



UPDATE

News and Notes About the Curriculum

Cycle B Winter Through Advent, Epiphany, and into Lent

Children and teachers are invited to come and know Jesus from the perspective of Matthew's gospel during the winter and spring quarters.

The first Sunday of Advent is one week before the winter quarter is scheduled to begin. If you intend to conduct a special advent ritual with a wreath and candles, be sure to begin this on November 28. The quarter will end right in the middle of Lent, which begins on February 13, 2005. The first 4 sessions in the spring quarter are based on Lenten and Easter themes. Keep this in mind as you plan for the season of Lent.

If I Were Teaching This Quarter

I'd try these ideas in the various Teachers' Guides:

Early Childhood

- € Learn finger plays & singing games (p.13, 18, 56).
- € Make marshmallow sheep (24).
- € Organize a dress up prop box (26)
- € Invite a missionary family into class (44)
- € Check out the resources section (88-95).

Primary

- € Make an advent wreath (12).
- € Use the Bible Alphabet cards every Sunday.
- € Try the Christmas riddles (8)
- € Invite a new Christian to visit (44).

Middler

- € Build anticipation for the story with movement, darkness, and candles (12)
- € Learn creative movements for the Lord's Prayer (6)
- € Make fruit salad for the fruits of the Spirit (54)
- € Carry a yoke with sand pails and a stick (66)
- € Exchange prayer partners among children (79)

Junior Youth

- € Ask a computer buff to help create a *Jerusalem Post* magazine (36)
- € Set up learning centers each week (14).

- € Make masks as a way to reflect on fears, temptations and ways to love God (78, 79)
- € Do writing and art activities based on Psalm 119 to celebrate God's Word (49).
- € Consider having the youth tell the Bible story using story figures.

Resources for Jubilee Teachers

Jubilee has many resources to train new teachers and to energize seasoned teachers. For easy access and availability set up a resource area in your church or prepare a portable back pack with these Jubilee enrichment and training resources.

Jubilee Guidebook. A handy book for a new superintendent or teacher that tells you everything you need to know about Jubilee ... and more!

Jubilee Videos.

- € *This is Jubilee* provides a helpful introduction to the curriculum.
- € *Jubilee Learning* reminds teachers of the variety of ways in which children learn.
- € *Jubilee Storytelling* demonstrates how story figures are used in real classrooms.
- € *Jubilee Nurturing Faith* reminds teachers that it's all about the children's relationship with God and the Christian community.

Jubilee Celebrations. These three books contain a total of 24 complete worship and education services. Plan to use them for special occasions during the year.

To order these resources, contact your publisher.

Centered Teaching (Cycle B Winter)

"Jesus: See, Hear, and Follow" is the title for this supplementary resource for congregations with small multi-age groups or for larger groups looking for variety in their methods of teaching and learning. It includes a story and response ideas for thirteen sessions taken from the Primary, Middler, and Junior Youth Teachers' Guides. *Centered Teaching* builds on, and does not replace, the materials in the resource boxes.

Gather 'Round for a Sneak Preview



Gather 'Round: Hearing and Sharing God's Good News now has its logo. The steering committee for the curriculum project appreciated the "bold, clear rendering of the title words, along with the warmth and energy of the circular, hand-in-hand figures," according to project director, Anna Speicher. "We wanted to convey the invitational tone of the curriculum in a style attractive to both children and adults."

Writers for the first curriculum year are Carol Duerksen, Susan Fuentes, Sarah Pinnell, Frank Ramirez, Rebecca Seiling, Dianna Ullery, and Tim Wiebe-Neufeld. They gathered for a writers' conference in late September and have begun writing the first quarter to be used in congregations in the fall of 2006.

Please pray for inspiration and a deepening faith for the writers as they delve into the scriptures and find creative ways that invite teachers and learners to a closer relationship with God.

Celebrate Jubilee!

Jubilee is still strong after 3 cycles of usage. It continues to be a solid Anabaptist teaching resource for our children. This is cause for celebration.

Let's celebrate the generation of children who are learning to know God the Jubilee way.

Let's celebrate the teachers who gain a deeper understanding of the scriptures as they prepare and present Bible stories each week.

Let's celebrate the children who are engaged with the stories through the story figures, dramas, and creative response activities.

Let's celebrate the interaction of children with teachers who model the Christian way in the classroom.

Let's celebrate the Jubilee joy expressed by children, teachers, leaders, and whole congregations who live and share God's good news in Sunday school and into their daily lives.

So, what do we do with Jubilee?

This is the question that is being asked by many CE people. What happens in 2006? What can we do with the materials that are no longer needed?

1. Check with local agencies or Christian schools or churches from other denominations to find out if there is any interest in a complete set of *Jubilee*.
2. Keep a complete set of Teachers' Guides and student leaflets on file in your resource library.
3. Sort through the Resource Boxes and re-file what can be used: set up a music section for all cassettes; file the biblical posters together; keep games in a games box for use in other settings.
4. Glue memory posters onto card stock, cut them up and use as jigsaw puzzles.
5. Cut out the best Teaching Tips from the Teacher's Guides. Glue them onto index cards and file them in a recipe box.
6. Invite children to take any leaflets home that they want. Some children might like the challenge of the leaflets from an older class.
7. Invite grandparents, babysitters, or childcare workers from the church to take student leaflets home to use when children come to visit or when they have childcare responsibilities.
8. If you have a creative solution, contact the *Jubilee* office and we'll share your ideas in a future issue.

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