in the scriptures as well as the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20). Hear a brief historical overview of baptism in church history and then consider local church celebrations. Draw a bulletin cover, baptismal cards or do a journal activity.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Meet Martha as she remembers Jesus' baptism and then play a matching game with scriptures and road signs that are appropriate to reveal the way that Jesus communicated the Kingdom. Great fun!

Moved by the Spirit: Use string figures to tell the story of Jesus Christ. Do a guided imagery to ponder the scripture, "You are my own Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Create a giant ICHTHUS (Fish Symbol of Jesus Christ).

Puppetry: Create a puppet show about John's message based on the song "Bugs for Lunch" by Brian Sirchio.

Video Live!: Create a newscast about the events, concepts and history of Jesus' baptism.

Where in the World Is?: Examine the culture of Jesus' time in relation to our contemporary society. Make a 3-D BIG Book entitled The Land of Jesus: Then and Now.

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

Bedouin Encampment: Listen to the story of Peter as he sits in the courtyard of the High Priest, Caiaphas. Create a picture of the scene that includes the individual student. Make a miniature framed mirror to ponder how we reflect our relationship with Jesus.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Learn the story of Holy Week and write letters to God about questions the class has. Using the computer, create a new crossword puzzle or fill in an existing puzzle about Holy Week. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Find John 13 in Bibles and associate the various scenes of the event with pictures. Create a photo series of those scenes, including Jesus' washing the feet of the disciples.

Created by the Spirit: Fill in a Bible study crossword puzzle to discover the concepts of *lamb of God* and *good shepherd*. Create a hanging acetate picture of the faces of the participants as if they were standing at the foot of the cross.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make several kinds of cookies to symbolize the different events of Holy Week.

Faith Today: Learn the story of the foot washing within the context of Holy Week and hear a contemporary story of foot washing. Invite members of the congregation to share their experiences with missions/nursing homes and brainstorm ways in which the class can "tend my sheep" (as Jesus commanded to Peter).

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Martha shares the story of Jesus' last meal and participants create a clay foot as a remembrance of their visit with Martha.

Moved by the Spirit: Discover some of the rich scripture related to Jesus' last instructions to his disciples before he was arrested. Make a miniature golf course/game using the symbols that Jesus used to explain his instructions. This is a terrific lesson!

Puppetry: Learn about Holy Week and enact a puppet show to illustrate the book Little Rose of Sharon by Nan Gurley. This can be a valuable presentation in worship during Holy Week.

Video Live!: Play the game show *What Did Your Expect?*, a game to explore what people expected the Messiah to be and how Jesus actually acted as the Messiah.

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the physical geography of Holy Week. Place either symbols or buildings on the map as they work through the story. Create small booklets as a reminder of their "Journey to Jerusalem."

Appearances of the Holy Spirit

Bedouin Encampment: Peter shares his post-resurrection experience with Jesus. Activity options: learn how to fish or create a paper stained-glass window of the *ichthus*, the fish symbol which symbolizes the phrase, Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Create a web site homepage for the story of Jesus' post resurrection appearance by the Sea of Galilee. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact both the Bible story of Jesus' appearance at the Sea of Galilee and some contemporary ramifications of this story.

Created by the Spirit: Listen to the story of Jesus' resurrection appearance to Peter and some of the disciples while they were fishing. Study a variety of crosses to envision their symbolism. Make crosses, choosing from ceramic, seashell or eggshell.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make grilled cheese sandwiches, grilled fish or fish sticks, root beer floats, and gorp as they learn about the story of Jesus' appearance by the Sea of Galilee.

Faith Today: Ponder the mystery of faith by watching select clips from the movie *Phenomenon*, watching some magic tricks and discussing what is magic and what is faith. The resurrection was not magic; we don't know how it happened but our faith tells us so.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Meet with the Beloved Disciple as he prepares a portion of a "trunk letter". Decorate your own "trunk" and add a letter to be sent to another Sunday School.

Moved by the Spirit: Play simple games (relays, etc.) to recreate the different events of this story. A reflective activity is provided to help internalize the story.

Puppetry: Hear the story of Peter and his encounter with Jesus while fishing. Create part of the script in relation to getting caught by the spirit and following Jesus. Make fish puppets.

Video Live!: Watch a clip of *It's a Wonderful Life* to envision how each of us has a purpose. Compare the experience of George Bailey in the movie to Peter. Create a video of Peter's life that illustrates how he influenced the lives of others.

Where in the World Is?: Discuss the concept of resurrection and discover the many times and places that Jesus appeared to the disciples after the resurrection. Create flip-books of the resurrection appearances of Jesus.

Images of Jesus in the Arts

Bedouin Encampment: Meet John of Damascus and learn about icons. Create a drawing of the Messiah in the style of an icon.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Explore images of Jesus over the centuries using Art History software and encyclopedias. Create a linguistic expression of the messiah. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Play two improv games to explore the concepts of the messiah.

Created by the Spirit: Create chrismons to explore Christian symbolism.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Study the imagery in stained-glass windows and then create edible versions.

Faith Today: Explore contemporary Christian music as a vehicle that keeps the image of Jesus fresh in our minds.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Meet Michelangelo and participate in painting a portion of the Sistine Chapel.

Moved by the Spirit: Create a giant floor mosaic of an early Christian masterpiece or art.

Puppetry: For centuries Passion Plays have told the story of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Learn about the Passion Play in Oberammergau. Perform portions of a Passion Play using puppets.

Video Live!: View a variety of Hollywood productions to analyze how Jesus is portrayed in the movies.

Where in the World Is?: Discover how various cultures, races, and ethnic groups portray Jesus.

Prince of Peace

Bedouin Encampment: Meet St. Francis of Assisi and learn his prayer about being an instrument of peace. Make a peace ribbon which expresses a personal understanding of peace.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use *Cal & Marty's Scripture Memory Game* and *Life of Christ* to discover the scripture relating to Jesus as the Prince of Peace. Use *Storybook Weaver* to create a story about personal times of confrontation and reconciliation. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Learn techniques for conflict resolution using improvisations to explore everyday life.

Created by the Spirit: Design prototypes of peaceful toys and toys that promote peace.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Discover how food was a path for reconciliation in the Bible. Make crystal gardens to remember that peace is fragile and needs to be nurtured.

Faith Today: Learn about Nobel Prize winners. Make truss bridges with gumdrops and toothpicks to understand the elements of peace and reconciliation. This is a very cool lesson!

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Explore the concept of the biblical *Prince of Peace* using a Ven diagram. Hear the story of Craig Keilburger and his organization, Free the Children, as an illustration of how Jesus wants us to be princes of peace.

Moved by the Spirit: Play team-building activities to understand some of the attitudes needed for peaceful living in community. Spell out the word *PEACE*, making the letter shapes with body language.

Puppetry: Prepare and perform brief "picked-on puppets" vignettes about how to deal with bullies in peaceful ways.

Video Live!: Invite parishioners into the classroom to participate in some peace scripture activities and then to create a videotaped interview.

Where in the World Is?: Share a variety of peace stories and then create a litany of peace.

The Quest for Identity

People of faith travel a path that includes a struggle between everyday experience and their relationship with God. In a quest for an identity, group dynamics can form a sense of inclusion or exclusion in the community. Jacob and Esau battled within the realm of sibling rivalry. Joseph and his brothers fought the same battle, only to find a place of reconciliation. Jesus Christ calls us to be a community of inclusion, highlighted in this year with the stories of The Samaritan Woman at the Well, Zacchaeus and Mary Magdalene. We forge our identities as we build community; both Paul and Martin Luther addressed the issues of living in a Christian community. Each culture responds to the faith story in relation to their own history and customs; this year will explore how various cultures communicate the biblical stories within their own context.

Jacob and Esau

Bedouin Encampment: Hear the story of Jacob and Esau via the soap opera parody “As the Desert Burns”. Create dioramas.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Using a matching game, review Jacob’s life. Create an acrostic or nametag with the participant’s own name, recalling how Jacob grew into the identity of Israel. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Through the story of Jacob’s deception, explore the consequences of lying versus telling the truth.

Created by the Spirit: Hear the story of the reconciliation between Jacob and Esau. Make baskets to understand how the lives of the twins were woven together; just as they were drawn to compete as children, they were drawn to make peace as adults.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Enter into the story of Jacob and Esau by trading M&M’s. Continue to explore the story through the sharing of a lentil soup recipe and bread.

Faith Today: Exploring the good and bad news in the newspaper, enter into a discussion about our need to be bearers of the Good News in our world. The Carter Center is used as an example of a group of people working for peace and reconciliation in the world today.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Rebekah, the mother, serves biblical foods while telling the story of her twin boys from their birth through her role in the passing of the blessing to Jacob. Make a friendship bracelet to understand how the lives of Jacob and Esau were interwoven, calling for reconciliation in the future.

Moved by the Spirit: Experience the scope of the Jacob and Esau story in a variety of both competitive and cooperative games: relay races, Tug of War and Tug of Peace, and walk across a bridge. Active learning at its best.

Puppetry: Compare Jacob’s struggle to understand who he was supposed to be with the ancient Japanese story of the Stonecutter. The puppet activities will be based on the Stonecutter’s story.

Video Live!: Today’s lesson takes place at a wrestling event. A “musical group” reviews Jacob’s life and then he wrestles with “Mystery.” During the match, his name is changed to Israel.

Where in the World Is?: Learn how the story of Jacob and Esau was a mirror to the story of the history of Israel. Find where the places from the story exist in today’s world. Discover the deep-seated issues of the Middle East peace process that act as a parallel to the story.

Joseph and His Brothers

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Joseph tell his story in his own words and make dream catchers.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Do a Bible study of Joseph and create “Where’s Joseph” pictures (aka “Where’s Waldo”) of the major scenes of the story. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Try on Joseph’s coat and see how it changes you? How does it empower you to make the world a better place?

Created by the Spirit: Make tie-dyed T-shirts to remember that each of us is a favorite in the eyes of God.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make the family tree of Abraham/Isaac/Jacob using gingerbread people. Learn the power of the promise of the covenant.

Faith Today: Create a multi-colored coat made of individual expressions of identity while exploring the power of fashion statements in today’s culture.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear Leah tell her tale of woe about her blended family and the favoritism shown to Joseph. Make worry dolls (from South America) to be passed on to those who need to remember God's presence in the valleys of our lives.

Moved by the Spirit: Play charades to enact the two dreams of Joseph and the four other dreams he interpreted in Egypt. Discuss the role of dreams, particularly as Joseph saw them as revelations from God.

Puppetry: Compare the story of Joseph to the children's classic by Judy Blume, The Pain and the Great One. Enact scenarios from real life about sibling rivalry and discover avenues for reconciliation.

Video Live!: After watching a video of the story of Joseph, recreate the scene of the brothers on the night that they tell their father that Joseph has been killed by a wild animal.

Where in the World Is?: While learning the story of Joseph, discover the culture-shock that he encountered while moving from a Bedouin existence in Canaan to the established order of Egypt. Try on the different clothes of the two cultures and even apply make-up to look like an Egyptian.

Joseph in Egypt

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Joseph tell his story of reconciliation with his brothers and his understanding of how God worked through his life. Play *Jeopardy* to reinforce the lesson.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Study the Joseph story in relation to repentance. Make a reconciliation card to express an apology, an act of forgiveness or a request for God's presence. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact the story of Joseph and his brothers through open-ended scenarios that, at first, might not parallel the Bible. Then enact them with the understanding of God's hand in opening hearts to repentance.

Created by the Spirit: Create an Egyptian wall mural or relief plaques to depict the scenes of Joseph's life in Egypt.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make Twelve Tribe Trail Mix, learning how these twelve separate brothers became united as the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Learn about Jacob's blessing and discuss the role of blessings in our lives. Great lesson!

Faith Today: Understand the role of the famine in the Joseph story. Discover some current methods of sustainable agriculture in relation to the famines of today.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Meet Benjamin, the youngest of the twelve brothers, who almost spent a lifetime in prison. Create a "Tri-Ball", a ball made of twenty circles, to remember how we are all united in the covenant.

Moved by the Spirit: Play adapted versions of Simon Says, Four Square and Battleship to move your way into the story of Joseph and the quest for identity of his family.

Puppetry: Create puppet shows to visualize the dreams of Joseph's cellmates and the Pharaoh. Contemplate the role of BIG dreams of vision; hear Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s *I Have A Dream* speech and then portray personal visions of a better world.

Video Live!: Create a clay-animation video of the Joseph story.

Where in the World Is?: Understand the Joseph story within the context of the Nile River, Egypt and Africa.

Christmas around the World

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Jesus' father, Joseph, tell his story of the nativity. Enact the Appalachian folk song, The Cherry Tree, a carol that expresses Joseph's conflict and resolution about the birth of our Savior.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Explore the story found in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. Options include an evaluation of Christmas Cards for biblical integrity, creation of a book of traditions as practiced by the families in your church or creation of mock web pages that illustrate a biblical portrayal of the Christmas story. Software not included.

Bible Improv: How do we share our faith throughout the celebration of the Christmas story? Explore the differences between a secular and religious celebration of Christmas in America.

Created by the Spirit: Learn about how Christmas is celebrated in Germany. Make a variety of ornaments that are based on a German tradition.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Participate in a Moravian Love Feast as an ethnic expression of telling the Christmas story.

Faith Today: One of the names for Jesus is Immanuel, which means God with Us. Learn how the organization, SERVV, is an expression of God's presence among us in the person of Jesus Christ.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Explore and enact Christmas Carols from the western world, including *Good King Wenceslas*, *Silent Night Holy Night*, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, and African-American Spirituals.

Moved by the Spirit: Participate in a Posada, the celebration of Christmas in Mexico.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show for the story of La Befana, an Italian tradition of a person who finds the Christ Child in all children.

Video Live!: Discover how cultures of the Western World celebrate Christmas.

Where in the World Is?: Discover how the cultures of the non-Western world celebrate Christmas.

Samaritan Woman at the Well

Bedouin Encampment: Hear the story from the perspective of the disciples. Do a project to reflect on who we are on the outside and who we are on the inside.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Explore the story using Bible skills and then create a picture book using *Storybook Weaver Deluxe*. Software not included.

Bible Improv: After enacting the story, create vignettes based on real-life experiences of inclusion and exclusion. Ponder how Jesus would react to the situation and how that guides our own behaviors.

Created by the Spirit: Make Mardi Gras masks while learning how this celebration is really an anticipation of Lent, the time when Christians contemplate their relationship with Jesus Christ. Enacting the story with these masks, understand how this is a metaphor for the transformation of the Woman at the Well.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make strawberry shortcake to understand how the Woman at the Well was transformed by the love of Jesus Christ.

Faith Today: Share a contemporary story of a Mayan woman who was transformed by the love of Jesus. Create heart-shaped frames for love scriptures.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear the Samaritan Woman at the Well tell her story; perform science experiments about transformation.

Moved by the Spirit: Using physical movements, learn about the enmity between Samaritans and Jews. Encased in Body Sox™, identify with the feelings of the Woman at the Well throughout her encounter with Jesus Christ.

Puppetry: Anticipate barriers that prevent us from treating each other as whole human beings; using puppets, role-play how those barriers can be broken down. How would Jesus deal with the situation, embracing every single person with God's love?

Video Live!: Create a newscast of the encounter between the Samaritan Woman at the Well and Jesus. For non-readers, the option of watching a clip from the movie, *Babe*, is included. Ponder the issue of the development of identity when the world wants to treat you in a different manner than you believe is true to yourself.

Where in the World Is?: Equate the enmity between the Samaritans and the Jews with our current world: Northern Ireland/England, Israel/The Arab World. Learn about programs of reconciliation and design your own.

Zacchaeus

Bedouin Encampment: Play some tricks with money to understand how the people of Jericho felt cheated by Zacchaeus and then hear James tell the story of Zacchaeus' redemption.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Explore the story using the software *The Life of Christ* and then create a story about how Jesus would "save" someone who was seen as beyond redemption. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact the story, The Empty Pot, a Chinese fable about a boy who is in a contest to win the throne of a kingdom by growing flowers; when his flowers do not grow, he presents the king with an empty pot. The boy is surprised when the King accepts his gift. Why? Zacchaeus certainly felt that he had an empty pot when he first encountered Jesus.

Created by the Spirit: Create a tree mobile to reflect on the hopes and fears of Zacchaeus as he tried to see Jesus.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make fig cookies using biblical references to identify the ingredients. Learn the story in relation to those cookies.

Faith Today: Create a puzzle to understand how we all have many pieces of our own puzzle that come together to bring us to wholeness and peace. The relationship with Jesus Christ was the part of the puzzle that Zacchaeus was missing. The class will then create their own jigsaw puzzles.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear Zacchaeus tell his own story. Make "trans-formatics", fans that when viewed from one direction show how Zacchaeus was before his encounter with Jesus and from the other direction shows his changed character.

Moved by the Spirit: Discuss how our accumulation of "stuff" can get in the way of a full relationship with God. Play a variety of games in relation to scripture about wealth.

Puppetry: Make pop-up puppets to symbolize how Zacchaeus grew in stature upon meeting Jesus. Create a rhythmic rendition of the story and perform it with the puppets.

Video Live!: Create a video similar to "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous," featuring Robbing Leach and Zacchaeus. You'll even catch his transformation on the videotape.

Where in the World Is?: Simulate an archaeological dig to discover the many treasures that might have been in Zacchaeus' home. Learn how he made his wealth and create contemporary scenarios of how the lost are found by Jesus.

Mary Magdalene

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Joseph of Arimathea tell his story of providing the tomb for Jesus. Make stoles with Easter symbols for the pastor.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Explore Holy Week in the software *Pathways through Jerusalem*. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Along the lines of the Christmas carol The Friendly Beasts, create an improvisation about the animals' perspectives throughout Holy Week.

Created by the Spirit: Create an Empty Tomb sculpture out of papier-mâché as a reminder of the Resurrection to display at home.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make a Women at the Empty Tomb cake decorated with jelly beans that symbolize the events of Holy Week.

Faith Today: Explore the rituals and traditions of your local community in the way that it deals with death, funerals, memorial services and grief.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear Mary Magdalene tell her story. View masterpieces of art about Holy Week and write haiku poetry. Create tableaus of the artwork while reading the corresponding haiku.

Moved by the Spirit: Play a human-scale board game to understand the events of Holy Week. Then, clothed in Body Sox™, work through a guided imagery of the Resurrection as each participant identifies with the feelings of the tomb, the stone, the linens, etc. in relation to the Risen Christ.

Puppetry: Relate the biblical story of Holy Week to the book Badger's Parting Gifts, a story about how Badger prepares his friends for his own death. Prepare and perform a puppet play of the story.

Video Live!: Stage and video the game show, *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*, by creating questions about Holy Week. You can include the pastor as the call-a-friend lifeline.

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the role of women in Jesus' time. Make giant pop-up and pull-tab cards that express how Jesus changed the role of women in his time.

Easter around the World

Bedouin Encampment: Investigate the symbolism behind a wide variety of flowers and horticulture in relation to the Easter message of the Resurrection and new life.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Explore the Holy Sepulchre (the site of Jesus' crucifixion and entombment) in the software *Pathways through Jerusalem*. Make doorknob hangers that celebrate the resurrection. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Explore the differences between the biblical Easter story and how it is represented by the commercial world in America.

Created by the Spirit: Learn how Bermuda celebrates the Resurrection by flying kites. Make a kite and bring it home to fly with the family on Easter morning.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make kolaches, raspberry lemonade and kielbasa while learning how Slavic people celebrate Easter.

Faith Today: Learn how churches around the world and in particular your local church celebrates the days of Holy Week.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear Peter tell his story of denial, witness and leadership in the church. Learn how the Greek Orthodox tradition celebrates Easter Eve at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Decorate candles to remember that Jesus is the light of the world.

Moved by the Spirit: Learn about the symbolism of the egg and then play Easter egg games from around the world.

Puppetry: Learn about the symbolism of the lily. Enact a puppet show about a lily in the Garden of Gethsemane and how it is transformed to be a herald of the Resurrection.

Video Live!: Create a newscast that explores the history and origin of the Easter Bunny in relation to the Resurrection.

26

Where in the World Is?: Explore the history of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site where it is believed that Jesus was crucified, buried and resurrected. In a simulation of the cooperation required by the six denominations that preside over the church, create a sacred space for an alcove in that church.

Paul: Who Can Be a Christian?

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Paul tell his tale of travels through Greece. Decorate flowerpots to make the connection to 2 Corinthians 4:7.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Learn how Paul makes a connection between faith in Jesus Christ and the faith of Abraham. Create word art to express the scriptures. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Discover the mysterious history of the Catacombs, paint ancient Christian symbols on a wall or banner and experience an early worship liturgy.

Created by the Spirit: Examine the Holman Hunt picture called *The Light of the World*. Create banners to signify that Jesus is a light to the whole world.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Learn about the *Fruits of the Spirit* as defined in Galatians 5:22-26. Make fruit salad.

Faith Today: Explore how mission projects are a reflection of the light of Jesus that we carry within us. Decorate mirrors to be placed throughout the church so that all parishioners can see how their own image reflects the true light.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear Lydia's story, learn about house churches and share an Agape meal.

Moved by the Spirit: Using large body movement, explore how our faith is what defines who we are as Christians: We are justified by faith.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show to the song, "In Christ there is no East or West."

Video Live!: Learn the Parable of the Sower. Discover how the church of the first century became a global church, making an elaborate bulletin board of maps and pictures

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the churches in China, the Sudan and Russia that are struggling to maintain their identity in the face of political oppression. Base-church communities are reminiscent of the early House Church.

Martin Luther and the Reformation

Bedouin Encampment: Meet Martin Luther himself and use class participation to discover some of his famous quotes. Ponder ways that the church can be the voice for church and social issues, write them into theses and nail them to a "Wittenberg door".

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use a scripture scrambler game to learn the scripture of Romans 5:1. Either use a concordance to discover how Greek is translated into English or study the memory verse in a variety of Bible translations. Use a paint program to create an illustration of "grace." Software not included.

Bible Improv: Anticipate the emotions and reactions of the story and then enact the selling of indulgences and nailing of 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg church.

Created by the Spirit: View the famous wood-cuts of Albrecht Durer as they reflected the religious and social tensions of the time. Recreate his famous "Hands of the Apostle," better known as "The Praying Hands."

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Eat your way through the Protestant Reformation. Study and sing the hymn, “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” and make graham cracker fortress.

Faith Today: Learn how the Reformation grew throughout all of Europe, freeing nations from the tight grasp of Rome. Create a family tree of the church to see how all Christian denominations stem from the same root of Jesus Christ.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Meet John Calvin, discovering why his churches are so stark in contrast to the opulence of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. Make statues to fill a miniature basilica and then remove them, discussing whether the presence of art enhances or distracts from worship.

Moved by the Spirit: Play a variety of kinesthetic games to learn about Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Puppetry: Re-create the trial of Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms with worm puppets acting as chorus, Pope Leo and Martin Luther. Easy script is provided.

Video Live!: Create ad campaigns for both the Catholic and Lutheran positions about the issue of grace: can indulgences buy your way into heaven or does faith in the grace of God serve as the pathway to heaven?

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the events of the Reformation by playing life-size Bingo and Concentration. A very visual lesson!

The Word of God

The Word of God, as passed on to us through the Bible and lives of the faithful, is a multifaceted jewel providing for us many different ways to enter into the story of faith. It is from these words that we receive guidance and support as we travel on the journey of faith. From the ancient text of Genesis to the power of Revelation God’s word continues to be relevant to our lives.

How the Bible Came to Be

Bedouin Encampment: Discover how the Dead Sea Scrolls have played an important part in biblical scholarship.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Using a variety of computer software, learn about the evolution of the Bible, what “canon” means, learn about the Jefferson Bible and create a canon for each class. Software not included.

Bible Improv: From oral history through the printing process to electronic Bibles, experience the various media of Bible publication in a learning center atmosphere.

Created by the Spirit: After viewing examples of illuminated manuscripts, particularly the Book of Kells and the St. John’s Bible, create an illuminated verse.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Become familiar with the books of the Bible by associating them with various foods.

Faith Today: Hear from Francine (or Frank) Featherduster about how to keep your Bible from getting dusty. Learn how to use a variety of Bible study resources. Activity options: Time with God Journal, Bible Scavenger Hunt, plastic-canvas bookmarks, Bible book covers.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Hear St. Jerome tell his story about why he translated the Bible from Greek and Hebrew to the Latin Vulgate. Experience the translation process.

Moved by the Spirit: Become a team of Bible librarians who race to organize all of the books of the Bible on a shelf, first by type of book and then by order. Play Bible Baseball to learn how to look up scripture.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show about an encounter between an alien and some children on their way to Sunday School. The puppets will explain the basic origin of the Bible, the kinds of stories that are in the Bible and tell the alien how to use the Bible.

Video Live!: Using a table of contents of the Bible, share information about how the Bible came to be. Create a video archive of testimonials from classmates and congregational members regarding their favorite Bible stories.

Where in the World Is?: Delve into the world of Bible translation. After learning about biblical archaeology, make a time capsule for your church.

The Psalms

Bedouin Encampment: Explore Psalm 122 as it focuses on the centrality of Jerusalem to the nation of Israel and to worship. Learn how hymns and gospel songs found their inspiration in the psalms.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use a scripture scrambler game to get started and then explore the evolution of Solomon's Temple over the last 3000 years using *Pathways through Jerusalem* Activities include writing a prayer to be sent to the Wailing Wall and illustrating a psalm using a graphics program. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Using a Box-o-Props, improvise skits about the various images of God as expressed in the Psalms.

Created by the Spirit: Explore Psalm 121 and create 3-D paper sculptures to illustrate the images.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Interpret hymns and gospel songs that were inspired by the psalms by creating pictures using snack foods.

Faith Today: Focus on Psalm 67 and then select from a variety of outreach projects to respond to the call to international mission.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Meet Milcha and hear about her trip to the Temple in Jerusalem. Compose an original musical accompaniment for Psalm 24 using handmade instruments.

Moved by the Spirit: Playing a variety of games, explore Psalm 139, learning that God is always watching over us.

Puppetry: Combine a drama of what a person of faith would say about the 23rd Psalm using imagery in a puppet show.

Video Live!: Explore psalms of lament, particularly Psalm 22, the first words of which were spoken by Jesus on the cross. Create a music video or silent movie to reflect the images in the psalm.

Where in the World Is?: Explore a variety of geographic images in the Psalms. Create a journey through a "Psalms board" or write a Psalm for a local geographic feature.

Ezekiel

Bedouin Encampment: Learn the story of Ezekiel through an interactive drama. Explore the "blueprint" for Israel's return to Jerusalem and find out how closely Ezekiel's vision resembled Ezra's restored Temple.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Explore the story using hardcopy Bible study resources or software (*Bibleland.com* or *The Amazing Expedition Bible*). Make a mobile using graphics to portray the story, reminding us that the breath of God offers us new life. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Make simple props for use in the enactment of the visions of Ezekiel, from the wheel in Chapter 1 to the valley of dry bones in Chapter 37.

Created by the Spirit: Create pictures of Ezekiel's visions using pastels.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: After hearing about Ezekiel’s call as a prophet, make crepes as a reminder that God told him to eat the scrolls. Make multi-grain bread to remind the class of the anticipated hardship of the exile.

Faith Today: Use a group crossword puzzle as a medium for telling the story. Turn Ezekiel’s promise of new life into reality by restoring a household item that will be given to someone who is starting over, just as Israel had the opportunity to start over.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Hear the story of Ezekiel from the perspective of one of the Israelites in exile. Compare this story to the story of the Hmong people from Laos, creating a Hmong story cloth to retell your congregation’s history or a portion of the book of Ezekiel.

Moved by the Spirit: Explore the command by God for Ezekiel to build a wall and then lie by it for over a year to simulate the years of exile of Israel and the separation from God. Sing an Ezekiel rhyme while jumping rope. Move through a 3D maze to remember how the Israelites would have to escape their destruction. Dance to the song “Dry Bones.”

Puppetry: Create a black-light puppet show featuring trick-or-treaters who ponder the skeletons they learned about in Sunday School. The African-American spiritual “Dry Bones” is the featured song using glow-in-the-dark life-size skeletons. This is a great performance opportunity.

Video Live!: Create a newscast of Ezekiel’s extraordinary life of prophecy, filled with on-location interviews.

Where in the World Is?: Explore the Babylonian exile through scripture, songs and geography.

Christmas: Gospel Comparison

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Mary tell her story of Jesus’ birth, using a box of mementos that she has kept over the years to remember that blessed time. Create a potholder to weave the various threads of Mary’s story together.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Using the software program, *Life of Christ*, learn about the details of the birth of Jesus. Discover scripture, geography, timelines and new vocabulary. Create a letter to God on how Jesus, God Incarnate, should appear on earth. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Discover the differences between the nativity stories in the Matthew and Luke. Prepare for the enactment of the original play, Countdown to Christmas: a Life-size Advent Calendar. The class will become a life-sized advent calendar. Each child will be one or more of the days on the calendar. As the days are counted down, the story of Jesus’ birth is revealed.

Created by the Spirit: Review how the nativity story is rendered on Christmas cards. Organize the Christmas cards in terms of their illustration of the Matthew, Luke, John and combined accounts. Create ornaments that express a favorite detail of the nativity story.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Hear the account of Jesus’ birth from Matthew and Luke. Make a cake, cereal snack and coconut mice to reinforce the story.

Faith Today: After reviewing the nativity story in Matthew, Luke and John, view the video Martin the Cobbler. Make a “Welcome Lord” craft as a reminder of God’s presence in our daily lives.

Mary & Martha’s Bed & Breakfast: Play the game “Name That Tune” to Christmas carols that reveal the biblical nativity story.

Moved by the Spirit: Play a game of life-size Checkers to learn the names in Jesus’ family tree, as found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

Puppetry: Create ornaments that symbolize different parts of the nativity story and then participate in a scripted puppet show.

Video Live!: Use the script provided to make a “radio broadcast” of the story with sound effects. You may choose to copy and distribute the tapes to homebound members of the congregation. 30

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the different places in the Christmas story and connect them to ancient history. View a video or pictures of each location. Create a sand map as the locations are discussed. Create sand art to take home as a remembrance of the special places in the Christmas story.

The Beatitudes

Bedouin Encampment: Meet the author of the book of Matthew and hear about the Beatitudes. Play a large board game to reinforce the Beatitudes and to see how they relate to everyday life.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Use the following software to explore the Beatitudes: *Cal & Marty's Scripture Game*, *Life of Christ*, and *Walking in their Sandals*.. Using graphics, create a page that describes someone in whom s/he sees God. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Play memorization games with the Beatitudes. Act out encounters between Jesus and the Samaritan Woman at the Well, Zacchaeus, Matthew and the Rich Young Man.

Created by the Spirit: Shape clay as you hear the Beatitudes. Look at various famous sculptures. Create an individual sculpture of one of the Beatitudes.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Experience the Beatitudes through taste. Make a bean soup or chili (either fresh, frozen or dried) to be sold as a fundraiser for your local food pantry. This is an especially good lesson in January for “Soup-er Bowl” Sunday or a Chili Cook-off.

Faith Today: Invite members of the congregation to share with the class what they do to make the world a better place, making a connection to the Beatitudes. Share the work of the young poet, Mattie Stepanek. Respond to their work by writing a litany, poem or web page or drawing a poster about your heroes.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Do a balloon exercise to memorize the Beatitudes. Learn about Jesus' encounter with Jairus and the woman who touched his robe. Make cards of sympathy and condolence to those in the congregation who need them. Share joys and concerns, creating a prayer chain within the group.

Moved by the Spirit: Play several games to become more familiar with the different Beatitudes. Use Body Sox™ to internalize the Beatitudes.

Puppetry: After studying the Beatitudes, learn about the “lost” parables: the lost coin, the lost sheep and the Prodigal Son. Prepare skits to portray each of these parables within the context of the Sermon on the Mount.

Video Live!: Select one of the Beatitude that speaks to each participant personally and put it in his or her own words. Videotape these personal versions of the Beatitudes.

Where in the World Is?: Create a large, interactive floor map to get a sense of where Jesus lived and the background of those who met him. Learn about the Sermon on the Mount from the Beatitudes to the parable of the house built on sand and on rock.

The Great Commandment

Bedouin Encampment: Hear from a man who heard Jesus teaching in the Temple in Jerusalem and experiment with various physical attitudes of prayer. Do an activity to encourage prayer life at home.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Discover what Jesus said about love by playing *Cal & Marty's Scripture Game* to learn the Great Commandment. Do an in-depth study of the Great Commandment using Bible atlases, dictionaries, and children's Bibles. Make “Love” cards or valentines to send to homebound members of the church. Software not included.

Created by the Spirit: After playing a Jeopardy game to understand how the Pharisees tested Jesus, paint a plaster cast of the Great Commandment.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Just as scripture nurtures our soul, so does soul food. Learn the history of soul food and make peach cobbler.

Faith Today: Compare understanding God's word to a radio receiver set or ham radio getting good reception. Tell and enact the parable of the sower and the seed. Plant seeds in a cup to take home and nurture.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: After making phylacteries that house the Shema, role-play a variety of experiences that involve what happened at the Temple in Jerusalem.

Moved by the Spirit: Work through a circuit of activities to ponder the sections of the Great Commandment: heart, strength, soul. Using balloons, experience the power of neighbors to support each other.

Puppetry: Compare the expressive joy in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony to the Great Commandment. Create a puppet show to reveal how Jesus was tested at the Temple choreographed to "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee."

Video Live!: Learn how the Great Commandment is connected to the parable of the Good Samaritan. Watch the Veggie Tales™ movie, "Who Is My Neighbor?" Make popcorn strings to bring home and share with the birds as a reminder of our love toward our neighbor.

Where in the World Is?: Making the connection between the Great Commandment and the Good Samaritan parable, ponder how we can be a good neighbor in relation to the environment.

Holy Week: Gospel Comparison

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Simon of Cyrene tell his story of carrying Jesus' cross on his way to Golgotha. Do an exercise that ponders how we give our burdens to Jesus. Create a cross with nails and lacing.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: After exploring Holy Week using illustrated Bibles or *Play and Learn Children's Bible CD*, create a timeline. Possible software options: *Storybook Weaver*, *Kids Pix*, *Writing Blaster*, *Christian Click Art*. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Enact the different events from Jesus' trial through the resurrection in a melodramatic style. This is a very fun and interactive.

Created by the Spirit: Explore the stories of the angels at the resurrection and make angels using either mock stained glass panels or flowerpots.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Explore the story of the Last Supper and the words of institution. Make unleavened bread and ponder how things that are broken can be useful.

Faith Today: Using static electricity experiments, learn about the events of Holy Week.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Mary, mother of James and John, tells the story of Holy Week, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem through the resurrection. Share herb-related foods. Create bath salts.

Moved by the Spirit: Express the emotions throughout Holy Week while journeying through the Stations of the Cross.

Puppetry: Portray the events of Holy Week and choreograph several songs. Script provided.

Video Live!: Explore many portrayal of the pieta and then choose some to enact, recording them with either a video or digital camera.

Where in the World Is?: Learn the story of how Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. Participate in a foot-washing service and ponder how we express our faith through service to others. Make personal service banners to take home or decorate washcloths to give to a homeless shelter.

Acts of the Apostles

Bedouin Encampment: Hear the story of Peter's visit with Cornelius from the point of view of one of Cornelius' servants. Share various fruit as a way to explore the concept of diversity. Explore ways your congregation welcomes visitors. Create a welcome wreath to display in the greeting area of your church.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Create the front page of a newspaper to reflect the various main events in Acts. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Experience and compare the story of the Tower of Babel with Pentecost. Create a rebus for several of the important parts of Peter's famous sermon and then play Concentration with the rebus in as the background. Eat Red Velvet birthday cake or red foods.

Created by the Spirit: Learn about Paul's visit to Antioch. Create a light project: either an oil lamp, switch plate cover or candleholder.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Hear Lydia's story. Make a square of purple cloth and wrap it around a shell to remember Lydia. Eat purple food.

Faith Today: Learn about the Holy Spirit through skits and guided imagery. Make pennants of how the participants would proclaim an experience with the Holy Spirit in their lives, whether real or anticipated. (Option: scrapbooking.)

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear the story of Silas and Paul as they met the fortune-teller in Philippi. Experience how Paul and Silas were jailed and then released. Create a paper prayer chain to understand how God's grace releases the chains that we forge in life. Hear an incredible story of a prayer chain (one of the best stories you will ever hear.)

Moved by the Spirit: Bowl through the book of Acts. During each frame, hear one of ten different stories from the book of Acts. Fantastic!

Puppetry: Use American Sign Language to learn the story of Paul's conversion. Create a puppet show to the song, "Paul: Sacred Agent Man."

Video Live!: Create a "Survivor" type video of Paul's adventures, with each class filming a different episode of Paul's incredible journey.

Where in the World Is?: Create an alphabet book, border or poster series related to the Acts of the Apostles

The Epistles: On Location

Bedouin Encampment: Meet Epaphroditus, the letter carrier for Paul mentioned in Philippians 2:25. Make stationery using rubber stamps and embossing tools as a reminder of how Paul wrote letters of comfort and support to the new churches.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Study Paul's missionary journeys using *Life and Ministry of Paul CD* for younger children and *Life of Christ CD* for older children. Explore Paul's letter to the Ephesians and review the Armor of God. Write letters to missionaries in the style of Paul, using Kids Pix or other graphics program. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Create the television show, "This Is Your Life" for Timothy, the companion of Apostle Paul for 17 years. Commercials add pizzazz to the prewritten script.

Created by the Spirit: Focus on the book of Romans. Create a picture frame using bent wire and colored glass as symbols of life experiences.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Experience how the early church, particularly in Corinth, shared meals. Create a space that makes a connection between a communal meal, the body of Christ, and communion.

Faith Today: Learn about Paul's many prison experiences and his letters from prison to the churches he helped to establish. Learn about how Jesus' command in Matthew 25 encourages us to care for those in prison.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear Priscilla tell about her friendship and travels with Paul as they visited Christian churches around Asia Minor. Create string-art maps of the region, marking the cities of Rome, Corinth and Ephesus, where Priscilla, Aquila and Paul crossed paths.

Moved by the Spirit: Learn about the church in Corinth. Play Isthmian games and win crowns. Learn the difference between these temporary crowns and the eternal crown we win when we enter into the kingdom.

Puppetry: Learn about the church in Galatia and study the famous scripture about the fruits of the spirit. Create a puppet show that explores how the fruits of the spirit are revealed in our contemporary lives, using Bryan Sirchio's "Holy Spirit Fruit" song as a backdrop.

Video Live!: Use the Dr. Seuss book, *Gertrude McFuzz*, as a pathway to understand the gifts of the spirit. Do personal assessments that reveal the multiple intelligences that we all have. Create and videotape a show about gifts of the spirit.

Where in the World Is?: Become travel agents for Damascus Road Travels: *Where a life can change in a flash!* by creating travel brochures and travel posters that will encourage others to follow in Paul's footsteps.

The Church Year

Bedouin Encampment: A butterfly grower tells a story about butterfly watching, metamorphosis, and the connection to Easter. Release butterflies and do a butterfly craft.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: After learning about the liturgical year, play a Lotto game to associate various Bible stories with their liturgical season. Software not included.

Bible Improv: Do some "time" activities to ponder the concept of waiting during Advent. Enact waiting experiences, play Twister™, make a human Advent Wreath, and play the game, "Are We There Yet?"

Created by the Spirit: Hear the story of Jesus calming the storm. Look at famous pieces of art that depict this miracle. Use watercolors to create a personal response to this story.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Learn about the connection between the Jewish harvest celebration of Sukkoth and the American celebration of Thanksgiving. Celebrate the harvest in a class-built sukkah.

Faith Today: See how the seasons of the church year are mirrored in our own lives. Put together a time capsule of ways your congregation celebrates the church year. Create a round calendar to celebrate the church year.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear the Christmas story as told by Mary. Create prayer and blessing calendars for new parents.

Moved by the Spirit: Review the events of Holy Week, focusing on the emotions experienced by different participants. Create a roller coaster to depict the emotional ups and downs of Holy Week.

Puppetry: Learn about Ordinary Time in the liturgical year and create a puppet show about servanthood, one theme that is highlighted during this time.

Video Live!: Understand the liturgical year by studying the passage from Ecclesiastes: to every thing there is a season. Create a video that expresses the seasons of the church year.

Where in the World Is?: Learn about the various seasons of the liturgical year and create banners to reflect the symbols of each season.

Test of Faith

Throughout the scriptures people faced many challenges to their faith. From Adam and Eve to you and me, there are times when we do well and live in ways that are pleasing to God. At other times we find ourselves in need of God's grace because we have missed the mark. Through the stories of faith we learn that God's grace is always extended to us.

Garden of Eden

Bedouin Encampment: Hear Johnny Appleseed tell both the Bible story and his own story as a man of faith and an early pioneer. Do an apple craft to remember that we are always held in God's love.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: View animated story and do several other activities. Learn about the Fertile Crescent and what life for Adam and Eve might have been like after the loss of Eden. Software included.

Bible Improv: Participants will create and act out short skits of their own creation, substituting a variety of contemporary settings for the Garden of Eden.

Created by the Spirit: Juxtapose Bible reading, chalk art and classical music to develop a deeper understanding of Eden, free choice and grace. Part of the storytelling could include Adam and Eve telling their story side-by-side.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make lemon or chocolate treats as a springboard to ponder the bitterness of wrong choices and the sweetness of God's grace.

Faith Today: Fill a poet-tree with poems about Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden.

Mary and Martha's Bed and Breakfast: Eve tells the story of her experience in the Garden of Eden. Choose from a variety of apple crafts to remember that it is we humans who choose to be unfaithful to God; God is always faithful.

Moved by the Spirit: Play some games of choice to discover how we have free choice, how we can suffer the consequences of those choices and that God's grace is what keeps us right with God.

Puppetry: This is a performance-based workshop. As the class becomes part of a campout scene, they watch a puppet show about the Garden of Eden. After discussion, they become scribes, recording what they saw, creating a scroll library.

Video Live!: Compare the Garden of Eden story to movie clips from *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* as an avenue for understanding the purpose of rules and the need for grace.

Where in the World Is?: Focus on the relationship between the Garden of Eden, stewardship of the earth and current agricultural practices. Learn about organic gardening. Create garden tool hangers to use as a congregational fundraiser for organizations that encourage sustainable agriculture.

Ruth

Bedouin Encampment: Learn about Ruth's gleanings by hearing the story "The Little Red Hen" and making a wheat craft.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: View animated story and do other activities. Learn about the shoe ceremony and other ancient customs of property exchange. Software included

Bible Improv: Using props and costumes act out seven scenes from the story of Ruth. Script provided for both pre-readers and readers.

Created by the Spirit: Hear the story of Ruth through a paper-tearing exercise. Create divided hearts from either plastic or clay to share with someone you love.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Hear the story of Ruth as cooking ingredients are arranged to make scones. Create recipe cards for the scones that include personal blessings. Share scones in class and with family.

Faith Today: Hear the story of Ruth and learn about pockets of emptiness and pockets of fullness. Create reversible pockets that are filled with love, hope, kindness, joy, patience ---- and hugs and kisses.

Mary and Martha's Bed and Breakfast: The storyteller is a screen director who is walking the cast through the first rehearsal of the movie, "The Book of Ruth", teaching the cast how various intonations can change the way a sentence is read and understood. Act out the pre-written script, pondering how vocal intonations can change a scene.

Moved by the Spirit: Play a variety of games to discover what it is like to work in pairs, equating their feelings to the long walk home from Moab to Bethlehem.

Puppetry: Imagine that Ruth asks Naomi, "What is your God like?" Naomi calls on the many images of God that are found in the Bible. Create 3D props that express an image of God that will become the props for a puppet show. The class has the opportunity to fine tune a loose script, adding their own dimensions.

Video Live!: Understand the story of Ruth against the backdrop of human migration across the millennia. Create the experience of an immigration office with each student role-playing potential foreigner who wants to enter Bethlehem, connecting that experience with God's open invitation to enter the kingdom of God.

Where in the World Is?: Do map activities to understand the Holy Land and boundaries of current Middle Eastern nations. Hear the story of "Laura's Revenge" about a young Israeli women who discovers God's love while avenging the death of her father.

Daniel

Bedouin Encampment: Daniel is the storyteller, using magic tricks to understand the difference between hocus-pocus and God's ultimate power. Build Nebuchadnezzar's tree, do a handwriting-on-the-wall exercise and complete a giant crossword puzzle.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: View *Daniel and the Lions' Den* animation, trace the route of the Jewish exile to Babylon and use an interactive timeline to learn about some of the events in Daniel's life. Examine illustrations of events from the Book of Daniel by famous artists. Software included.

Bible Improv: Play "Babylon Squares" to learn the story behind the first six chapters in Daniel.

Created by the Spirit: View a gallery of religious art on Daniel and use drawing media to discover images that give strength and courage to a faithful people.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make apple turnovers while hearing the story of how Daniel consistently turned his tests of faith over to God.

Faith Today: Showcase Nebuchadnezzar's Icon Gallery by pondering the role of current objects of idolatry and creating several mock icons that display an understanding of the power of eternal power of God vs. the fleeting power of pop culture.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: King Nebuchadnezzar is the storyteller who creates a visual display of what Babylon looked like at the time of Daniel. Choose from several crafts.

Moved by the Spirit: Play a variety of lion beanbag games to understand how much Daniel relied on God and how God was active in his life.

Puppetry: Using the book The Story of Daniel in the Lions' Den for the script, create a puppet show with kitchen utensils as the puppets.

Video Live!: Imagine the conversations that Daniel and his friends had as they progress through the story. Create a behind-the-scenes videotape of simple dialogues that may have occurred. Trick photography ideas are included.

Where in the World Is?: Discover Daniel's dilemma regarding idols in Babylon. Play a Concentration game to discover images of God in Hebrew Scriptures. Make a representation of an image of God using an aboriginal art form. Gather around a world map and lead a guided imagery prayer service.

Christmas Dreams

Bedouin Encampment: Create points for a large star as different parts of the Christmas story are told. The final point will be for each person's personal Christmas dream.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Learn about Joseph's dreams through the animated story *Listen to the Angel*. Continue by exploring the Holy Lands and visual art that depicts the appearances of the angels in the story. Software included.

Bible Improv: Do "Matthew Mathematics" to discover how many generations were building dreams for Joseph before he wed Mary. Create and use rap songs as the story is enacted.

Created by the Spirit: Learn how Christmas dreams affected those around Jesus' birth and make breadough dreamer ornaments to remember this story.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Share the Christmas story from an "Unfolding Christmas Storybook" (provided) and create a Christmas Trifle.

Faith Today: For some people the Christmas time is very sad as they are dealing with a significant loss or change in their lives. Learn about Blue Christmas (Longest Night) services and provide a simple outreach project to those in your congregation that may be having a sad Christmas season.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Hear the story of Jesus' birth through the eyes of Joseph and make a wooden step stool.

Moved by the Spirit: Through a variety of active games explore the different dreams that were an important element of the Christmas story.

Puppetry: The Innkeeper's cleaning tools will share the story of the first Christmas. Broomstraw stars will be made as a reminder of God's Christmas dreams and love for us.

Video Live!: Create a video of Jesus' First Birthday party with all the people who were present at his birth.

Where in the World Is?: After hearing the Christmas story do an art scavenger hunt and then create either a batik pillow case or a string art project.

The Healing Miracles

Bedouin Encampment: Participate in two activities with altered vision and then hear the story of Blind Bartimaeus. Create God's eyes to remember the healing of Bartimaeus.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Learn about Jesus' ministry to the sick, poor and outcast through artwork, maps and animations. Create an electronic newspaper. Software included.

Created by the Spirit: A clip from *It's a Wonderful Life* will begin the exploration of the healing miracles that took place in a crowded setting. Create face-filled chalices as a reminder of all the different people that seek and receive healing from Jesus.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Eat foods common at the time of Jesus and make bread as the class learns about how Jesus healed Simon Peter's mother-in-law.

Faith Today: After learning how being unclean meant exclusion from the community at the time of Jesus, create a soap project to be donated to a benevolent organization.

Mary and Martha's Bed and Breakfast: Hear the story of the raising of Lazarus from the point of view of one of his neighbors. Respond to the story either by learning about healing services in your church, creating banners or walking a labyrinth.

Moved by the Spirit: Play a card game called "Interruptions Matter," a circular togetherness game and a color touch game (modification of blind man's bluff) as interaction with the story of Jesus healing of Jairus' daughter and the woman with a hemorrhage. Play countdown to internalize the story of the healing of Jairus' daughter.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show of the healing of the lame man who was lowered through the roof.

Video Live!: The class will become investigative TV reporters investigating several of Jesus' healing miracles.

Where in the World Is?: Study the geography of the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem and create an interactive map to illustrate the story of when Jesus healed a lame man on the Sabbath. Make a seed starter kit to understand how this miracle became a seed for Holy Week.

The Rich Young Man

Bedouin Encampment: Experiment with a variety of domino toppling activities. Hear from the mother of the Rich Young Man and his encounter with Jesus and then spend some time quietly listening for God's voice.

Bible @ your Fingertips: View animated story of *Jesus and the Rich Young Man*. Other activities explore the concept of riches and how we value material possessions, talents, and money. Software included.

Bible Improv: Enact the story in costume of the rich young man's encounter with Jesus. Create skits to portray the choices that the man has to make and how his choices effect other people.

Created by the Spirit: Hear the story, [The Quilt Maker's Gift](#), and create a tissue paper quilt. Consider launching a blanket drive.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Consider the number "100". Make pine cone bird feeders while learning the Parable of the Sower. Make angel food cake while learning about the encounter between Jesus and the rich young man.

Faith Today: Think about your favorite things and then share the story of [Rumpelstiltskin](#). Compare and contrast this story to the story of the Rich Young Man. Create wind chimes that help us remember to listen to the voice of God.

Mary and Martha's Bed and Breakfast: Greet the class as the rich young man who must decide what to do about his stuff. Experience two ways that wealth can be a burden. Lead the class in deciding whether to keep the possessions or follow Jesus.

Moved by the Spirit: Play two interactive games: "All caught up in ...Tag" and "Spinning a Yarn." Read and discuss the connection between the games and the story of the Rich Young Man. Play "Tight Squeeze" and then discuss Mark 10:23-2.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show entitled the “Next Best Thing.” Compare the ending of the scripture to the ending of their puppet show.

Video Live!: Select one or more of the commercial styles and create an advertisement for Eternal Life.

Where in the World Is?: Participate in a two-person narration about the rich young man’s encounter with Jesus. Learn about the UN’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights and do some interactive exercises to highlight some of the elements of poverty and need for basic human services. Consider one of several service projects in response to the story.

Garden of Gethsemane

Bedouin Encampment: Here the story of Holy Week from Judas’ perspective. Create a potpourri while reflecting on Holy Week and then create new verses to be sung to the traditional tune of Amazing Grace.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: This lesson focuses on Jesus’ arrest in the Garden Gethsemane. Use interactive software to learn about Peter’s denial and Judas’ betrayal of Jesus. Software included.

Bible Improv: After several warm up activities, create a skit of the arrest, trial and resurrection with flashbacks to Jesus’ predictions about these events.

Created by the Spirit: Share Peter’s story and create mosaics to remind us that no matter how our lives fall apart, God is there to help us put them back together again.

Eat Your Way Through the Bible: Learn how Jesus transformed some of the elements of the Seder dinner into symbols of the New Covenant.

Faith Today: Learn about the events of Holy Week by exploring current newspapers and magazines for headlines and words that can be used to retell the ancient story of faith. Create poems and/or rebus stories with the texts clipped from the newspapers and magazines.

Mary and Martha’s Bed and Breakfast: John tells the story of Holy Week while planting a container garden. After doing a bible study on garden scriptures, create a garden craft to symbolize the refuge of prayer.

Moved by the Spirit: Discover and interpret the concepts of the cross with large body movements to music from Handel’s *Messiah*. Body Sox™ would be a great asset to this lesson.

Puppetry: Enact a puppet show of Holy Week using the Holy Week scenery made in class and the song, “Standing in the Need of Prayer.”

Video Live!: After making a clothesline story sequence of Holy Week, create silhouette tableaus of the major events of Holy Week.

Where in the World Is?: What is a pilgrimage? Is it a journey or a destination? Do map work using country road atlases, city maps and GPS system (possibly) as a way to understand how faith is a journey to and with God.

Doubting Thomas

Bedouin Encampment: Thomas tells about his encounter with the resurrected Jesus on the beach while fishing on the Sea of Galilee.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Learn about Jesus’ resurrection appearance to Thomas and the other disciples through interactive story, map, artwork and other activities. Software included.

Bible Improv: Play the improv game Party Quirks to share the experience of the disciples. They did not recognize Jesus immediately after the resurrection just as guests at the party are not immediately identified.

Created by the Spirit: The images of the Resurrection are signs revealed to us. Create a sculpture where portions of the original material are removed to reveal the inner image.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Experience the Resurrection when we eat anything, dead matter comes to new life in our bodies. Share food together and write graces that will remind us of the life giving gift of Jesus' resurrection.

Faith Today: Through science experiments and math problems discover the difference between things we can prove and things we understand by faith.

Mary and Martha's Bed and Breakfast: Thomas tells his story in the house when Jesus appeared and Thomas could touch his wounds. Do a pierced paper activity to reflect on this story.

Moved by the Spirit: The story of Jesus comes full circle from the understanding that Jesus was with God in the beginning and returns to God after the Resurrection. Circle games and leaps of faith will be used to come to a deeper relationship with God.

Puppetry: Using a traditional hymn and puppets explore the struggle to believe in what we cannot see.

Video Live!: Using a talk show format review the events of Jesus appearances after the Resurrection.

Where in the World Is?: Explore a wide variety of maps. Each map reveals to us a truth about the world but no map reveals the whole truth about the world. How do images of Jesus and the Resurrection reveal pieces of the truth to us so that we can come to a more complete understanding of God's grace and love for us.

Pentecost

Bedouin Encampment: Peter's sermon on Pentecost was the beginning of the church. Explore ways the Holy Spirit has continually been poured out on people of faith since that time.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Hear the "sound like the wind" in an animated story. Discover the fruit of the Holy Spirit and make symbolic pictures of Pentecost. Software included.

Bible Improv: After doing several warm up activities create scenes of Pentecost as if it happened in contemporary settings.

Created by the Spirit: A cooperative drawing project will encourage the participants to consider ways the church has worked together to continue sharing the Good News since the first Pentecost.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: What would dinner for 3,000 look like? Share potluck pleasers with congregation or shut-ins or a local meal site.

Faith Today: Poetry and wind blown painting will provide a way to explore Pentecost.

Mary and Martha's Bed and Breakfast: A woman from out of town shares her experience in Jerusalem as the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples. Create a hand print banner that will represent the flames of Pentecost still burning in our congregations today.

Moved by the Spirit: The energy of the Holy Spirit will be the focus of this active workshop. Using balloons and talking drums the story of Pentecost will be internalized.

Puppetry: Create a puppet show using the song "O Happy Day."

Video Live!: Create an on-the-spot report as 3,000 people are baptized after Peter's sermon.

Where in the World Is?: Consider the wide variety of products that we use on a daily basis that come from other parts of the world. Use this as a point of intersection with our faith story that has traveled around the world since that first Pentecost.

Bedouin Encampment: While sitting in a shelter outside of town, Jonah reflects on his call to bring the people of Nineveh to the Lord. Build a shelter to ponder how God's grace is extended to all people.

Bible @ Your Fingertips: Discover how God worked through the prophet Jonah to save the people of Nineveh. Use animations and other simple activities to learn about God's grace and forgiveness. Software included.

Bible Improv: God does have a sense of humor and it is poured out in the Jonah story. A wide variety of improv and comedy games will help participants deepen their knowledge of this story and God's grace.

Created by the Spirit: From fuse beading to beaded jewelry, create symbols of the Jonah story, reflecting on how many small pieces come together to make a whole new creation.

Eat Your Way through the Bible: Make foods that express how God kept on wrapping up Jonah in a mission of witnessing to God's presence.

Faith Today: Learn how the prejudice between the people of Israel and Nineveh affected Jonah's sense of justice and grace.

Mary & Martha's Bed & Breakfast: Jonah ponders how he ended up sitting in the belly of a big fish for three days. Do Scratch Art™ to understand how God is a source of light in our darkest times.

Moved by the Spirit: This story has many twists and turns in its plot. Play a variety games to explore this aspect of Jonah's story.

Puppetry: Make a giant fish puppet and create a puppet show using the song "Jonah's Song" from One Way Street.

Video Live!: Videotape an enactment of the Jonah story using a conch shell as a symbol of how to listen to God's voice.

Where in the World Is?: Jonah witnessed his faith to the people of Nineveh, resulting in a penitent people who embraced God. Learn about missionary heroes who bring the word of the Lord to people throughout the world.