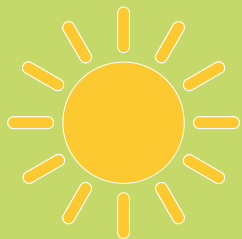


“HEY, IMAGO DEI!”



AN INTERGENERATIONAL EXPERIENCE GUIDE

C.A.R.E.

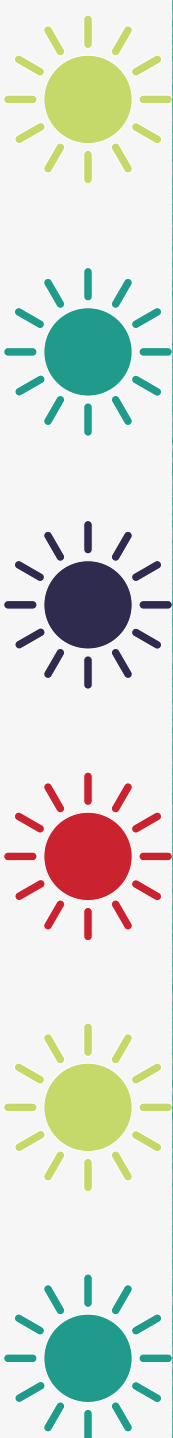


OVERVIEW



C.A.R.E.

Imago Dei means image of God...

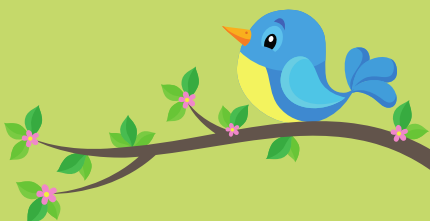


“Hey, Imago Dei!” is an intergenerational experience guide for churches and families to widen the gaze of children, so that they may see God in a vast number of ways all around them. Every experience is different and likely to manifest uniquely in varied contexts. No matter the congregation, “Hey, Imago Dei!” helps us understand the Spirit of God is everywhere that we can imagine. The walls of our churches are permeable--allowing love, joy, faith, and healing to move in and out freely without worry that God is near in people, places, and things.


Exercise freedom in choosing the order of activities based on weather, resources, or your church calendar. For a consecutive 12 weeks of programming during worship services, please consider our **C.A.R.E. Sundays** curriculum, available for free download on the [Disciples Home Missions](#) website. That curriculum centers on three Bible stories about Jesus. Our design team offers this support to you with faith in God, hearts following Jesus, and a belief in the power of shared intentionality.

P.S. There is a little bird throughout the guide to remind us of the Spirit that is sometime quiet and requires we look beyond our ordinary surroundings to find it. Other times, the Spirit signals to us with a clear sound in the morning or a mighty flock that makes our spirits pause for its glory.

Pastor Yoli Barragan
Rev. Dr. Miseon Choi
Dr. Kanessa Miller Doss
Rev. Kristin Jack
Rev. Dr. Monique Crain Spells




CROSS-CULTURAL CELEBRATION: DISCOVERING GOD IN OUR NEIGHBORS




Communal Hope: To affirm that every neighbor, across cultures and backgrounds, reflects the image of God. By engaging in one another's games, languages, and traditions, we grow in love, respect, and joy together as one diverse community.


Event Time: 3 hours 1) Welcome; 2) Cultural booths/stations; 3) Shared games; and 4) Group Reflection of storytelling circle




Learning Medium: Art, Recreation, and Education --interactive and embodied learning through play, storytelling, traditional food/snacks, crafts, and music to celebrate culture and connection

Materials/Supplies:

- 
- Booth/tent/table setups for each cultural group
 - Materials for games (each ethnic group is invited to bring their own traditional items.)
 - Signs/posters with cultural facts or fun phrases in different languages
 - Art supplies for flag-making, name tags with country of origin
 - Music/sound system
 - Storytelling rug or space for reflection circle
 - Stamp cards (kids collect a stamp at each cultural booth)
 - Snacks or drinks (optional, from different cultures)



Volunteers needed: Coordinators for each cultural station, general hospitality guiding families, setup/cleanup, MC or host to give brief intro and closing reflection, and youth volunteers as "cultural buddies" for kids who need support navigating



Event Description: This lively, hands-on event invites participants of all ages to explore the beauty of God's image reflected in cultures around the world. Through traditional games, crafts, stories, and shared conversation, we celebrate how every neighbor is a beloved reflection of God's love.



Miseon Choi



CROSS-CULTURAL CELEBRATION: DISCOVERING GOD IN OUR NEIGHBORS



Participants will rotate through different stations—each representing a culture—with a chance to learn a game, hear a phrase, or make something together. The event ends with a short reflection circle and blessing that honors the diversity in the room.

One idea you might consider is a “Mystery Taste Challenge,” where participants taste small samples of food with their eyes closed and try to guess which culture it comes from. Rather than focusing only on correct answers, the participants who brought the food could briefly share its meaning or a personal story, such as how it is enjoyed during holidays or family gatherings.

List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Invite congregation members to share a game or tradition from their culture.
- Connect with local cultural organizations, community centers, or language schools.
- Involve kids and youth groups to research and present.
- Use social media to invite the broader neighborhood.
- Ask elders or immigrants in your church to share stories or blessings from their homeland.

Reflection Questions/Debrief:

- What was your favorite game or activity?
- What did you learn about someone else’s culture?
- How do you see God’s love in different traditions and languages?
- How can we be better neighbors to people who are different from us?
- What do you want to learn more about after today?

For kids:

- Did you try a new game today? What was it like?
- If God made everyone special, what’s something special about YOU?

Miseon Choi



THE CREATOR IN CREATION



Communal Hope: To create awareness for creation care. If God cares for nature, we should care for it too.

Event Time: Day hours, 1-2 hours.

Learning Medium: Recreation/Education

Materials/Supplies: Backpacks, snacks, water bottles, Notebooks, pencils

Volunteers Needed: One adult for every four children.

Event Description: Nature walk

Find a suitable location anywhere you and your students can be present in nature. This may be a park, garden, forest, beach, walking trail, etc. Pack your supplies and have backpacks ready with water, snacks, notebooks, and pencils.

Ask for revelation. Before you begin, ask God to reveal Himself to you and your group through the beauty of nature. **Pay attention.** As you walk, pay attention to your surroundings, especially the sounds, smells and sights. **Stop and feel.** Choose a good stopping place to stop and feel nature. **Instruct your students to engage their senses.** Have them close their eyes and take three deep breaths. Then have them open their eyes and notice the details of nature, such as the texture of a tree bark, the color of a flower, or the sound of the wind.

Reflect. In their notebooks, have your kids draw or write what stood out to them as they felt and noticed nature. **Finish your walk with a prayer,** thanking God for the gift of nature and the opportunity to connect with him. **Share.** Gather with your group and ask the reflection questions. You can do this one by one, or whoever wants to share.

List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Make a list of beautiful places to walk in (Community Gardens, trails, parks, etc.)
- Make a difference in your walk and clean up any trash you may come across.

Reflection Questions/Debrief:

- What did you see that amazed you?
- How did it feel to be so close to nature?
- What did you hear that you haven't heard before?
- Why do you think God loves nature?
- What do you think you can do to help protect His Creation?

Evaluation: (back of the guide)

Yoli Barragan



CREATED FOR CONNECTION



Communal Hope: To foster a deeper sense of relationship by connecting to God through a rich, more holistic experience.

Event Time: Anytime, 1-2 hours.

Learning Medium: Art/Recreation/Education

Materials/Supplies: art supplies (e.g., watercolor sets, macaroni, yarn), writing supplies, picture books/readings, guided prayer/journaling sheets, prayer labyrinth, handheld mirrors (e.g., at least 5-10), scripture cards (using cardstock and decorated paper), 5-10 battery-operated tea lights, sticky notes, Play-doh or clay, 5+ trays, colored pens or pencils, a tri-fold display board or wall, 5+ throw pillows or towel/rugs.

Volunteers Needed: One volunteer per station

Event Description: Stations

1. Set up stations: Create the following stations/tables with appropriate labels. Feel free to add more or limit the stations to a number appropriate for your space.
2. You can arrange the stations in any order and allow students to pick and choose a station or create a specific order and assign groups accordingly. You can have a bell ring every 10 minutes to switch stations.

Stations	Descriptions
Journaling/ Scripture Writing	Assemble writing utensils and different types of paper (e.g., colors, textures, line/unlined). Create 2-3 scripture cards on cardstock to use as guides for copying bible verses. Provide sheets of paper with guided prayer/journal prompts like ("Creator, thank you for...", "Dear God...", "God made me special! I'm ...")
Modeling Clay	Provide trays and Play-doh for reflection and connecting to God. Prompt the crafters to knead and knead while praying to God. Shape something symbolic of your current prayer. Reflect on how God shapes us in prayer and through life.
Candles of Prayer	Guide the participants in two prayers. 1. Turn on a candle and pray for someone else. 2. Then, pray for yourself and your relationship with God.
In God's Image	Place several handheld mirrors with dry erase markers at this station. Creatively display the bible verse from Genesis 1:27. Look into a mirror, reflect on the scripture, and write 2-3 words that God sees in you on the mirror. Instruct everyone to clean mirrors with the wipe cleaner and paper towels before switching stations

Kanessa Doss



Stations	Descriptions
Intercession Wall	Provide sticky notes, colored pens or pencils, and tri-fold display board or sticky note friendly wall. Encourage participants to write prayers for people, communities, and/or government leaders to see clearly the image of God in others to act with love and compassion.
Seed Station	Using biodegradable seed starter pots, potting soil, seeds (e.g., mustard), and labels. Decorate the labels and write one word to pray for. Plant a seed and encourage the participants pray that God will bloom something new in them such as faith, creativity, courage
Breath Prayer	Create an inviting and comfortable station with throw pillows or towel/rugs to sit on. Guide the participants in the act of breathing and praying. You can choose a breath prayer from online or simply: Breathe in and out slowly two times. Inhale "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Exhale "Thank you, Creator." Repeat three times while focusing on the presence of God.
Music	Create a warm and inviting area to sit and enjoy soft music. For about 3-5 minutes, sit in silence. Invite God's presence to be revealed. Encourage the participants to share any thoughts or impressions afterward.

List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Consider inviting community partners to lead a station. For example, a local nursery could assist with leading a seed station to plant seedlings while praying that God plants something within you.
- Create an interfaith or interdenominational event by inviting a local community of faith to attend the event or help host the event.

Reflection Questions:

- How did you feel about connecting to God at the stations?
- What is one word that sums up your experience?
- What impacted you the most at this station?

Evaluation: (can be found in back of guide)

Kanessa Doss



ART FESTIVAL



Communal Hope: All generations will spend time together engaging in creativity and celebrating art created by the community.

Event Time: Ideally Saturday morning/afternoon, 10am-2pm.

Learning Medium: Art, education, recreation

Materials/Supplies:

- Outdoor space/large lawn or large fellowship hall and PA system/bluetooth speaker
- Tables for artisan booths; optional: pop-up canopies for outdoor event
- Banners/Signage throughout the event with scriptures about creativity, creation, earth stewardship, finding beauty
- Refreshment area (or invite food trucks) w/goody bag for each household

Volunteers needed: greeters, vendor coordinators, food truck liaison, craft station leaders, servers/providers of refreshments (if not inviting food trucks), setup & clean-up crew.

Optional: media team to capture photos/videos of the event

Event Description: Host local artisan vendors to set up booths, display, and sell their hand made goods to the community. Connect with local organizations, like museums, theatre groups, dance schools, and art businesses, to have information/demonstration booths. Have an intergenerational “creation station” where participants can make & take art projects. Host one large “community” art project that can be completed during the event that will benefit the local community (maybe a mural or building and painting benches for a local park or school). Have local musicians, dancers, and theatre groups come to perform throughout the day.

Creation Stations	Descriptions
Box Canvas Painting	Collect old boxes and cut the sides off to create cardboard canvases. Hang clotheslines at various heights and use heavy duty clamps to attach the cardboard to the line like a floating easel. Children, youth and adults can use washable paint to paint their own “canvas” leaving it hanging on the line to dry until they are ready to take it home.
Newspaper Hats	Using newspapers and washable markers, fold the paper to create wearable hats decorated with drawings that the participant adds.

Kristin Jack



ART FESTIVAL



Creation Stations	Descriptions
Public Art Show	Partner with local schools to ask the art teachers to set up an art gallery of work by students of various ages.
Art Demonstrations	Contact local artisans like painters, sculptors, potters, floral design, and more, to come share a demonstration of their process on site.
Sidewalk Chalk Contest	Divide up your sidewalk or designated parking spaces for registered competitors to create sidewalk chalk art. Empower judges to select winners in various categories and give prizes at the end of the event.
Build It	Gather random wood scraps, bottle caps, paper clips, paper cups, popsicle sticks, and other items for construction. Allow participants to build their own sculpture to take home.
Masks	Have various craft supplies available for participants to decorate provided blank masks.

List of Resources (Ways to Connect with Your Community):

- Local art teachers
- Local artisans
- Food trucks
- Museums
- Local musicians/choir teachers
- Local theatre groups/theatre teachers
- Local dance groups/dance teachers

Reflection Questions:

- Why is art important?
- How can engaging in artistic activities help us grow in our faith?
- How can we incorporate creativity or art into our personal lives?

Kristin Jack



SHINING IN GOD'S IMAGE



Communal Hope: To celebrate the God-given creativity, gifts, and beauty in every person of every age, by lifting up diverse talents as reflections of God's image in us all. Every voice, skill, and story matters.

Event Time: 2 hours, optional potluck or dessert reception afterward

Learning Medium: Art, recreation, and testimony

Materials/Supplies:

- Stage or performance area with microphones, sound system, and projector
 - Sign-up sheet for participants (with age categories or group acts)
 - Art display tables for visual submissions (painting, knitting, woodworking, photography, etc.)
 - Program sheet listing performers
 - Stage decorations that highlight the theme (mirrors, phrases like "God's image shines in you")
 - Certificates or appreciation gifts for all participants
 - Snacks, drinks, or post-show reception supplies
- **Volunteers needed:**
- MC/Host (a youth-adult pair or intergenerational pair)
 - Sound/tech coordinator
 - Greeters, seating guides, stage helpers (for props or transitions)
 - Setup/cleanup
 - Reflection/welcome team for the post-show conversation

Event Description:

This intergenerational celebration is a joyful opportunity for people to share their unique gifts in a welcoming space. Whether it's singing, dancing, storytelling, playing an instrument, performing a skit, or displaying artwork, every contribution is a testimony to the beauty of God's image in each of us. Through shared laughter, awe, and encouragement, we celebrate how creativity connects us to one another and to God. The event closes with a short blessing or reflective moment honoring each person's sacred worth.

Note: The facilitator may consider incorporating short team-building activities between performances.



SHINING IN GOD'S IMAGE



List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Invite members from every age group to participate, preschool to elders
- Reach out to local music, dance, or art teachers to invite students
- Partner with senior centers, youth groups, and community groups
- Use sign-ups in advance but allow open mic slots for the day of
- Encourage multigenerational acts (e.g., grandparent & child duet)

Reflection Questions

For children:

- What made you feel proud or happy today?
- What's something special you saw in someone else?
- What do you think God feels when we use our talents?

For adults and all ages:

- What did this event reveal about God's image in our community?
- How do you feel when you share your creativity with others?
- What surprised or inspired you about another performer?
- How can we keep celebrating our God-given gifts beyond today?

Evaluation: (can be found in back of guide)



GOD'S MASTERPIECE



Communal Hope: To see ourselves as works of art--God's masterpiece.

Event Time: Afternoon/ Early evening, 1-2 hours

Learning Medium: Art

Materials/Supplies: Tables, chairs, canvases or large cardstock paper, paints (white, black, blue, red, yellow), paint brushes, paper cups, paper plates, something to cover painting tables (butcher paper, disposable tablecloths, tarp, etc.), water, paper towels, mirrors, old shirts or aprons, snacks.

Volunteers needed: 2 or 3 for set-up and clean-up.

Event Description: Self-portrait

- Invite someone who is artistically inclined to teach some painting techniques to the students.
- Place tables and chairs in a square, making sure to place a table in the middle for communal supplies. Cover tables to keep them clean.
- Set supplies in each participant spot (1 canvas or cardstock paper, 1 plate with a little of each paint color (black, white, red, yellow, blue), 1 cup with water (to clean brushes), 1 small paint brush, 1 large paint brush, 2 paper towels, 1 mirror.
- Place extra supplies on the center table so everyone can have access to them. Place snacks on this table as well.
- Begin by giving instructions.
- Have students look at themselves in the mirror while you speak, "We are all unique. God made us that way. Today, we are going to paint just that. We are painting a self-portrait, making a masterpiece representing the awesome person in the mirror. This self-portrait does not need to be an exact copy of your face. It does, however, need to represent what is special about you--your personality, likes and dislikes, what's most important to you."
- Have the instructor teach a few technique tips before letting the participants paint.

Yoli Barragan



GOD'S MASTERPIECE



- Set the vibe. Play fun music while everyone is painting and encourage them to have some snacks.
- Close by having everyone take a step back and admire their work. Then have them sign it. "God has placed God's signature on each and every one of us because we are all God's unique masterpiece. Let's walk around to each masterpiece and clap in praise.

List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Invite local artists to teach.
- Talk to congregants and local schools to see if they would display some artwork.

Reflection Questions/Debrief:

- How did you feel while painting?
- What did you feel when looking at the good thoughts in your self-portrait?
- What caught your attention while looking at others' portraits?
- What are all the things that make us God's masterpiece?

Evaluation: (can be found in back of guide)

Yoli Barragan



LOVE OUT LOUD



Communal Hope: To foster community and connection in God's image through acts of service for our neighbors.

Event Time: Anytime

Learning Medium: Art/Recreation/Education

Materials/Supplies: Based on service option

Volunteers Needed: Create a volunteer team and delegate roles such as a liaison to communicate with local agencies and gather materials, a volunteer coordinator to create sign-up sheets and organize volunteers, facilities manager to lead set-up and clean up groups for each event, food coordinator (if needed), and spiritual facilitator serves as the group prayer and reflection moments (debriefing) leader. Feel free to add other volunteers to satisfy your church's unique needs (e.g., a promoter to share events on social media and email).

Event Description: Reflect the love of Christ through warm hearts and helping hands by planning 1-4 community service activities.

Community Service	Possible Ideas
Humane Society/Animal Rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with local animal shelter to see what specific items are needed and plan a pet supply drive. • Plan a craft party to make homemade items like fleece blankets (no sewing needed), catnip toys, cage curtains, and dog toys. [Note: Check with your local shelter for their preferred or needed items first.] • Host an in person or online adoption event in person or online with your local humane society.
Senior Living Ctr./Assisted Living Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead a themed event like a Christmas in July party or Trunk-or-Treat. • Host a game or movie night with approved snacks and activities. • Organize a talent show or singalong featuring your church to be host at the facility.
Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up a local park. • Organize a fundraiser like a craft fair or carwash to donate for park improvement projects. • Implement a park beautification project like • Planting trees or gardens, building benches, or refreshing landscape. <p>Note: Coordinate with your local park administration about the most meaningful ways to contribute because each park needs are different.</p>

Kanessa Doss

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LOVE OUT LOUD



Community Service	Possible Ideas
Creation Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a workshop to educate the community about sustainable practices, such as composting or recycling. • Coordinate a recycling drive to collect electronics, batteries, plastic, and paper. • Encourage and initiate energy conservation projects to assist with weatherizing homes to reduce energy costs.
PreK-12 Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement weekend backpacks that offer free nutritious meals and snacks for the children to have over the weekend. • Build, supply, and register a small library to exchange free books at your church. • Build and supply a free art gallery to display and swap mini-art projects

List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Spread the joy of hosting the events by having various groups within the church choose a particular event to host over a season, like Pentecost or summer.
- Connect with other organizations to engage in service by fostering relationships such as a community center, non-profit organizations, American Red Cross/Lifesouth Community Blood Center, or community and government agencies.
- Invite experts to share their knowledge at your activities/events related to their topic of expertise.

Reflection Questions:

- What is one word or phrase that sums up your experience?
- What was the most enjoyable part of the community service activity? What was the most difficult? What did you learn?
- How did this activity express love out loud?



FIELD DAY:

FEARFULLY & WONDERFULLY MADE



Communal Hope: All ages and stages will gather for fun recreational activities and fellowship.

Event Time: Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon, 1-3hours

Learning Medium: Recreation

Materials/Supplies: Outdoor space/large lawn, cones, hula hoops, jump ropes, beach balls, water balloons, sidewalk chalk, signs with Psalm 139:14 and other affirming scriptures, first aid kit, snack/water station (or invite food trucks), PA system/Bluetooth speaker, goody bag for each registered household, information about the church, local organizations that promote healthy physical fitness (Optional: bounce house or other inflatable obstacle course, etc.).

Volunteers needed: 1 for each field day event, 1 “emcee” for the event, 1-3 for registration/check-in, 2-3 greeters, additional for refreshments, if not inviting food trucks--setup/cleanup crew, optional media team--to capture photos/videos of the event

Event Description:

This is what happens when a church picnic meets school field day! Our "Fearfully & Wonderfully Made" Field Day is going to be fun for all generations! It's a celebration of God's design in every single one of us! There will be relay races, sensory play stations and other intergenerational challenges. Families will get to explore what it means to be made in God's image through physical activity together.

Suggested Activities: (choose any of these or come up with your own!)

1. Wonderfully Made Relay Race -A classic baton relay with a twist—each runner must say one thing they love about their body (or what makes them unique) before passing the baton. Have the participants run, walk, skip, crawl, or roll their way from start to finish. Signage Prompt: “You were created on purpose—for a purpose!” (Psalm 139:13)


2. 3-Legged Grace Race-Families or buddies team up for a 3-legged race, practicing patience, cooperation, and hilarity. Use bandanas or bungees or velcro ties to create 3 legged pairs. Adapt for anyone with mobility needs by altering the course or by means of connecting the pairs. Signage Prompt: “How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1)

Kristin Jack




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FIELD DAY: FEARFULLY & WONDERFULLY MADE




3. Sack-Hop Joy Jump-Use potato sacks or pillowcases for a hopping race. Play some joyful music and have competitors jump to the beats. Signage Prompt: “Rejoice in the Lord always—I’ll say it again: Rejoice!” (Philippians 4:4)




4. Hula Hoop Holy Spirit Pass-Teams must pass a hula hoop down the line without letting go of hands. Emphasizes unity, flow, and laughter. Signage Prompt: “The Spirit moves among us, connecting us in love.” (Romans 15:5–6)



5. Balance & Wonder Walk-Balance a beanbag or small object on your head while walking a winding line. Emphasizes focus, grace, and laughter. Signage Prompt: “Be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10)




6. God’s Creation Color Dash-Run (or walk) through a designated course where volunteers toss handfuls of colored powder or paint-free color confetti Signage Prompt: “You are God’s masterpiece—fearfully and wonderfully made!” (Ephesians 2:10)



7. Teamwork Tower Challenge-Build the tallest tower possible using pool noodles, boxes, or soft blocks—must be a team effort! Signage Prompt: “Together, we are the Body of Christ.” (1 Corinthians 12:27)

List of Resources (Ways to Connect with Your Community):

- 
- Invite local pediatricians, wellness educators, or other health/fitness organizations, to host a booth/table during the event with information and give-aways
 - Partner with a local gym or trainer to lead a family-friendly warm-up
 - Use the event to promote your church’s VBS, youth programs, or parenting groups
 - Invite families from local schools (flyers with QR codes to RSVP)

Reflection Questions/Debrief:

What do you love most about your body and why?

How do you feel when you hear that you are “fearfully and wonderfully made”?

What’s one way you can take care of your body as a gift from God this week?

How did it feel to be kind and receive kindness today?



BEYOND BOUNDARIES, BEYOND ONE IMAGE



Communal Hope: To create a sacred space where people explore and share the many ways we see and experience God through one another and diverse cultures. This event fosters spiritual imagination, connection, and inclusivity.

Event Time: 2.5 hours 1) Opening Prayer; 2) Gallery Walk; and 3) Reflection Circle

Learning Medium: Art, recreation, education/theology

Materials/Supplies:

- Display easels or hanging materials
- Art supplies (canvas, paints, markers, collage materials, etc.)
- Tables for art creation station, name tags, artist labels, and reflection cards
- Sound system for ambient music or spoken word
- Mirror (To be placed at the end of the Gallery Show. Participants can see their own reflection and imagine the image of Christ within themselves.)
- Refreshments (optional)

Volunteers needed:

- Setup/clean up
- Hospitality/welcome
- Facilitators for group reflection
- Tech person (for audio/music/slideshow if needed) and photographer

Event Description:

This interactive gallery-style event invites individuals of all ages to express and witness how the image of Christ is experienced in culture, relationships, and the human body. Participants can contribute artwork ahead of time or create on-site in an art-making corner. A guided reflection at the end offers time to share insights, stories, and affirmations of God/Christ's image reflected in the diversity around us. If the main facilitator and small group leaders are familiar with the background stories of each artwork, it will enrich the time of sharing.



BEYOND BOUNDARIES, BEYOND ONE IMAGE



List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Christian Piatt, “Considering 12 Sides of Jesus,” <https://sojo.net/articles/considering-12-sides-jesus>.
- Awakenings, “The Different Faces of Jesus,” <https://awakenings.blog/2013/03/12/the-different-faces-of-jesus/>.
- Michael Frost, “Picturing Jesus – Part V: Does It Matter What Color Jesus Is?”
- <https://mikefrost.net/picturing-jesus-part-v-does-it-matter-what-color-jesus-is/>
- Jesus Without Baggage, “Pondering the Many Faces of Jesus,” <https://jesuswithoutbaggage.wordpress.com/2016/06/20/pondering-the-many-faces-of-jesus/>.
- Ask local clergy or lay leaders to share short reflections on the image of God/Christ
- Use community bulletin boards, newsletters, and social media
- Collaborate with the church’s children, youth, and adult groups
- Offer a digital option for those who cannot attend

Reflection Questions:

- What was your favorite part of today? Why did you like it?
- How do you see the image of God/Christ in your own culture, family, and/or community?
- Where do you see God/Christ figure in the world around you? (like in animals, trees, friends, etc.)
- What makes you special or like God/Christ?
- Do you see God/Christ in someone you love? Who is it? What reminds you of God/Christ about them?

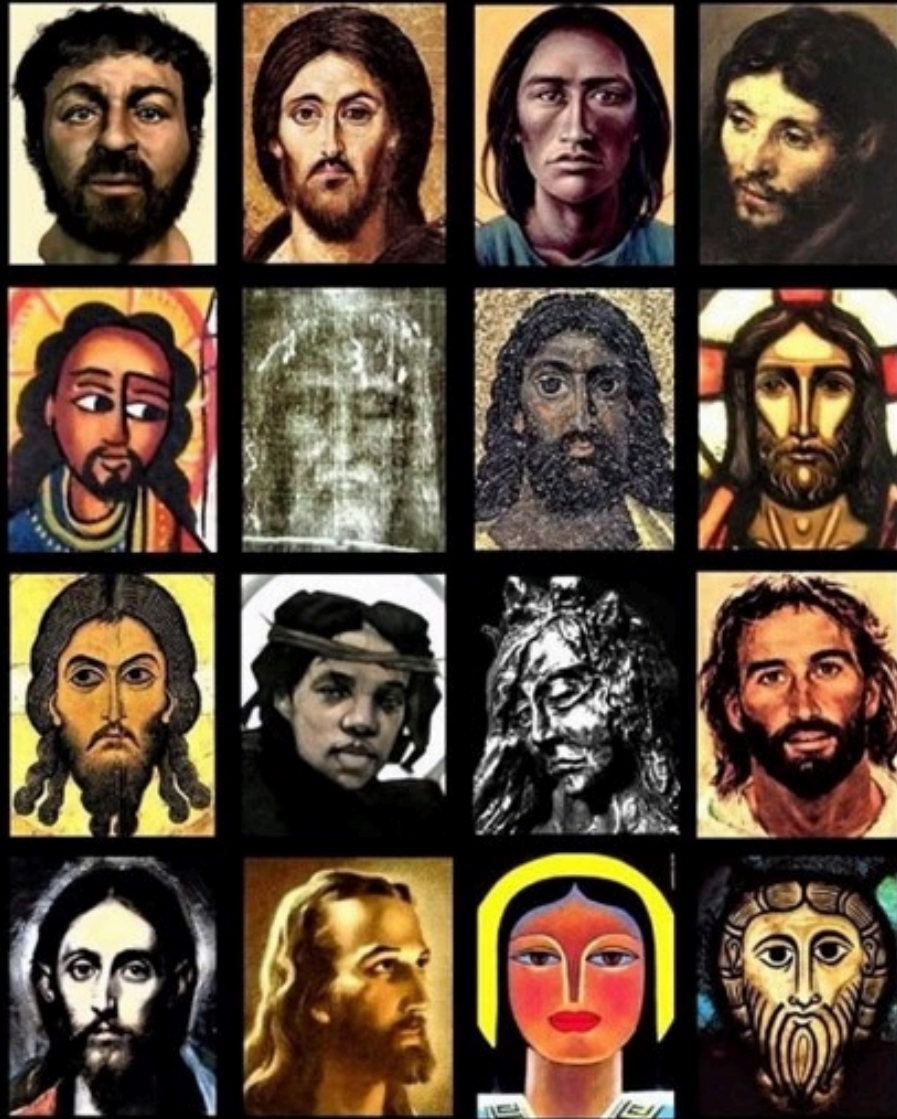
Evaluation: (can be found in back of guide)



BEYOND BOUNDARIES, BEYOND ONE IMAGE



Welcome to a place that believes



there's still room for interpretation.

Based on the work of Tom McElligott for the National Episcopal Church. Updated 2018 by Rev. Emmy Kegler.



GOD'S IN THE STORY



C.A.R.E.

Communal Hope: To see how God has worked in the lives of our friends and neighbors, learn from their life stories, and identify God's character.

Event Time: Late afternoon/ Early evening, 1-2 hours

Learning Medium: Recreation, Education, Art

Materials/Supplies: Chairs/benches, microphone

Optional: if doing outside: bonfire materials (firewood, lighter, lighter fluid, etc.), S'mores items (Graham crackers, chocolate bars, marshmallows), guitar.

Optional: if doing inside: Artificial bonfire, plants, camp decor. Pro tip: If you can set up a canopy tent with string lights indoors, it'll give it a true "camping" feel.

Volunteers needed: 2 or 3 for setup and cleanup.

Event Description: Story Night

- Ask 3-5 people to share a story, no longer than 5 minutes. Make sure you organize the order in which they will be speaking.
- Place chairs and/or benches in a circle. Leave focal point for speaker. Set-up decor.
- Prepare the s'mores. If doing event indoors, make s'mores in oven.
- Begin your story night with a song of worship. Do acoustic if possible, or play a song with a speaker. It doesn't matter how you do it, just worship.
- Introduce your speakers and have them share their stories.
- Finish your story night with a worship song.
- Pass out s'mores at the end of your event because it could get messy.

List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Invite local community leaders to share a story and listen to congregants' stories.

Reflection Questions:

- What story impacted you the most? Why?
- Where did you see God in the story?
- Did listening to stories help you think about your own story?
- Where is God in your story?

Evaluation: (can be found in back of packet)

Yoli Barragan



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WHOLE & HOLY MIND, BODY, & SOUL FAIR



Communal Hope: To nurture a holistic experience, recognizing our creation in relation to the image of God.

Event Time: Anytime, 4 hours

Learning Medium: Art/Recreation/Education

Materials/Supplies: tables, chairs, large auditorium or multipurpose space, sign-in sheet

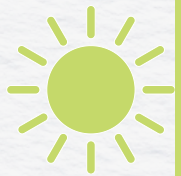
Volunteers Needed: At least one volunteer per station and a team to divide the tasks for planning and overseeing the event.

Event Description: A mind, body, and soul fair emphasizes caring for the whole person. Each table represents some aspect of holistic care. The fair can consist of multiple stations with resources and representatives. A large meeting space can hold demonstrations and talks every hour of the event.

Keynote/Demonstrations
Faith in Motion- Emphasize the importance of movement to overall wellness by having fitness activities throughout the day, such as a Yoga and Prayer session, a Zumba class with Gospel Music, or aerobics.
Creation Care- Invite a gardener or horticulturist to share tips for starting and revitalizing a garden. Other great topics are how to compost, container gardening, and year-round gardening.
Mental Health Workshop- An interactive workshop that teaches tools for managing stress like deep breathing, guided imagery, and muscle progression. The session can also encourage self-care practice or conduct a panel discussion about mental health and the church.
Healthy Eating- This workshop can be an interactive talk, panel discussion, or the demonstration of a health-friendly recipe.

Kanessa Doss

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WHOLE & HOLY MIND, BODY, & SOUL FAIR



Station	Description
Caregiving Support	Provide resources to support caregivers with information about stress management, establishing boundaries, recognizing burnout, local support groups, and accessing resources.
Health Screenings	Fight food insecurity with stations about growing fruits and vegetables, starting community gardens, and discovering local food banks and food pantries.
Physical Activity	Provide stations for a yoga instructor and/or personal trainer, to discuss incorporating physical activity into busy schedules and providing resources such as physical activity guidelines, family fitness ideas, and injury prevention.
Spiritual Living	Invite interfaith spiritual and religious leaders to provide information about incorporating spiritual practices into daily living and information about their organization. Offer a praise and worship opportunity

List of resources (ways to connect with your community):

- Invite governmental and community agencies to share resources about their programs. (e.g., Red Cross, Lifesouth, Cooperative Extension System)
- This is a great opportunity to encourage interfaith connections.

Reflection Questions/Debrief:

Although, it would be difficult to debrief participants after visiting each station, debrief can occur at keynote and demonstration sessions.

1. What did the workshop/ session help you discover?
2. What is one thing you felt?
3. How can you incorporate what you learned into your daily life?

Evaluation: (can be found in back of guide)



GLORIOUS AROMA

A SENSORY SESSION WITH GOD



Communal Hope: To experience our senses as an extension of God on earth.

Event Time: 60 minutes

Learning Medium: Recreation, Education

Materials/Supplies: Sensory Fact Sheets, nut-free cookies, coffee/coffee beans, popcorn, flowers, paper bowls, napkins, blindfolds, paper, pens, large meeting room or fellowship hall, long tables set up in a U-shape, chairs

Volunteers Needed: One adult volunteer for every ten participants

Event Description: Bring together guardians, children, and youth volunteers for time enjoying God's power and presence through our sense of smell. Invite a neighboring church to join you all.

- Ahead of time, prepare a fact sheet on our sense of smell. It should detail the number of nerves/nerve endings in our nose, how they signal the brain, and what happens to our thoughts when we smell things.
- Keeping supplies out of sight from the participants, enough cookies, coffee, popcorn, and flowers (one flower per participant) should be purchased ahead of time and separated into individual bowls by a gloved volunteer.
- When participants arrive and are seated at U-shaped table, pass out the fact sheet. Allow participants to take turns reading the facts aloud until all the interesting facts have been shared.
- Explain that it is time to let God reach us through scent. Turn on soft sounds of nature or music and have volunteers blindfold participants. Request that participants do not speak words in response to the scents.
- Have volunteers bring out popcorn bowls to place in front of each participant. Ask participants to lower their faces to the bowls and smell without touching. After one minute of smelling, remove the popcorn bowls and replace them with bowls of cookies. After one minute of smelling without touching, remove the cookies and replace them with coffee beans, and so on until they smell the flowers.
- Remove blindfolds, invite participants to grab popcorn and cookies, and return to their seats where a sheet a paper and pen should now be.

Reflection Questions:

- What thoughts came to mind with each smell? Any memories?
- Have you ever lost your ability to smell? Describe the frustration.
- How would you describe the gift of your senses?

Monique Crain Spells



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EVALUATION

Imago Dei means image of God...



C.A.R.E.



1) Were participants actively engaged? Y or N



2) Did participants communicate experiencing God in a diverse way? Y or N

3) Were children and adults equally included and able to participate? Y or N

4) What feedback did you hear (formally or informally)?



5) What would you change next time?



6) How did this activity/event embody the theme that I, my neighbor, and creation are made in the image of God?



7) Did we include unfamiliar community members in our experience? Y or N



“HEY, IMAGO DEI!”



Thank you for shared ministry!

Let us know how these activities went with your church, and send us pictures to share! Don't forget to download our 12-week curriculum C.A.R.E. Sundays. It is our hope that these Disciples Home Missions resources help to lighten your load and lift the hearts in your care.

For more info or requests about Ministry with Families and Children, please email Program Support at the following email address:
nriddick@dhm.disciples.org

You may send a donation to Disciples Home Missions at the following address or scan the QR Code.

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