

# Your LINK to Ministry Resources

NE Ohio Resource Center

April 2021  
Volume 26, Issue 4

## PENTECOST

For Pentecost we often encourage people to wear red or bring red geraniums for the church flower beds. Some other ways to live out this theme would be by decorating the entrance with red banners, balloons or wind-chimes, hosting a red hot barbeque, serving red velvet cake, strawberries or distributing sparklers or mini-containers of bubble solutions. *(As you watch the bubbles ride the wind, shout out things the Holy Spirit is doing in your congregation or in the lives of your families.)*

This link has music suggestions, prayers, and under 'miscellaneous posts' – drama, readers' theatre and video loops: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>

For creating Pentecost story bags view [tinyurl.com/lr6shsw](http://tinyurl.com/lr6shsw).

## Graduates

Digital copies of litanies and  **blessing for graduates**  are available from the resource center. Some are simply a prayer while other litanies include the parents. One model outlines how to create a unique blessing for each graduate by using the initial of the first name and scripture. To receive copies of these examples contact Karen, [rc@neos-elca.org](mailto:rc@neos-elca.org), 330-929-9020

Karen Kaufman,  
Resource Specialist

### Staffed Hours

8-4 Mon, Tues & Thurs

Call or email ahead of visit for recommended resources to be immediately available for viewing.

Not able to visit? Most items can be mailed.

1890 Bailey Road  
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio  
44221-5576

330-929-9020  
[rc@neos-elca.org](mailto:rc@neos-elca.org)  
[twitter.com/resources4U](https://twitter.com/resources4U)

## Looking Forward

As congregations resume and evaluate activities it can be helpful to use a filtering question during the process. To learn more read: <https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/how-to-stay-focused-on-your-mission/> Plus some additional questions to ask as you evaluate: <https://karlvaters.com/>

This podcast or transcript sparks further thought and ideas for the future:

<https://www.churchleadership.com/podcast/episode-76-imagining-a-hybrid-future-featuring-rosario-picardo/>

Individuals of all ages have increased their social media presence. This adaptation of a well-known phrase can serve as a helpful reminder to all: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/christ-has-no-online-presence-but-yours/>

**With infection rates stabilizing or declining**, summer temperatures urge us to gather. Safely gather people together at the church, a community park, walking path or through social media. Encourage relationships with Christ and one another. Use or adapt these resources for group use:

**Your Whole Life (3D)** The 3D (diet, discipline, discipleship) Plan is a 12-week journey for eating right, living well and loving God. Includes book, CD and journal. 279 Pages Showalter, Carol Paraclete 2007

**Christ Walk** A 40-day spiritual fitness program centered on Christ. The author encourages the use of the grace of God and the strength of Jesus to improve health of the mind, body and spirit. The book contains *actual, physical walking goals* using actual routes Jesus and his disciples used during missions. Each chapter highlights one of the 40 days and contains a Bible verse, personal sharing by the author and questions for the reader. 221 Pages  
Courie, Anna Fitch Morehouse 2015 Editions for tweens and youth are also available.

**Faith & Fitness** - An easy-to-read, motivational, thought-provoking and practical book for individuals or small groups seeking balance in their lives. 143 Pages Hafer, Tom P. A/F 2007

**Surprises Around the Bend** – Fifty "mini-bios" of famous persons and how walking affected their lives. 184 Pages Hasler, Richard Augsburg/Fortress 2008

## Vacation Bible School

There are a variety of formats and curriculums available for conducting a Vacation Bible School experience no matter how small the program. ELCA World Hunger offers three themes: **River of Life, On Earth as in Heaven**, and **Who Is My Neighbor?** To view and download visit: <https://www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-World-Hunger#VBS>

The Habitat for Humanity theme is **Under Construction**: <http://www.nextsunday.com/under-construction/>

For a variety of other themes choose from: <https://www.oneagleswingsnorth.com/vbs-curriculum.html> or select the VBS bundle option for previous years themes at <https://www.lomnetwork.org/curriculum/>

If you are tempted to reuse a theme from 6 or more years ago or even create your own there are resources to assist you in developing your OWN VBS. The resource center has a variety of craft activities for specific Bible stories. **Building Faith Brick by Brick**, **For-get-me-not Bible Stories**, **Bible Folding Stories**, **Clip and Tell Bible Stories**, and **Learning God's Stories Together** are some of the books available through the resource center that match stories with suggested crafts or activities to speed up your planning process. The resource center also has older VBS kits free for the taking for inspiration or re-use. <http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/VBS.html> also has suggested activities.

**View the latest recommended articles at: [twitter.com/resources4U](https://twitter.com/resources4U), ie.**

**Some excellent tips and reminders at <https://www.churchleadership.com/50-ways/50-ways-to-strengthen-ministry-with-youth/>**