Resources and Materials to Help Congregations Explore and Make Use of our New Directory for Worship

Assembled by Rev. Kathleen Owens for the John Knox Presbytery (November 2019 meeting)

Study Guide for the New Directory of Worship

This six-session study guide was published in 2014 to help congregations understand and give feedback on the (then proposed) New Directory for Worship. It is still very applicable to help congregations understand what is in the Directory for Worship.

PCUSA Worship Resources & Publications

This webpage has a long list of resources, teaching guides, and other tools for exploring worship as a congregation.

Matthew 25 Specific Worship Resources

Even if you are not a Matthew 25 church, you can access and use the Worship Resources! There are materials available with ideas that can be added into what you are currently doing, or to help you create a special service centered on the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, or Miracles in the Gospel of Matthew. A great tool for anyone following the lectionary in Year A!

The resources below are particularly useful for congregations looking to explore intergenerational worship:

A Sanctified Art

This site specializes in bundles that make creative seasonal planning easy. You can also buy all their products individually. Their materials are all for short season (Advent, Lent, Easter, fall, etc) and would be a great resource for introducing intergenerational worship to your congregation for a season to see how it goes.

SeasonsFUSION

This is lectionary-based worship planning materials aimed and integrating multiple generations in worship. There are a few planning materials and resources available for free on the website to help you explore what is offered. Liturgy, children's activities, and devotional materials for home are all included, which makes this a great resource for weaving the whole congregation together. Warning, there is so much material it can be overwhelming!

Illustrated Ministry

This site has large & small scale coloring posters, weekly children's bulletins, and illustrated children's moments available for use throughout the year. They also put together take home devotional materials for families to use in Advent and Lent, and additional church-wide education resources that are particularly useful as a summer series. Many of their resources are available in Spanish as well as English.

Worshipping with Children

This is a blog by Certified Christian Educator Carolyn Brown. She went through the whole lectionary cycle and put together ideas for ways to include children in worship for every single passage. Most of her material dates from 2014-2016, but she adds updates as needed. Material is organized by Sunday, scripture, or topic, which also makes it easy to find what you need. The best part, all of her material is available for free!