CONTEMPORARY HEROES AND HEROINES DAY

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

Sunday, April 25, 2010

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Worship Planning Notes

Faith Development in Adults
The Bible is replete with stories of heroes and heroines who show us that when it comes to serving in God's kingdom, we don't have to be rich, or strong, or brave. All we have to be is available. We celebrate God’s power to use ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Following are ways to develop in the adults in your church an understanding of what it means to be a hero or heroine.

• In this service we acknowledge that God’s story is still being written, and we all have a part to play. God wants to do extraordinary things through us all.

• Use screens to display pictures of contemporary (born after 1950) African American heroes and heroines, include children and young adults.

• Write your own anthem or theme song based on a biblical passage about a hero or heroine.

• Allow brief testimonies by "ordinary" people who have been able to accomplish extraordinary things.

• Use a guided prayer to encourage the congregation to visualize heroism in their life and behavior.

Faith Development in Children (Ages 4–11)
Storytelling is important for developing faith in children. Stories give meaning and value to their experiences. Faith for children ages 4-11 is greatly influenced by the expectations and judgments of others. Children at these ages have a deep need for acceptance. This can lead to a deep hunger for a God who (seen through the reactions of adults toward
children) accepts people regardless of how they look, the length of their hair, the clothes they wear, the occupation of their parents, whether their parents are incarcerated, or whatever the condition of their family.

Share stories of both biblical and African American children who were used by God. Utilize screens to display these images. It is also important to include examples of children they know. However, be careful not to highlight as examples only certain types of children. Avoid only rich children, thin children, children with long hair, or children who are movie-stars, etc.

Resources for Children
(a) Portraits of African American Heroes. By Tonya Bolden
   This children’s book is a great resource for children’s story hour. It is unusual in that it includes the nineteenth through the twenty-first centuries in its profiles of remarkable men and women. This book helps the young reader understand why a person was able to succeed against the odds. It focuses on each person’s struggles and successes in terms of their motivation and beliefs.

(b) A Kid’s Guide to African American History: Over 70 Activities. By Nancy I. Sanders
   This book has more than 70 hands-on activities, songs, and games that can be used for Sabbath or Sunday school.

1. Call to Worship or Litany
Call to Worship
This call to worship references people of color in the Bible and would be powerful if accompanied by images of the stories projected on screens. In lieu of screens, your dance ministry, mime group, and/or drama team can also reenact the scenes, with musicians playing.

   Our HERO Is Here!

Leader: Arise, people of God! We have come to worship and adore our HERO, the One who is with us and who is at work through us.

   ALL: Our HERO is here! Jesus Christ is our HERO. Great is our Lord; He is greatly to be praised!

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God, and the Word was with God. This Word is rich with stories of our HERO at work in the lives of ordinary people. In the first book, Genesis, Nimrod, son of Cush, is credited with founding and ruling the cities of Mesopotamia. He was “the first on earth to become a mighty warrior.” (Genesis 10:8-12)

ALL: You are the Alpha and Omega; the Almighty God.

Leader: In Numbers, Moses’ Ethiopian wife endured insults because of her race; yet
she was a believer, and God showed displeasure with the prejudice shown towards her. (Numbers 12)

**ALL:** Your faithfulness and mercy are everlasting and as high as the heavens.

**Leader:** 2nd Samuel tells the story of the **unnamed Cushite soldier** in King David’s army. He had the courage to tell King David the truth. (2 Samuel 18:21, 31, 32)

**ALL:** You are the way, the truth and the light. Your truth will set us free. (John 14:16, John 8:31)

**Leader:** We learn of the **Prophet Zephaniah**, whose father was a Cushite, and his great-great-grandfather King Hezekiah sparked a religious revival in Judah. (Zephaniah 1:1)

**ALL:** You have not left us comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to refresh us and help us keep our eyes on the prize of the high calling.

**Leader:** In the book of Jeremiah, **Ebenelech, the Ethiopian**, an officer of King Zedekiah was willing to get involved to stand against the injustices done to Jeremiah, at great risk to himself, and saved Jeremiah’s life. (Jeremiah 38:7-13; 39:15-18)

**ALL:** You came that we might have life and have it more abundantly.

**Leader:** In the book of Mark, **Simon of Cyrene** carried the cross of Jesus all the way to Calvary. (Mark 15:21)

**ALL:** You have appointed unto us your kingdom which your Father appointed to you. (Luke 22:28)

**Leader:** The **Ethiopian Eunich**, in Acts, though a government official in the court of a queen, joined with the Apostle Paul and others of different backgrounds and ethnic groups in seeking the things of God, and sharing the good news of God’s message. (Acts 8:26-39)

**ALL:** You have loved us and called us all the sons and daughters of God. (1 John 3:1)

**Leader:** Look around! We too have a testimony. God has also equipped contemporary heroes and heroines with everything needed to do the will of God. (Hebrews 12:21)

God emboldened Wesley Autrey to save a man on the New York subway tracks.
God inspired young Lovetta Conto, an International Children’s Nobel Peace Prize finalist, to work on behalf of children displaced and orphaned by war in Liberia.

And God also used [insert a sentence or two about two (one female and one male) heroine and hero in your church or community].

**ALL:** Our HERO is here! Let us worship the One who is with us today and who is at work through us and be thankful for the everyday heroes and heroines among us.

2. **Hymns and Congregational Songs**
   (a) Hail to the Lord’s Anointed. By James Montgomery. Tune, (SHEFFIELD), English melody

   (b) Lead On, O King Eternal. By Ernest W. Shurtleff. Tune, (LANCASHIRE), by Henry T. Smart

   (c) For All the Saints. By William W. How. Tune, (SINE NOMINE), by Ralph Vaughan Williams

3. **Spirituals or Traditional Songs**
   (a) Ride Up in the Chariot. Spiritual

   (b) The Angels Keep A-Watchin’. Spiritual

   (c) A Charge to Keep I Have. By Charles Wesley. Negro Spiritual

   (d) We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder. Spiritual

4. **Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams**
   (a) Prayers of the Righteous. By Israel Houghton, Aaron Lindsey, and Adrian M. Lindsey

   (b) I’ve Got an Angel. By Twinkie Clark
   YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8E8IOCcCjns

   (c) Hero. By Kirk Franklin
   YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X7geQt-8FXc

   **Praise Teams**
   (d) As We Worship. By William D. McDowell

   (e) Right Place Right Time. By Kurt Carr

   (f) I Will Search for You. By Israel Houghton and Meleasa Houghton
5. Liturgical Dance Music
(a) Hero. By Mary Alessi

(b) Never a Better Hero. By Kenneth Cope
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxpECovmdyY

6. Anthems
(a) The Lord Is My Light. By Horatio W. Parker

(b) You Are My God and King. By Donnie McClurkin

7. Modern Songs
(a) The Power of One. By Israel Houghton
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlmOzJ4rGck&feature=PlayList&p=C085B263FC9B&playnext=1&playnext_from=PL&index=5

(b) Destiny, Part 1. By Stephen Hurd, Jonathan Nelson, and Justin Savage
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sII-8O55F7I

(c) For Your Glory. By Matt Maher

(d) Someone to Watch Over Me. By George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin

(e) I’ve Got Something. By Richard Smallwood
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1JcyNLyr1w
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2Necr9PCMs

8. Songs for Children
(a) I Can Be Anything for God. By Raymond Wise

(b) In Everything That I Do. By Raymond Wise

(c) That Hero Could Be You. By Sam Francis and Cliff Maag

9. Song or Instrumental for the Offertory Period
(a) One Person at a Time. By Johnny Lang
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YotC9IsyR54&feature=related

(b) My Tribute Medley. By Ed Cash, Andraé Crouch, Jesse Reeves, and Chris Tomlin

(c) Thank You, Lord. Traditional

10. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer
(a) A Charge to Keep I Have. By Charles Wesley. Tune, (BOYLSTON), by Lowell Mason

(b) Savior, Lead Me Lest I Stray. Text and Tune, (LEAD ME), by Frank M. Davis

11. Sermonic Selection
(a) Endow Me. By Twinkie Clarke
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vcxc7ZrtBxY

(b) Power of Christ (Live). By Paul D. Allen, K. Nekai Allen, and James Moss
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alps-DDIiHc

(c) God Favored Me. By Jules “Juda” Bartholomew

12. Invitational Song or Instrumental
(a) People Need the Lord. By Greg Nelson and Phil McHugh

(b) Hail the Conquering Hero. By George Frederic Handel. Arr. by Gene Milford. _For trumpet/cornet trio_

(c) For You I Am Praying. By S. O’Maley Cluff. Tune by Ira D. Sankey

13. Benediction Song or Instrumental
Benediction Song
(a) Be With Us All, Lord. By Uzee Brown, Jr.

Sending Song
(b) Go Forth. By William McDowell, Jose Reyes, and Pable Villatoro

(c) Send Me to the Nations. By Israel Houghton and Aaron Lindsey

14. Audio Visual Suggestions
(a) Use screens to display images of contemporary (born after 1950) African American heroes and heroines.

(b) Play the following videos for Children’s Sabbath or Sunday school: _Children’s Heroes of the Bible_ and/or _Veggie Tales: Stand Up, Stand Tall, Stand Strong._

(c) Explore interactive games for kids. PBS Kids has a fun online interactive game matching African American heroes and heroines and events.

Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

Worship Planning Notes
Resources for Children


1. Call to Worship or Litany
   Call to Worship: Our HERO is Here! By Michelle Riley Jones

   People of color in the Bible references at http://www.americanbible.org/brcpages/blacksantiquity accessed 27 June 2009


2. Hymns and Congregational Songs
   (a) Hail to the Lord’s Anointed. By James Montgomery. Tune, (SHEFFIELD), English melody
       Location:


   (b) Lead On, O King Eternal. By Ernest W. Shurtleff. Tune, (LANCASHIRE), by Henry T. Smart
       Location:
       African American Heritage Hymnal. #477

       African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #228


       The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal. Hagerstown, MD: Review and Herald Publishing Association. 1985. #619

   (c) For All the Saints. By William W. How. Tune, (SINE NOMINE), by Ralph Vaughan Williams
       Location:
       African American Heritage Hymnal. #339

       African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #578

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #301

The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal. #421

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs
(a) Ride Up in the Chariot. Spiritual
Location:

(b) The Angels Keep A-Watchin’. Spiritual
Location:
    African American Heritage Hymnal. #130

(c) A Charge to Keep I Have. By Charles Wesley. The version for which cites are provided is a Negro Spiritual
Location:
    African American Heritage Hymnal. #468
    African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #439

(d) We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder. Spiritual
Location:
    African American Heritage Hymnal. #464
    African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #603
    Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #54
    The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal. #627
    Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #363

4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams
(a) Prayers of the Righteous. By Israel Houghton, Aaron Lindsey, and Adrian M. Lindsey
Location:

(b) I’ve Got an Angel. By Twinkie Clark
Location:

(c) Hero. By Kirk Franklin
Location:

Praise Teams
(d) As We Worship. By William D. McDowell
Location:

(e) Right Place Right Time. By Kurt Carr
Location:

(f) I Will Search for You. By Israel Houghton and Meleasa Houghton
Location:

5. Liturgical Dance Music
(a) Hero. By Mary Alessi
Location:

(b) Never a Better Hero. By Kenneth Cope
Location:
   _Face to Face—Kenneth Cope Collection_. Salt Lake City, UT: Lumen Records, 2005.

6. Anthems
(a) The Lord Is My Light. By Horatio W. Parker
Location:

(b) You Are My God and King. By Donnie McClurkin
Location:
   _We Are All One (Live in Detroit)_ New York, NY: Verity, 2008.
7. Modern Songs
(a) The Power of One. By Israel Houghton
Location: 

(b) Destiny, Part 1. By Stephen Hurd, Jonathan Nelson, and Justin Savage
Location: 

(c) For Your Glory. By Matt Maher
Location: 

(d) Someone to Watch Over Me. By George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin
Location: 

(e) I’ve Got Something. By Richard Smallwood
Location: 

8. Songs for Children
(a) I Can Be Anything for God. By Raymond Wise
Location: 

(b) In Everything That I Do. By Raymond Wise
Location: 

(c) That Hero Could Be You. By Sam Francis and Cliff Maag
Location: 
   Heroes—A Child’s Tribute. 
   Vocal and accompaniment tracks available 
   Classroom Classics 
   152 N. 1350 E. 
   Springville, UT 84663 
   Phone: 1-800-808-6681 

   Online location: www.classroomclassics.com

9. Song or Instrumental for the Offertory Period
(a) One Person at a Time. By Johnny Lang
Location:  

(b) My Tribute Medley. By Ed Cash, Andraé Crouch, Jesse Reeves, and Chris Tomlin  
Location:  

(c) Thank You, Lord. Traditional  
Location:  
**African American Heritage Hymnal.** #531  
**Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal.** #206  
**The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition.** #324

10. **Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer**  
(a) A Charge to Keep I Have. By Charles Wesley. Tune, (BOYLSTON), by Lowell Mason  
Location:  
**African American Heritage Hymnal.** #468  
**African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal.** #439  
**The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition.** #436  
**Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal.** #330

(b) Savior, Lead Me Lest I Stray. Text and Tune, (LEAD ME), by Frank M. Davis  
Location:  
**African American Heritage Hymnal.** #473  
**African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal.** #285  
**Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal.** #233  
**The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition.** #239  
**Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal.** #394

11. **Sermonic Selection**  
(a) Endow Me. By Twinkie Clarke  
Location:  

(b) Power of Christ (Live). By Paul D. Allen, K. Nekai Allen, and James Moss
12. Invitational Song or Instrumental
(a) People Need the Lord. By Greg Nelson and Phil McHugh
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #470

(b) Hail the Conquering Hero. By George Frederic Handel. Arr. by Gene Milford for trumpet/cornet trio
Location:
Ludwig Music Publishing
Dist. by Sheet Music Plus.com
1300 64th Street
Emeryville, CA 94608
Phone: 1-800-743-3868

Online location: www.sheetmusicplus.com

(c) For You I Am Praying. By S. O’Maley Cluff. Tune by Ira D. Sankey
Location:
The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal. #284

13. Benediction Song or Instrumental
Benediction Song
(a) Be With Us All, Lord. By Uzee Brown, Jr.
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #641

Sending Song
(b) Go Forth. By William McDowell, Jose Reyes, and Pable Villatoro
Location:

(c) Send Me to the Nations. By Israel Houghton and Aaron Lindsey
Location:

14. Audio Visual Suggestions
(a) Images of African American heroes and heroines for screens can be found at www.istockphoto.com.

(c) Interactive games for kids at PBS Kids are available at http://pbskids.org/aaworld/face.html.