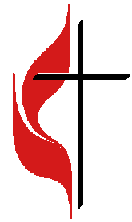




Lemont United Methodist Church
Sunday School



Notes to Parents

Dear Parents,

April 2006

The Easter Story is the foundation of our Christian faith. However, it is often dry and difficult for children to comprehend. Instead, they get caught up in the excitement of the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunts. Here's a fun way to bring the Christian meaning back into Easter. On the Saturday evening before Easter, prepare and bake "Easter Story Cookies" with your children. Each step includes a bible reading and explanation to help them understand the story. In the morning, you will have yummy meringue cookies that are hollow inside...just like the tomb after Jesus had risen! Enjoy!

Yours in Christ,
Karin Peraino & Mary Rohrer

Easter Story Cookies



Ingredients

1 cup whole pecans, 1 tsp.
white vinegar, 3 egg whites,
pinch salt, 1 cup sugar

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 300°F.

1. Place pecans in the ziploc bag. Have the children beat the pecans with the wooden spoon to break them into small pieces.
Reading: John 19:1-3
Explanation: after Jesus was arrested, He was beaten by the Roman soldiers.
2. Let each child smell the vinegar, noting the pungent smell. If they want, have them just taste it on their finger. Put 1 teaspoon vinegar into mixing bowl.
Reading: John 19:28-30
Explanation: When Jesus said "I thirst" when dying on the cross the soldiers gave Him vinegar to drink.
3. Add egg whites to the vinegar. Eggs represent new life.
Reading: John 10:10-11
Explanation: Jesus gave His life to give us life, and on Easter Sunday He came back to life.
4. Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl.
Reading: Luke 23:27
Explanation: The salt represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin.
5. So far the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1 cup sugar.
Reading: Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16
Explanation: The sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him.
6. Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes until stiff peaks are formed.
Reading: Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3
Explanation: The color white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been washed clean by Jesus' sufferings and death.
7. Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper covered cookie sheet.
Reading: Matt. 27:57-60
Explanation: Each mound reminds us of the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid.
8. Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF. Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door.
Reading: Matt. 27:65-66
Explanation: Jesus' tomb was sealed with a large stone and soldiers guarded the entrance.
9. GO TO BED!
Reading: John 16:20 and 22
Explanation: The children may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight without seeing or tasting the results right away. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed.
10. On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow!
Reading: Matt. 28:1-9
Explanation: On the first Easter Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty.

FaithWeaver

Introducing FaithWeaver Bible Curriculum – Weaving Faith Through Life!

Calendar of Lessons for April and May

Although we hope to see every student each week, we realize that schedules sometimes do not allow that. Below is a calendar of upcoming lessons so that you may review them at home with your child if he/she should have to miss.

Lesson & Date	Bible Story	<i>Scripture</i>	Key Verse	Bible Point Ages 3-5	Bible Point Grades 1-HS
SPRING 2006 (New Testament)					
6) 4/02	People Rejoice as Jesus Enters Jerusalem	Mark 11:1-11	Philippians 2:10-11	<i>Jesus is king</i>	<i>We can honor Jesus with actions and words</i>
7) 4/09	Jesus Rises from the Dead	Mark 16:1-8	John 11:25	<i>Jesus is alive</i>	<i>We celebrate Easter because Jesus is Alive</i>
4/16/06 Easter Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt 10:00am, No Sunday School					
8) 4/23	Jesus Appears to His Disciples	John 20:19-31	Hebrews 11:1	<i>Believe in Jesus</i>	<i>Faith is believing in Jesus even though we can't see him</i>
9) 4/30	Jesus Sends Power from God	Acts 2:1-21	John 14:26	<i>God give us the Holy Spirit</i>	<i>God gives us the Holy Spirit</i>
10) 5/07	Peter Tells the Sanhedrin About Jesus	Acts 4:5-14	Joshua 1:9	<i>God helps us be brave</i>	<i>Trusting in God makes us courageous</i>
11) 5/14	Philip Tells the Ethiopian about Jesus	Acts 8:26-40	Proverbs 3:5-6 or Galatians 5:22-23	<i>We can listen to God</i>	<i>Follow where God leads</i>
5/21/06 Pancake Breakfast at 9:00am					
12) 5/21	Peter Visits Cornelius	Acts 10:1-44	Matthew 28:19-20	<i>Jesus is for everyone</i>	<i>God wants us to tell everyone about Jesus</i>
Sunday School breaks for the Summer; will resume in early September 2006.					

