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INTRODUCTION

The Children’s Activity Guide is for those age 4-11. Recognizing the range of ages and learning styles, instructors are encouraged to adapt activities according to needs and abilities. This guide is designed for use in different settings. For full-inclusion classes, select from the craft, music, and recreation recommendations to enhance each lesson based on length of session and setting.

If teaching a multiage class, remember younger children look to older children as models and want to be engaged with them in challenging activities. Older children like to share their skills with younger children. All understand faith through action and experience and want to learn the meaning of church life. You can, on occasion, group younger or older children together for tasks.

LESSONS

Lessons are designed for 20- to 30-minute sessions and incorporate themes with interactive learning experiences.

CRAFTS AND PROJECTS

Crafts give children the opportunity to create a tangible reminder of the lesson’s focus. Creating is more important than the final product. This process also can be an opportunity for deeper discussions about the lesson focus. Be mindful of opportunities to bring the theme into craft time.

MUSIC

Hymn and song suggestions are provided to accompany each lesson. Many of the hymns are suggested in the worship helps so children are familiar with the songs. Hymns and songs from Community of Christ Sings cannot be copied without a license. Accompaniment tracks for hymns can be found on the Community of Christ Sings audio recording thumb drive available at www.HeraldHouse.org. Encourage motions or sign language, incorporate movement and dance, or include rhythm instruments.

GAMES

Cooperative games and activities are provided to reinforce the lesson focus. Games help children practice skills of cooperation and peacebuilding. Each child is uniquely abled. Upholding the Worth of All Persons, instructors are encouraged to adapt games and activities by simplifying or adding more complex layers based on children’s ages and abilities. It is important to remember participation and cooperation are more important than competition!
LESSON ONE

DISCOVER PEACE HERE

SCRIPTURE
Woman at the Well (John 4:6-15)

FOCUS
Peace Is for All People

OBJECTIVES
The learners will…
- Learn that peace is for all people.
- Get to know one another.
- Read a story about inclusion.
- Hear the story of the Woman at the Well.
- Create or draw a well.
- Learn about the Worth of All Persons, an Enduring Principle.

SUPPLIES
- The Big Umbrella by Amy June Bates
- Bible
- Supplies for creating or drawing a well (see Respond section)

SETTING
This could be on a large poster or piece of paper or it could be 3-D and made of any materials. This could be a small diorama that is placed on a table, a picture hung on a wall, or it could be a large interactive setting including a cardboard box house in which the children can play. For an online reunion, this could even be digital, with a different image added to the picture each day.

Begin with a representation of a home. Add a well for the Woman at the Well story.

GATHER
Activates background knowledge; prepares and motivates for lesson (15% of lesson time)

Welcome the children to class. Invite each child to introduce themselves and tell two or three things they like to do for fun. Play a quick game of This or That? To play, have everyone stand in the center of the room. Play online by raising hands onscreen. Ask a question such as, “Are you a swing or a slide?” The children move to one side of the room or the other when they make their choice. There are no wrong answers! Other questions:
- Are you a frog or a fish?
- Are you a mountain or an ocean?
- Are you paint or clay?
- Are you a tree or a flower?
- Are you an apple or an orange?

ENGAGE
Invites exploration and interaction (25% of lesson time)

Gather children together. Read The Big Umbrella by Amy June Bates. This story uses an umbrella as a metaphor for kindness and inclusion. After reading, discuss:
- What is this book about?
- What can this book teach us about kindness? Acceptance?
- Did they ever run out of room under the umbrella? Why?

Introduce children to the theme of the week: Let Peace Dwell Here. Each day we will explore a different kind of peace. Today’s theme is “Discover Peace Here.” How was The Big Umbrella a book about peace?
Respond

Introduce children to the setting for the week. It should represent a house or dwelling.

Say, “Each day we will add to the setting. Today we are going to hear a story from the Bible about Jesus welcoming someone.”

Read John 4:6-15. Discuss:

- The woman at the well was there at a time when she knew others would not be there, because she knew they wouldn’t welcome her. How did Jesus make her feel welcome?
- What did Jesus mean when he said he would give her Living Water?
- What can this passage teach us about peace and welcoming others?
- How is this like the story of The Big Umbrella? If Jesus had an umbrella, would there be room for everyone under it?

Add a well to the setting for the day, to represent Jesus welcoming the woman at the well. Invite children to create a well.

- Use children’s modeling clay to create a well.
- Draw a well and add “water” using blue plastic wrap or blue sequins.
- Work together to build a well using blocks.

For online experiences, capture pictures with screen prints or photos of the children’s creations.

Send

Community of Christ believes in the Worth of All Persons. This means we believe every single person is loved by God, no matter what. God’s peace is for all people. Just as the woman at the well was treated with love and respect by Jesus, we are all important to God. Just as there was room for everyone under the umbrella in our story, there is room for everyone in God’s kingdom.

Take turns having each child say,

“My name is ___ and God’s peace is for me!”

When everyone has had a turn, have the entire class say, “God’s peace is for everyone!”

Bless

Offer a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for the week of reunion.
LESSON TWO

GROW PEACE HERE

SCRIPTURE

The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed … (Luke 13:18-19)

FOCUS

Peace in Community of Christ

OBJECTIVES

The learners will…

- Watch something surprising grow.
- Talk about ways to grow peace.
- Create a flower or a garden.
- Learn about Pursue Peace on Earth, a Mission Initiative.

SUPPLIES

- Magic Grow Capsules, available at Amazon.com and some dollar stores
- Small cup of water for each child
- Strictly No Elephants by Lisa Mantchev or Sticks by Diane Alber
- Bible
- Items to create a garden (see Respond section)
- Large piece of paper and markers
- Supplies for the setting: See below

SETTING

This could be on a large poster or piece of paper, or it could be 3-D and made of any material. This could be a small diorama that is placed on a table, a picture hung on a wall, or it could be a large interactive setting including a cardboard box house in which the children can play. For an online reunion, this could be digital with a different image added to the picture each day. On the first day start with a representation of a home. Add a well for the Woman at the Well story and a discussion of how peace is for all people.

Add a garden for the “Grow Peace Here” theme.

GATHER

Activates background knowledge; prepares and motivates for lesson (15% of lesson time)

Today’s theme is all about growing peace. We are going to start out with an experiment in which something surprising grows. Give each child a sponge from Magic Grow Capsules or a similar product. Give children a small cup of water to put their capsule in. In just a minute or so, the capsule will have grown into a shaped sponge.

ENGAGE

Invites exploration and interaction (35% of lesson time)

Read Strictly No Elephants by Lisa Mantchev or Sticks by Diane Alber. Strictly No Elephants is about some children who start a club where all are welcome. Sticks is about becoming who you are meant to be. Discuss:

- Today’s theme is Grow Peace Here. We will be talking about how peace can grow. How does the story we just read relate to peace?
- Today we are talking about growing a garden. What does a garden have to do
with peace?

- How can we help peace grow in our church? In our schools? In our homes? In our world?

Read Luke 13:18-19: He said therefore, “What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.”

In this passage, Jesus says the kingdom of God is like a seed that grows into a tree. Can you think of something peaceful you have done that grew into something bigger?

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SEND

Explains how the lesson might be lived (10% of lesson time)

Community of Christ has a Mission Initiative called Pursue Peace on Earth. We try to live Christ’s peace and generously share it with others. We:

- Establish the Temple as a center to promote peacemaking throughout the world.
- Engage children in peacemaking around the world.
- Seek justice, create peacemakers around the world.
- Unite with others to make peace around the world.

On a large piece of paper or online, work as a class to make a list of ways we can pursue peace. Ideas might include sharing generously, protecting the Earth, being kind to others, speaking up for those who are being hurt, or including those who are different from you.

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RESPOND

Takes the learners from hearing to doing (35% of lesson time)

Today we will be adding a garden to our setting for the week. Invite children to create their own garden. You might let them:

- Draw a garden.
- Make a paper flower.
- Wad tiny pieces of tissue paper and glue it to a brown piece of paper to look like rows of new plants.
- Work with a team to create a flower garden, with each child adding flowers to the picture.
- Plant actual flower seeds.

As children work, remind them that peace can grow like a tiny seed. One small act of peace can change the world.

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BLESS

Time of prayer, praise, blessing, and help (5% of lesson time)

Invite each child to tell one way they will help peace grow. Younger children could act like a flower growing (crouch down like a tiny seed, then slowly grow taller and taller). Offer a prayer of blessing on the children’s peacemaking efforts.
LESSON THREE

PRACTICE PEACE HERE

SCRIPTURE
Turn the Other Cheek (Matthew 5:38-42)

FOCUS
Peace Between People

OBJECTIVES
The learners will…
- Read a story about including others.
- Hear Jesus’ words about turning the other cheek.
- Discuss ways to solve problems peacefully.
- Learn about Unity in Diversity, an Enduring Principle.

SUPPLIES
- *How to Two* by David Soman or *Twig* by Aura Parker
- Supplies to create a model of a playground (see Respond section)
- Supplies for the setting (below)

SETTING
This could be on a large poster or piece of paper or it could be 3-D and made of any sort of material. This could be a small diorama that is placed on a table, a picture hung on a wall, or it could be a large interactive setting including a cardboard box house in which the children can play. For an online reunion, this could be digital, with a different image added to the picture each day. In Lesson One, start with a representation of a home. Add a well for the Woman at the Well story and a discussion of how peace is for all people. In Lesson Two, add a garden for the “Grow Peace Here” theme and a discussion of peace in our church.

In today’s lesson add a playground for the “Practice Peace Here” theme, in which we talk about getting along with others.

GATHER
Activates background knowledge; prepares and motivates for lesson (15% of lesson time)

Play Simon Says, in person or online. After a few minutes, play an opposites version of the game. If you say, “Simon Says stand on your right foot,” children should stand on their left foot. This game is still fun if you let kids keep playing when they make a mistake.

ENGAGE
Invites exploration and interaction (35% of lesson time)

Read *How to Two* by David Soman or *Twig* by Aura Parker. *How to Two* is about playing on a playground and including others. *Twig* is about someone trying to feel seen and included at a new school. Both stories lend themselves to conversations about inclusion and peacemaking. Discuss:
- How did the characters in the story show peace?
- How can we be peacemakers at school or on the playground?
- When is it difficult to be peaceful with others?
- What can we do when peacemaking is hard?
Read Matthew 5:38-42. Jesus gives us some advice about what to do when someone is unkind to us. What is his advice?

- Think of our opposites game we played at the beginning of our lesson. Does being kind to someone who was unkind to you seem like the opposite of what you might want to do?
- Can you think of a situation where this advice would make a situation better?
- Can you think of a situation where you might have to try something else? (Remind children that bullying is hurtful behavior that happens over and over. If they are being bullied, they should talk to a trusted adult who can help them.)
- What are some other ways to solve our problems peacefully? (We can share, play something else, walk away, explain how we are feeling.)

UNITY IN DIVERSITY is one of Community of Christ’s Enduring Principles. This means that even though we are different we are committed to talking through our disagreements and being respectful of each other.

Play a game to show students that we are all different but we can still be friends. Play “Four Corners.” For each question, children move to a corner of the room to represent their choice. This can be adapted to play online.

- Is your favorite season winter, spring, summer, or fall?
- Is your favorite color pink, blue, red, or something else?
- Is your favorite subject reading, math, science, or something else?
- Is your favorite sport soccer, baseball, football, or something else?
- Is your favorite pizza topping cheese, pepperoni, sausage, or none of those?
- Is your favorite activity playing outside, watching TV, playing video games, or something else?

Today we will add a playground to our setting. This is to remind us that we should try to be peaceful with our friends and classmates. Add the playground. You can choose which activity to let children do:

- Draw a playground.
- Work with a small group to draw a playground.
- Build a playground out of recycled materials, frozen treat sticks, or pipe cleaners.
- Build a playground out of children’s modeling clay.
- Work with a team to design a seesaw out of frozen treat sticks.

BLESS
Time of prayer, praise, blessing, and help
(5% of lesson time)

Invite each child to share one word that makes them think of peace. Say a prayer of gratitude for the opportunity to be peacemakers in our world.
LESSON FOUR

DISCERN PEACE HERE

SCRIPTURE
Be Still, and Know That I am God (Psalm 46:10)

FOCUS
Peace Within Ourselves

OBJECTIVES
The learners will…
- Try some spiritual practices such as yoga, meditation, using a labyrinth, and prayer.
- Hear a story and discuss inner peace.
- Create or color a labyrinth.
- Learn about Continuing Revelation, an Enduring Principle.

SUPPLIES
- *The Rabbit Listened* by Cori Doerrfeld or *Straw* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- Bible
- Materials for creating labyrinths (see Respond section)
- Supplies for the setting (see below)

SETTING
*This could be on a large poster or piece of paper, or it could be 3-D and made of any material. This could be a small diorama that is placed on a table, a picture on a wall, or it could be a large interactive setting including a cardboard box house in which the children can play. For an online reunion, this could be digital, with a different image added to the picture each day. On the first day start with a representation of a home. Add a well for the Woman at the Well story and a discussion of how peace is for all people. On the second day add a garden for the “Grow Peace Here” theme and a discussion of peace in our church. On the third day, add a playground for the “Practice Peace Here” theme in which we talk about interpersonal peace and getting along with others.*

For today’s lesson add a labyrinth to represent inner peace for the “Discern Peace Here” theme.

Do some yoga poses together. Search online for “yoga for kids,” or try some of these poses:
- Tree pose: Stand on one foot with the other foot touching the standing leg. Raise both hands above your head and touch your hands together.
- Dog pose: Place both hands and feet on the floor, with your back and legs straight. Your body will be shaped like a triangle.
- Cat pose: On your hands and knees, arch your back like a cat.
- Cow pose: On your hands and knees, bend your back low like a cow and raise your head.
- Star pose: spread your arms and legs wide.

Today we are talking about inner peace. This means feeling peaceful inside ourselves.
Yoga is one way people try to calm their minds and bodies and find peace.

**ENGAGE**

Invites exploration and interaction (35% of lesson time)

Read *The Rabbit Listened* by Cori Doerrfeld or *Straw* by Amy Krause Rosenthal. *The Rabbit Listened* is about bringing peace to others by listening to them. *Straw* is about celebrating the joy of slowing down. Both stories lend themselves to a conversation about finding inner peace. Read Psalm 46:10.

Discuss:
- What does it mean to have peace within ourselves?
- What did the characters in the story do to find peace?
- How can God help us find peace?
- When do you feel peaceful?
- When do you not feel peaceful?
- What do you do to help you feel peaceful?

Practice stillness: Invite children to lie on the floor and close their eyes if they are comfortable. You can play quiet music. Encourage children to take deep, slow breaths and feel themselves relax from head to toe. Continue for a few minutes. Afterward, discuss how the kids felt. Was it difficult to stay still and quiet?

Today we will add a labyrinth to our setting. Explain that a labyrinth is like a maze, but the purpose is not to get lost in it or discover a way through it. A labyrinth has a path that leads to the center and back out again. People use them to meditate or find a sense of peace. Others pray or talk to God.

Labyrinths can be very large, or they can be drawn on a piece of paper. You can trace a labyrinth with your finger. Labyrinths represent the journey toward your inner thoughts and feelings, and back out again to the world. If possible, show the children pictures of labyrinths, including the one at the Community of Christ Temple.

Choose an activity for the children:
- Color a labyrinth that is printed on paper and trace it with your finger.
- Print labyrinths on cardstock paper. Let children trace the lines of the labyrinth with glue. When it dries, they can trace the labyrinth and they will be able to feel the lines.
- Walk on a labyrinth at your campground. If there is not one, you could create one with masking tape on the floor or by painting on a large canvas or tarp. You could also create an outdoor labyrinth with materials found in nature.
- Work with a group to create a labyrinth with blocks, children’s modeling clay, or other materials.
One of the Enduring Principles of Community of Christ is Continuing Revelation. This means:

- Scripture is inspired by God and helps us understand God.
- God graciously reveals divine will today as in the past. (God still speaks to us today)
- The Holy Spirit inspires and provides witness to divine truth. (The Spirit helps us understand God’s truth)
- In humility, individually, and in community, we prayerfully listen to understand God’s will for our lives, the church, and creation more completely. (Adapted from www.CofChrist.org/enduring-principles.)

Discuss:

- How can spiritual practices such as yoga, prayer, or labyrinths help us understand what God wants us to do?
- How can those practices help us feel God’s peace?

Invite children to sit comfortably and close their eyes or rest their eyes on a spot in the room.

Say this prayer:

Be still, and know that I am God.

Be still, and know that I am.

Be still, and know.

Be still.

Be.

Amen.
LESSON FIVE

CREATE PEACE HERE

SCRIPTURE
Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Hearts (Colossians 3:14-15)

FOCUS
Peace in Our Communities

OBJECTIVES
The learners will…
- Hear a story about creating peace.
- Create a table to represent including all people at the table of Christ’s peace.
- Play a game to learn about the Blessings of Community.

SUPPLIES
- I Walk with Vanessa: A Story about a Simple Act of Kindness, by Kerascoët
- Bible
- Supplies to create a table (see Respond section)
- Supplies for the setting (below)

SETTING
This could be on a large poster or piece of paper, or it could be 3-D and made of any sort of materials. This could be a small diorama that is placed on a table, a picture hung on a wall, or it could be a large interactive setting including a cardboard box house in which the children can play. For an online reunion, this could even be digital, with a different image added to the picture each day. On the first day, start with a representation of a home. Add a well for the Woman at the Well story and a discussion of how peace is for all people. On the second day, add a garden for the “Grow Peace Here” theme and a discussion of peace in our church. On the third day, add a playground for the “Practice Peace Here” theme in which we talk about interpersonal peace and getting along with others. On the fourth day, add a labyrinth to represent inner peace for the “Discern Peace Here” theme.

Today, add a table to represent offering peace to all in our community and the world.

GATHER
Activates background knowledge; prepares and motivates for lesson (15% of lesson time)

Play the “Group Game.” Children walk around the room randomly. The leader shouts “Groups of ___” with a number. Children quickly form circles with that number of people. Those left out work together to decide which number to call next. If the leader calls “Groups of one,” everyone stands straight with their arms in the air like the number one. If the leader calls “Groups of zero,” everyone lies down on the floor.

ENGAGE
Invites exploration and interaction (35% of lesson time)

Read I Walk with Vanessa by Kerascoët. This story is about how a single act of kindness can transform a community. As we prepare to leave from this reunion experience, our conversation turns to ways we can be peacemakers in our communities, homes, and schools. In scripture, we read: “Above all,
clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.” (Colossians 3:14-15).

Discuss:

- What does this story show us about peace?
- Think about the ideas about peace we have explored this week (peace is for everyone, peace can grow, making peace between people, finding peace within ourselves). How do you see these ideas in the story?
- What ideas have we learned that we can take with us when we leave reunion? How can we be peacemakers in our communities?
- What does it mean to “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts?”

SEND

Explores how the lesson might be lived
(10% of lesson time)

One of the Enduring Principles of Community of Christ is Blessings of Community. We value our connections within the church, but we are also called to create Christ-like communities of joy, hope, love, and peace within our communities and the world.

True community includes compassion for those who are left out or neglected. Think of the story *I Walk with Vanessa*. Their community was only complete when all people were welcome and included. Play a game to practice helping and including others. If online, “popcorn” ideas of how they can help include others.

Play “Helping Hands.” Give each child a beanbag or other object to balance on their head while they walking around the room. If someone drops their object, they have to freeze. Any other player can stop and help them by gently tagging them. The tagged child is then unfrozen and can pick up their beanbag and start playing again. In this game, no one is “out” for long because a helper can always get them back “in.”

Respond

Today we are discussing ways to create peace. Peace cannot happen when we leave people out or ignore them. We must welcome all people to the table of peace. Today we will add a table to our setting. The table represents the idea of all people being welcome and the idea of people coming together in peace. Choose an activity for the children to complete:

- Draw a table.
- Create a table from blocks.
- Create a table from popsicle sticks or other materials.
- Each person in the class decorates a paper plate to represent themselves, and all plates are placed around a real or imagined table.
Invite each child to tell their favorite part of their reunion experience.

Say a prayer of blessing for the end of reunion. Ask God’s help as children try to be peacemakers in their communities.
LESSON ONE  
CRAFTS AND PROJECTS

LIVING WATER SLIME  
OR WATER ART

THEME
Discover Peace Here

In today’s lesson, children will...

- Learn that peace is for all people.
- Get to know one another.
- Read a story about inclusion.
- Hear the story of the Woman at the Well.
- Create or draw a well.
- Learn about Worth of All Persons, an Enduring Principle.

FOCUS
Peace is for All People

SCRIPTURE
Woman at the Well (John 4:6-15)

CRAFT 1
Living Water Slime

Today’s craft will remind children of Jesus’ encounter with the woman at the well and their conversation about the Living Water. This recipe will make enough slime for one child.

Supplies for each slime recipe:

- ½ cup clear school glue
- 1 tablespoon saline solution containing boric acid and sodium borate
- ½ cup water
- ¼ to ½ teaspoon baking soda
- Sequins, food coloring, or other fun mix-ins (optional)
- Bowls and spoons for mixing

Mix the glue and water completely. Add optional mix-ins. Add baking soda. The baking soda improves the firmness of the slime. Add saline solution and mix until the slime starts to pull away from the bowl. Keep kneading the slime until you get the right consistency. You can add more saline solution, one drop at a time, if needed. Or you can put a few drops of saline solution on your hands before kneading. Give each child a plastic bag or container for the slime when they are finished playing with it. (Recipe from https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/how-to-make-saline-solution-slime-recipe)

CRAFT 2
Water Art

If you would prefer a simpler project, children can create Water Art.

Supplies:

- An inexpensive paper plate for each child
- Markers
- Spray bottles of water

Allow each child to draw a design or picture on the paper plate. When finished, the children can spray their plate lightly with water and watch the colors run and blend.
LESSON TWO
CRAFTS AND PROJECTS

MOSAIC STEPPING-STONES OR FLOWERPOTS

THEME
Grow Peace Here

_In today’s lesson, children will..._
- Watch something surprising grow.
- Talk about ways to grow peace.
- Create a flower or a garden.
- Learn about the Mission Initiative, Pursue Peace on Earth.

FOCUS
Peace in Community of Christ

SCRIPTURE
The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed... (Luke 13:18-19)

CRAFT 1
Mosaic Stepping-Stones

Today’s theme is about growing and gardens. Children will make stepping-stones for the
garden.

Supplies:
- A disposable metal pie tin, or the plastic
  lid from a store-bought cake, for each
  child
- Cooking spray
- A bag or bags of quick-set concrete. You
  will need more or less depending on the
  number of children participating. A 50-
  pound bag will yield about 10 stepping-
  stones if they are about 10 inches in
  diameter.
- Large bucket or bowl for mixing the
  concrete, and something to stir it with
- Items to decorate the stones with: marbles, shells, rocks, sea glass
- Sticks or popsicle sticks for drawing in
  the concrete

Have the kids plan their designs before the
concrete is poured into each pan. The
concrete will set quickly so they will need to
be ready to decorate it. After making the
stepping-stones, let them sit for at least 24
hours before taking them out of the mold.
There are more ideas and tips online for
making stepping-stones with children.

CRAFT 2
Flowerpots

An alternative idea to today’s theme is to
decorate flowerpots.

Supplies:
- Small terra-cotta pots (one per child)
- Paint and brushes

Encourage children to paint their flowerpots
with a design that represents peace to them.
LESSON THREE
CRAFTS AND PROJECTS

PEACE ROCKS SPIRAL

THEME
Practice Peace Here

In today’s lesson, children will...
• Read a story about including others.
• Hear Jesus’ words about turning the other cheek.
• Discuss ways to solve problems peacefully.
• Learn about Unity in Diversity, an Enduring Principle.

FOCUS
Peace Between People

SCRIPTURE
Turn the Other Cheek (Matthew 5:38-42)

CRAFT
Peace Rocks Spiral

If possible, find a place on the campground where the children can work together to display their rocks in a spiral formation. Talk about how the spiral shape (including the one in the Community of Christ Temple in Independence, Missouri, USA) represents a journey inward and outward to find and share peace. Online participants could share a location of where they placed their rock.

Supplies:
• Smooth rocks (at least one per child)
• Paints and brushes (if rocks will be placed outdoors, use water-resistant paint)
LESSON FOUR
CRAFTS AND PROJECTS

I SPY PEACE BOTTLES

THEME
Discern Peace Here

In today’s lesson, children will...
• Try some spiritual practices such as yoga, meditation, using a labyrinth, and prayer.
• Hear a story and discuss inner peace.
• Create or color a labyrinth.
• Learn about the Continuing Revelation, an Enduring Principle.

FOCUS
Peace Within Ourselves

SCRIPTURE
Be Still, and Know that I am God (Psalm 46:10)

CRAFT
I Spy Peace Bottles

In today’s lesson, children learned about ways to find inner peace. I Spy bottles can be a calming activity that makes kids feel peaceful.

Supplies:
• An empty clear water bottle for each child
• Funnels
• Dry white rice, enough to fill each bottle most of the way (Dye the rice different colors with food coloring or leave it white.)
• Objects to put in the bottle with the rice: Confetti, beads, or small trinkets shaped like things that represent peace (Peace signs, crosses, hearts, doves, churches, Earths, words or letters, flowers, animals, clear blue marbles to represent living water, or other objects)
• Glue (Super Glue or hot glue) to seal the bottle
• Ribbon
• Index cards
• Pencils and markers or crayons

Allow the children to choose 8-10 objects that they want to put in their bottle. On the index card, they should write the names of the objects. Adults or older children can help the younger children write their list.

Help the children fill the empty bottles with rice. As they work, they should also put their chosen objects into the bottle, so the objects are scattered throughout the bottle. Put the lid on the bottle and seal the top with glue.

Tie a ribbon around the bottle and attach the index card so the person using the bottle will know which objects they should try to find in the bottle. Children can decorate their bottle or index card if time allows.
LESSON FIVE
CRAFTS AND PROJECTS

PEACE SHIRTS OR FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

THEME
Create Peace Here

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Hear a story about creating peace.
- Create a table to represent including all people at the table of Christ’s peace.
- Play a game to learn about the Blessings of Community.

SCRIPTURE
Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Hearts.
(Colossians 3:14-15)

FOCUS
Peace in Our Communities

CRAFT 1
Peace Shirts

Today’s lesson is about sharing peace in our communities. The children will create peace shirts so they can wear a reminder of their time at camp.

Supplies:
- A white T-shirt for each child
- Masking tape
- Spray paint (lots of colors)
- Stencils (optional)
- Pieces of cardboard to place inside the shirts

Place a piece of cardboard inside each shirt. Allow the children to use masking tape to place a design on the shirt. They might make a peace sign, their name, or something else. In an outdoor area, an adult should spray paint the shirt in the colors the child chooses. When the paint is dry, the tape can be removed, revealing the design.

This project is best done in small groups. See an alternative craft idea below for a project the other children can work on while some work on their shirts. Be aware of where you are spraying so no paint gets on anything that shouldn’t have paint on it, especially on a windy day. You might consider wearing a face mask and rubber gloves as you use the spray paint.

CRAFT 2
Friendship Bracelets

This craft can be used as an alternative to the peace shirts, or it can be used as a second project while small groups work on their shirts.

Supplies:
- Pipe cleaners or bracelet cord
- Beads

Children can string beads onto the cord or pipe cleaners to make bracelets that they can share with a friend at camp or at home.
LESSON ONE — MUSIC

THEME
Discover Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace Is for All People

SCRIPTURE
Woman at the Well (John 4:6-15)

In today’s lesson, children will ...
• Learn that peace is for all people.
• Get to know each other.
• Read a story about inclusion.
• Hear the story of the woman at the well.
• Create or draw a well.
• Learn about Worth of All Persons, an Enduring Principle.

MUSIC
• “Let There Be Peace on Earth,” Community of Christ Sings 307

• Focus on one verse of “All Are Welcome,” CCS 276 each day. 
   Today: Verse 1
LESSON TWO — MUSIC

THEME
Grow Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace in Community of Christ

SCRIPTURE
The Kingdom of God is Like a Grain of Mustard Seed… (Luke 13:18-19)

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Watch something surprising grow.
- Talk about ways to grow peace.
- Create a flower or a garden.
- Learn about Pursue Peace on Earth, a Mission Initiative

MUSIC
- “Peace Salaam Shalom,” Community of Christ Sings 310
- Focus on one verse of “All Are Welcome,” CCS 276 each day. Today: Verse 2
LESSON THREE—MUSIC

THEME
Practice Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace Between People

SCRIPTURE
Turn the Other Cheek (Matthew 5:38-42)

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Read a story about including others.
- Hear Jesus’ words about turning the other cheek.
- Discuss ways to solve problems peacefully.
- Learn about the Unity in Diversity, an Enduring Principle

MUSIC
- I Am Amazing!
- Focus on one verse of “All Are Welcome,” Community of Christ Sings 276 each day.
  Today: Verse 3
LESSON FOUR — MUSIC

THREE
Discern Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace Within Ourselves

SCRIPTURE
Be Still, and Know That I am God (Psalm 46:10)

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Try some spiritual practices such as yoga, meditation, using a labyrinth, and prayer.
- Hear a story and discuss inner peace.
- Create or color a labyrinth.
- Learn about the Continuing Revelation, an Enduring Principle

MUSIC
- “Peace Like a River” (campfire song)
- Focus on one verse of “All Are Welcome,” Community of Christ Sings 276 each day. Today: Verse 4
LESSON FIVE — MUSIC

THEME
Create Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace in Our Communities

SCRIPTURE
Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Hearts… (Colossians 3:14-15)

_in today’s lesson, children will..._
• Hear a story about creating peace.
• Create a table to represent including all people at the table of Christ’s peace.
• Play a game to learn about the Blessings of Community.

MUSIC
• “Peace Be with You,” Community of Christ Sings 662

• Focus on one verse of All Are Welcome, CCS 276 each day.
  Today: Verse 5
LESSON ONE

GAMES

THEME
Discover Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace Is for All People

SCRIPTURE
Woman at the Well (John 4:6-15)

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Learn that peace is for all people.
- Get to know one another.
- Read a story about inclusion.
- Hear the story of the woman at the well.
- Create or draw a well.
- Learn about the Worth of All Persons, an Enduring Principle.

WATER FROM THE WELL
Create a relay race. Have each player run to a bucket of water, fill a cup, and run back to pour it into a container. The first team to fill their container wins, or if you would rather not have a winning team, just celebrate how much each team accomplished together.

BLOB TAG
One person is “it.” When they tag someone, they hold hands with that person and now they are both “it.” Each time they tag someone, that person also becomes part of their “blob.” They continue until everyone has joined the “blob.” Remind kids about their lesson today regarding including others. God’s peace is for all people, so no one is left out in this game.

If online, consider a game like Concentration or a memory game with a variety of Community of Christ peace graphics to discover and match.
LESSON TWO

GAMES

THEME
Grow Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace in Community of Christ

SCRIPTURE
The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed… (Luke 13:18-19)

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Watch something surprising grow.
- Talk about ways to grow peace.
- Create a flower or a garden.
- Learn about Pursue Peace on Earth, a Mission Initiative.

OUTDOOR GAMES
Gather several outdoor games such as ring toss, giant Jenga, hopscotch, and bubbles. Give children time to play with the games.

CATCH THE RABBIT
Our theme today is about gardens. In the story “Peter Rabbit,” the gardener or farmer is mad at Peter for eating his vegetables. Play “Catch the Rabbit.” Children sit in a circle. Start passing around a beanbag or ball that represents Peter Rabbit. A short time later, start passing around another, larger bean bag or ball to represent the farmer. The game ends when the “farmer catches the rabbit” — when one child ends up with both balls or both bean bags.

If online, consider a game of Pictionary using nature, animals, plants, etc.
LESSON THREE

GAMES

THEME
Practice Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace Between People

SCRIPTURE
Turn the Other Cheek (Matthew 5:38-42)

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Read a story about including others.
- Hear Jesus’ words about turning the other cheek.
- Discuss ways to solve problems peacefully.
- Learn about Unity in Diversity, an Enduring Principle.

BE FREE

In this tag game, one person is “it.” When someone is tagged, they must freeze, wave their arms around, and ask for help. They can be unfrozen if two other players stand on either side of them, put their arms around them, and say, “Be free!” Discuss how it felt to be stuck, how it felt to be helped, how it felt to be the helper, and why it was important to ask for help.

COOPERATIVE MUSICAL CHAIRS

Play this game like musical chairs, except as chairs are removed everyone has to work together to make sure everyone has room to sit. Eventually the entire group is trying to sit on one chair.

An online option could be to create a Kahoot game. Google Kahoot and learn how to make an online game to “practice” inclusion and peace.
LESSON FOUR

GAMES

THEME
Discern Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace Within Ourselves

SCRIPTURE
Be Still, and Know that I am God (Psalm 46:10)

In today’s lesson, children will...
• Try some spiritual practices such as yoga, meditation, using a labyrinth, and prayer.
• Hear a story and discuss inner peace.
• Create or color a labyrinth.
• Learn about the Enduring Principle of Continuing Revelation

CHRIST’S PEACE

Students stand in a circle. One person stands in the middle of the circle. They say, “Christ’s peace is for…” and finish the sentence with a fun fact about themselves. They might say, “Christ’s peace is for people who like chocolate ice cream,” or “Christ’s peace is for people who play soccer.” Anyone who matches that description runs into the circle and finds a new spot in the circle. The person left in the middle of the circle becomes the new leader. If the reunion experience is online, this game is adaptable.

FREEZE DANCE

Play music (possibly music about peace). When the music stops, children should freeze. Remind children that many people find inner peace through music.
LESSON FIVE

GAMES

THEME
Create Peace Here

FOCUS
Peace in Our Communities

SCRIPTURE
Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Hearts
(Colossians 3:14-15)

In today’s lesson, children will...
- Hear a story about creating peace.
- Create a table to represent including all people at the table of Christ’s peace.
- Play a game to learn about the Blessings of Community.

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS TOURNAMENT
Pair students to play “Rock, Paper, Scissors.” When one child loses, that person’s job is to cheer on their opponent in the next round. For each round, the winners from the previous round are paired to compete. The point of the game is to cheer for one another. In the final round, two players are left and the rest of the group is cheering them on. Community is all about celebrating one another! This game could adapt to online play.

BLESSINGS OF COMMUNITY CHALLENGE
Assign players to one of two teams. Mark a start and finish line. Give each team some potato sacks, carpet squares, or pieces of cardboard equal to one less than the number of players on their team. If there are six players on a team, they should have five sacks. The object of the game is to work together to get all members of the team from one end of the field to the other without touching the ground. If someone steps off the sack, that person returns to the starting point. If a potato sack is left on the ground with no one touching it, it is lost and the whole team returns to start. Players must use teamwork and communication to complete the task. When one team is finished, members can cheer on the other team.