CHILDREN’S DAY (CHILDREN AND HEALTH)

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

Sunday, October 16, 2011

(See the attached PDF that contains a great article by physician John Clarke and Elizabeth Clarke on the use of Hip Hop to help kids stay and get healthy. Music is a powerful teaching tool.)

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Director of Music Ministries, Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, TN, and member of the Young Adult Lectionary Liturgists Team

Worship Planning Notes

Consider the following suggestions to make this worship experience effective:

- Remember today’s theme: HEALTH. Do not design a worship service that simply allows children to participate. Thread today’s theme throughout your worship service. This can be
done through including healthy foods in the bulletin/order of worship, listing resources for families who are in need of nourishing food, listing free exercise programs for families, and using fruit and vegetable shapes (apples, bananas, oranges, broccoli, etc.) for paper buttons. The buttons can contain the words: I WANT CHILDREN TO BE HEALTHY. These can be pinned on everyone as they enter the worship service. Allow children to assist in this. They can help draw and cut out the shapes and pin them on worshippers as they enter the service.

- Ask youth counselors/ministers of the church to create a list of active and inactive children of the church and write their names on small pieces of paper. As worshippers enter worship they can take a name from the basket and pray for that child. If the children’s names are minimal, then duplicate them according to size of the congregation.

- Create a banner with pictures of the children from your church and place it in the Sanctuary so that it’s visible to all. Incorporate the health theme in the banner.

- Have the pastor or the director of the children’s department of the church create a personal e-mail, letter, or radio announcement honoring the children of your congregation the week leading up to your Children’s Day Service. Again, remember the theme.

- Be sure that children lead and participate in all aspects of the worship service. Use a youth minister (under age 21) and have children usher, sing in the choir, and more. Remember that this is NOT a Youth Service. Children are NOT teenagers.

- It is suggested that the worship leader for designing this service be a Youth/Teen.

- Remember, children can sing and love singing adult music.

1. Call to Worship
   (a) Responsive Reading

   Leader: Jesus says, “Whosoever shall receive one such little child in my name recieveth me.”

   People: Let us worship our God who warns us not to despise one of the little ones.

   ALL: Come let us worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.

   (b) Invocation

   Lord, today we lift up the lives of children in our church and community. We pray that children who are broken and hurting because of neglect, physical ailments, or abuse will feel the warmth of your loving spirit in their hearts today. It is our prayer, Lord, that you would place compassion, wisdom, and love in the hearts of those caring for children. Come Holy Spirit, and show us the way.

   (c) A Litany for Healthy Living
Leader: Lord, help us become like little children asking you to show us the way. We need help, Lord, in building a healthy community.

Adults: Too often we make our health a lower priority than our wealth. We need your help to change our unhealthy ways and our unhealthy habits.

Children: Show us the way!

Leader: We sometimes fear going to the doctor and too often do not take our children, even when we can. We have issues with diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension and our children are unhealthy, yet we have not changed our eating and exercise habits.

Adults: Help us to understand the importance of healthier eating habits and to make it a priority in the lives of our families, churches, schools, and community.

Children: Show us the way!

Leader: We have issues with obesity, yet we have not changed our lifestyles.

Adults: Help us, Lord, to live healthier each day: to exercise our bodies and our minds, to meditate on you, and to rest and relax.

Children: Show us the way!

Leader: We have mental and social illnesses. We need your help, Lord. Grant us the courage to face our fears and our issues and seek the help and the treatment we need.

Adults: If we are to be a community of love, we must encourage one another to get well, to take care of our holy bodies, and to live healthier lives before our children and youth. We must teach them healthy ways to live!

All: Lord, please show us the way!

2. Hymns and Congregational Songs
(a) All around Me. By Cecilia Olusola Tribble

(b) Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children. Anonymous. Tune, (BONNER), by Carey Bonner

3. Traditional Songs for Children
(a) Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam. By Nellie Talbot. Tune, (SUNBEAM), by E. O. Excell

(b) I Am a Promise. By William Gaither and Gloria Gaither

(c) We Must Dream. By James Selway

(d) Joy in My Heart. Arr. by Rollo Dilworth

4. Gospel Songs
(a) I Need You to Survive. By Hezekiah Walker. *This arrangement is for children.*

(b) God Made Me. Traditional

5. **Liturgal Dance or Mime Ministry Music (For Children and Youth Dancers Only)**
(a) More Than I Can Bear. By Kirk Franklin

(b) I Like Me. By Kirk Franklin and Emmanuel Lambert

(c) We Offer Praise. By David Miner
**YouTube:** http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7inK8OmS64

6. **Anthems**
(a) Little Eyes Are Watching You. By Ruth Elaine Schram

(b) Joseph’s Song. By Linda Marcus and Ruth Elaine Schram. *This selection is set to the familiar tune of “Yankee Doodle.”*

7. **Offertory Song or Instrumental**
*Have children who play instruments (piano, organ, clarinet, violin, etc.) participate during the offertory period.*
(a) He Has Done Great Things for Me. Arr. by Stephen Key

(b) Even at My Age. By Raymond Wise

(c) Young and Positive. By Bernice Johnson Reagon. *This is a fun song that can be done with adult/youth and children’s choirs.*

8. **Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer**
(a) Order My Steps. By Glenn Burleigh

(b) Be Blessed. By Kurt Carr

(c) When Children Pray. By Brian Wren. Tune by Anne Wilson

9. **Sermonic Selection**
(a) God Is a Healer. By Kurt Carr

(b) Healing. By Richard Smallwood

(c) I Am His Child. By Moses Hogan

10. **Invitational Song or Instrumental**
(a) We Offer Christ. By Joel Britton

(b) Let Him in Today. By Raymond Wise

11. **Benediction Song or Instrumental**
(a) As You Go, Tell the World. Anonymous. Tune by Valeria Foster
(b) Go Now in Peace. By Natalie Sleeth

(c) God Be with You. By Thomas A. Dorsey and Artelia Hutchins

**Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed**

1. **Call to Worship**
   Responsive Reading, Invocation, and Litany for Healthy Living by Michele Morton. Used with permission.

2. **Hymns and Congregational Songs**
   (a) All around Me. By Cecilia Olusola Tribble
   Location:
   Zion Still Sings for Every Generation. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2007. #1

   (b) Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children. Anonymous. Tune, (BONNER), by Carey Bonner
   Location:

3. **Traditional Songs for Children**
   (a) Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam. By Nellie Talbot. Tune, (SUNBEAM), by E. O. Excell
   Location:
   African American Heritage Hymnal. #614
   The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #510
   Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #420

   (b) I Am a Promise. By William Gaither and Gloria Gaither
   Location:

   (c) We Must Dream. By James Selway
   Location:
   Online location: [www.worldchildrenschoir.org](http://www.worldchildrenschoir.org)

   (d) Joy in My Heart. Arr. by Rollo Dilworth
4. Gospel Songs
(a) I Need You to Survive. By Hezekiah Walker. *This arrangement is for children.*
Location: 

(b) God Made Me. Traditional
Location: 

5. Liturgical Dance or Mime Ministry Music (For Children and Youth Dancers Only)
(a) More Than I Can Bear. By Kirk Franklin
Location: 

(b) I Like Me. By Kirk Franklin and Emmanuel Lambert
Location: 

(c) We Offer Praise. By David Miner
Location: 

6. Anthems
(a) Little Eyes Are Watching You. By Ruth Elaine Schram
Location: 
Alfred Publishing/Sheet Music Plus
1300 64th Street
Emeryville, CA 94608
Phone: 1-800-743-3868

Online location: [www.sheetmusicplus.com](http://www.sheetmusicplus.com)

(b) Joseph’s Song. By Linda Marcus and Ruth Elaine Schram. *This selection is set to the familiar tune of “Yankee Doodle.”*
Location: 
Alfred Publishing/Sheet Music Plus
Phone: 1-800-743-3868
Online location: [www.sheetmusicplus.com](http://www.sheetmusicplus.com)

7. Offertory Song or Instrumental
(a) He Has Done Great Things for Me. Arr. by Stephen Key
Location:
   African American Heritage Hymnal. #507

(b) Even at My Age. By Raymond Wise
Location:

(c) Young and Positive. By Bernice Johnson Reagon. This is a fun song that can be done with adult/youth and children’s choirs.
Location:

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer
(a) Order My Steps. By Glenn Burleigh
Location:

(b) Be Blessed. By Kurt Carr
Location:

(c) When Children Pray. By Brian Wren. Tune by Anne Wilson
Location:
   Sheet Music available:
   Selah Publishing
   P.O. Box 98066
   Pittsburgh, PA 15227
   Phone: 412-886-1020

   Online location: [www.selahpub.com](http://www.selahpub.com)

9. Sermonic Selection
(a) God Is a Healer. By Kurt Carr
Location:

   NTIME Music Company
   4913 Albemarle Road #103
   Charlotte, NC 28205
   Phone: 704-531-8961

   Online Location: [www.ntimemusic.com](http://www.ntimemusic.com)

(b) Healing. By Richard Smallwood
Location:

NTIME Music Company
Phone: 704-531-8961
Online location: www.ntimemusic.com

(c) I Am His Child. By Moses Hogan. (SATB)
Location:
  Distributed by:
  J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated
  Phone: 1-800-345-6296
  Online location: www.jwpepper.com

10. Invitational Songs or Instrumental
(a) We Offer Christ. By Joel Britton
Location:
  African American Heritage Hymnal. #355
  Zion Still Sings. #169

(b) Let Him in Today. By Raymond Wise
Location:
  Raise Kids. Raise Ministries Presents Gospel Songs for Children’s Voices. Columbus, OH:

11. Benediction Song or Instrumental
(a) As You Go, Tell the World. Anonymous. Tune by Valeria Foster
Location:
  African American Heritage Hymnal. #633

(b) Go Now in Peace. By Natalie Sleeth
Location:
  The United Methodist Hymnal: Book of United Methodist Worship. Nashville, TN: The
  United Methodist Publishing House, 1989. #665

(c) God Be with You. By Thomas A. Dorsey and Artelia Hutchins
Location:
  African American Heritage Hymnal. #639
  Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA
  Publications, 1987. #308