PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

2025 | ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG AND OLDER CHILDREN'S LESSONS

SEPTEMBER 7–OCTOBER 5

Select the activities that work best in your setting. We have attempted to keep materials to things you have in your supply cabinets/closets. Enjoy!

PURSUE WHAT MAKES FOR PEACE

Suncatchers

(to remind us that God's peace is with us each and every day.)

Materials:

- Round plastic lids (sour cream size is perfect) 1 per child
- CLEAR school glue
- Glass pebbles (I get mine from the Dollar Tree)
- Plastic straw (cut into short pieces to form hole for hanging)
- Ribbon or yarn

Instructions:

1. Place the straw at what will be the top of the suncatcher.
2. Fill the lid with the CLEAR glue.
3. Then press the glass pebbles into the glue. It is best if the pebbles touch.
4. Let it cure for at least 48 hours, then pop it out of the lid.
5. Attach ribbon or yarn and hang where it can catch the sunlight.

Peace Offering Hands

(This can be an individual craft or a group craft.) No matter our age, we can all be builders of peace.

Materials:

- Construction paper
- Markers/crayons
- Scissors
- Glue or glue sticks
- Small paper hearts or stickers

Instructions:

1. Trace each child's hand.
2. Let children cut out their hand, or an older buddy can help the younger ones cut theirs out.
3. On the hand, write or draw one way they can offer peace this coming week (for example, "Say Sorry," "Help a Friend" or "Pray for Others").
4. Decorate with small hearts or stickers.
5. If doing this as a group project, attach the hands to a large piece of craft paper or poster board with the title "Our Peace Offerings." Hang it somewhere in your building where all can see it.

Encourage Cards

(can be given to members of the congregations, maybe sent to college students throughout the year or sent to local nonprofits to be shared with clients. It is important not to have the children's names on the cards if they are going outside the congregation.)

Materials:

- Blank notecards or precut cardstock notecard size
- Markers
- Stickers
- Examples of encouraging words/phrases

Instructions:

1. Encourage the children to decorate the front of the card with a drawing or stickers.
2. Inside the card, write an encouraging message or Bible verse.
3. If they are going to members of the congregation, let the creator sign the note; otherwise, write from "Someone who cares for you" or "From the people of [church name]."

Chenille Stem Peace Sign

Materials:

- Chenille stems (1 whole stem and 3 half pieces per child)
- Yarn (for hanging them)

Instructions:

1. Take a chenille stem and shape it into a circle — twist the ends so it doesn't come apart.
2. Take 1 half piece and attach it at the 12 o'clock position on the circle.
3. Take another half piece and attach it at the 8 o'clock position on the circle.
4. Take the last half piece and attach it at the 4 o'clock position on the circle.
5. Twist the 3 pieces together in the center of the circle. Snip any tail pieces or wrap them around one of the pieces.
6. Tie a piece of yarn to the top so it can hang.

Origami Crane

(While doves are a symbol of peace, an origami dove is not easy to fold. We suggest the crane instead. You could then use the cranes and chenille stem peace sign to decorate your worship space on World Communion Sunday.)

There are several websites that give excellent directions on how to fold the crane; this one is our favorite: thesprucecrafts.com/easy-origami-crane-instructions-4082282.

You can also look at origami.me/crane.

It takes about 15 minutes to fold a crane, so plan accordingly and have fun!

QUESTIONS?
Feel free to contact us at
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