

FAITH@HOME

November, 2017

For: Individuals, Couples, Families With Children and Teens
St. James United Church of Christ (Havertown, PA)

As a church, we seek to equip and empower individuals, couples and families with children to: talk about their faith, pray in ways that are comfortable and comforting, ritualize important moments, and reach out in service and support of others. Throughout the year, we will provide activity in each of these areas, which you can do at home to grow and strengthen your faith. We hope you will try these activities during the month.

Giving Thanks Walks and Thanksgiving Prayer

Take a walk on Thanksgiving day, seeking things for which to thank God. When you find something, stop and say a quick prayer of thanks.

OR

Take a walk, or sit and reflect on and maybe even talk with someone else or discuss the following questions:

- What are the things I am most thankful for in my life?
- How are all things a gift from God?
- How can I show more thankfulness in my life?

Close with this prayer: "Abundant Giver, You have blessed us/me with many gifts. For this we/I thank you. We/I ask you for yet one more gift - the gift of a thankful heart. In the abundance of Christ's love we/I pray. Amen."

OR



Make name cards for your Thanksgiving celebration.

- Fold index cards in half.
- On one side write the names of guests and decorate with Thanksgiving stickers, magazine pictures, or your drawings.
- On the other side write, "Something I am thankful for is..."
- At your thanksgiving feast place pencils and name cards at each spot. Give everyone time to finish the sentence.
- Begin your thanksgiving meal prayer by saying, "God, we are thankful for...", then go around the table and have each person read their card. Then say, "Amen."

Remembering Hungry People

- Say this prayer aloud to begin.

God, thank you for giving us food to eat. Open our eyes to the needs of people who are hungry and open our hearts to help them. Amen.

- Read aloud:

"And the crowds asked him, 'What then shall we do?' And he answered them, 'Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.'" (Luke 3:10-11)

- Bring out a box or container to hold coins and talk about where to place it in your home during November. Many families place it on the table where they eat.
- Use the worksheet "Remembering Hungry People" during the month of November by reading what's written on the worksheet and respond by putting coins in the your coin can, bottle or box.
- Bring in the money you collected - coins, cash bills to replace coins or a check (preferred) made out to St. James UCC, memo line "Food Pantry," - to be used for purchasing needed items in our food pantry.

REMEMBERING HUNGRY PEOPLE

WORKSHEET

Daily or Weekly Prayer (for whenever you answer the questions below):

God, thank you for giving us food to eat. Open our eyes to the needs of people who are hungry and open our hearts to help them. Amen.

Every day (or once a week) answer the question and put the right number of pennies or nickels or dimes, or quarters in a can, bottle or box. At end of the month donate that amount of money to the St. James Food Pantry for people who come to us every month who are hungry.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 - How many shelves in your kitchen have food on them?
- 2 - How many different types of drinks are in your refrigerator?
- 3 - How many cans of fruit do you have in your cupboard?
- 4 - How many sticks of butter (or tubs of butter or margarine) do you have?
- 5 - How many cans of vegetables do you have?
- 6 - How many dinner plates are in your cupboard?
- 7 - How many times each month do you go to the grocery store?
- 8 - How many forks do you have in your silverware drawer?
- 9 - How many people usually eat dinner at your house?
- 10 - How many times a day do you eat something (including meals and snacks)?
- 11 - How many loaves of bread do you have in your freezer?
- 12 - How many kinds of cereal are in your cupboard?
- 13 - How many different kinds of food did you eat for lunch?

- 14 - How many drinking glasses are in your cupboard?
- 15 - How many lunches do you eat each week?
- 16 - How many food commercials did you see during your favorite TV show?
- 17 - How many pieces of fruit are in your home?
- 18 - How many gas or electric appliances do you have to help with food preparation?
- 19 - How much does your family usually spend on groceries each week?
(Have one coin equal to \$10—if your family spends \$100, place 10 coins in the box.)
- 20 - How many containers of leftovers are in your refrigerator?
- 21 - How many measuring cups do you have?
- 22 - How many knives do you have in your silverware drawer?
- 23 - How many grocery stores are in your neighborhood or town?
- 24 - How many meals did family members eat at fast food restaurants this past week?
- 25 - How many breakfasts do you eat each week?
- 26 - How many packages of frozen desserts are in your freezer?
- 27 - How many jars of spices does your family have?
- 28 - How many glasses of water or other liquids did you drink today?
- 29 - How many spoons do you have in your silverware drawer?
- 30 - How often does someone in your family cook a meal each week?

TOTAL AMOUNT COLLECTED: \$ _____

