



# Happy Birthday Church!

Northfield Community Church's June Messy Church

400 Wagner Road, Northfield, IL 60093 [www.northfielducc.org](http://www.northfielducc.org)



## Welcome and thoughts for this virtual Messy Church.

Welcome to Northfield Community Church's first virtual Messy Church. Since we can't be together in person as a group yet, and people have successfully been going to school, working, going to church, attending meetings, attending Bible classes and Sunday school virtually, then why not Messy Church!

Thoughts for enjoying Messy Church with your family:

Preview the Messy Church slides. Don't spend much time looking ahead so you don't ruin the fun and surprises, but see the layout so you can come up with your plan. \*

\* Pick a few of the craft stations that fit the age and interest of your children, or plan to do them all. If you don't have all the materials for the stations, there are still [craft materials packs](#) you can pick up or have delivered by contacting Ronda Bower at NCC.

\*Pick an evening to have Messy Church at your house. It could be the Sunday of NCC's usual Messy Church, or a free evening with your family. Or you can split it up over several days.

\*Our hope is that the message of this virtual Messy Church brings your family closer to our loving God, and it gives your family a chance to have fun, get messy, and celebrate God together.

\*IF YOU'D LIKE TO SAY HELLO TO MESSY CHURCH FRIENDS, YOU CAN JOIN THE ZOOM GATHERING TIME AT 6:00 p.m. SUNDAY, JUNE 14, WHERE YOUR FAMILY CAN GATHER IN SMALL GROUPS, THEN WE WILL COME TOGETHER TO DO THE MESSY CHURCH BLESSING. CONTACT RONDA BOWER TO GET THE ZOOM LINK BY 5:45



# Schedule for Messy Church

- 1) Opening with Pentecost story
- 2) Craft Station Options
  - a) Paper Plate Wind Twirler
  - b) Pinwheels
  - c) Speaking in Other Languages
  - d) Straw Painting
  - e) Ribbon Dancers
  - f) Paper Airplanes (make one for closing worship)
  - g) Joint Pentecost Mosaic
  - h) Meringue Cookie Recipe
- 3) Closing Celebration Worship
- 4) Dinner thoughts
- 5) Closing Song “Wherever Love Is”



# Messy Church Opening and Story





# Messy Church Opening and Story

God Sends the Holy Spirit





# Craft 1: Paper Plate Wind Twirler

*Supplies: paper plate; crayons, colored pencils, or markers; scissors, stapler; string, ribbon, or yarn*

1. Color your paper plate.
2. Carefully cut round & round the paper plate until you get to the center.
3. Staple a piece of ribbon or yarn the center to hang it up and then watch it twirl.



Talk about: Sometimes watching something move slow, like the spinning of this twirler, can be peaceful. What helps calm you when you are frightened, angry, or sad? One thing might help when you some calm, think of God's loving arms holding you tight and remember you are loved!





## Craft 2: Pinwheels

*Supplies: pencil with an eraser, scissors, a straight sewing pin (using pliers bend pins to create a 90-degree angle about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the length up from the pointed end); 4" X 4" or 5" X 5" colorful paper (cardstock or double sided paper works well).*

1. Using scissors, make four diagonal cuts toward the paper's center, stopping at least half an inch shy of the center.
2. Place paper on a table and fold points to the left of each cut toward the center.



(continued on next slide)



# Craft 2: Pinwheels (continued)

3. Hold the folded points in place while you push the pin through the center, being careful to catch all four folded corners. Gently guide your paper around the bend in the pin, sliding the pinwheel out to the pin's pearl end.

4. Finally, firmly press the pin's pointed end straight down into the pencil's eraser. Blow on your pinwheel or take it outside in the wind and watch it spin.



Talk about: You can feel the wind's power. Like the wind, you can feel the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is in you, helping you choose the right way to go.

Do you ever have to make hard decisions? What helps you make that decision? When hard decision making is needed, take some time to pray and listen... for God to help you know the right way to go.





## Craft 3: Speaking in Other Languages

*Supplies: Access to internet.*

Since the language barrier was broken when the Holy Spirit descended, take some time to learn a phrase in another language. Try and have each family member learn a different phrase in a different language that they can recite and teach each other when you sit down for dinner. We are so fortunate to have access to any language in the world. Let's take advantage of that access and teach each other! Remember the story of Pentecost is a wonderful reminder that all are children of God, no matter where we live or what language we speak.

**Talk about:** It must have been amazing to be there on that day of Pentecost when everyone could understand the message of God that the apostles were saying gathered where from all different countries and spoke different languages.

How do you think they would have felt if you were there?

Of all the beautiful languages found all over the world, what language would you like to learn more of?





# Craft 4: Straw Painting

*Supplies: dark construction paper, paint, straws.*

To recreate the mighty wind the Apostles witnessed, drop small amounts of paint all over your piece of construction paper. Next, use the straw to blow the paint and watch as it creates magnificent patterns. Try blowing from all directions to see what cool new art emerges.

**Talk about: What is the strongest wind you've ever been in? How did it make you feel? Were you excited? Scared?**





# Craft 5: Ribbon Dancers

*Supplies: 3 in. wood ring, 7 pieces of 36 in. ribbon*

Tie the ribbons onto the ring: Put one ribbon through the ring and stop when it is halfway through. Knot it twice onto the ring. You now have two 18 in. ribbons hanging from your ring. Do the same for the other 6 pieces of ribbon.

Play inside and run to let the ribbons fly, or go outside and let the wind blow your ribbons.

Talk about: As you watch the ribbons move, think of how flames move. A campfire shines brightly in the night. The Holy Spirit fills our darkness with light, and brightens our hearts and minds.

What gives you light in the world? What things help you feel brighter inside your heart and mind? God is our light and our strength!





# Craft 6: Paper Airplanes

*Supplies: paper*

There are many websites with directions to make paper airplanes. Two you might want to try:

<https://www.origamiway.com/paper-airplanes.shtml>

<http://www.10paperairplanes.com/how-to-make-paper-airplanes/09-the-dart.html>

Enjoy making and experimenting with your planes. **HAVE AT LEAST ONE PAPER AIRPLANE FOR THE CLOSING WORSHIP.**

Talk about: A plane carries things and travels great distances. The Holy Spirit is a vehicle that carries God's wisdom, good people, answers, and help you wherever you are. What and who help you in life?





# Craft 7: Joint Pentecost Mosaic

*Supplies: Pentecost Mosaic paper(s); crayons, markers, or colored pencils*

Color the mosaic pieces in your craft kit. (If you did not get a craft kit, email Ronda Bower at [rbower@northfielducc.org](mailto:rbower@northfielducc.org) for mosaic papers to color.) When you have completed the coloring, mail them to Northfield Community Church, 400 Wagner Road, Northfield, IL 60093; or drop them in the plastic tub outside the church door labeled “Pentecost Mosaics.” Twenty-four pieces will be put together to make giant Pentecost Mosaic posters, uniting us all!

: Talk about: At the story of Pentecost, everyone could understand the message of God in their own language. God’s love is for everyone. The early Christians gathered together as the early church, and took care of each other. Do you miss being at church with other people? If so, what do you miss the most?





# Craft 8: Meringue Cookies

**Preparation Time:** 15 minutes **Baking time:** 90 minutes Makes about 2 dozen 2 inch meringues.

**Ingredients (not included in Messy Church craft bag):** 4 large egg whites at room temperature, 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar, 1 cup sugar

1. Preheat the oven to 200° F or 105° C.
2. Place the egg whites in a metal or glass mixing bowl. Using either a hand mixer or a stand mixer, begin beating the eggs. After several minutes they will start to thicken. Add the cream of tartar and continue beating until soft peaks form. With the mixer on, gradually (over several minutes) pour in the sugar. Continue to beat the egg whites until they are stiff and glossy. This will take about 10 to 15 minutes, so be patient.
3. Cover a baking sheet with parchment paper and place regular mounds of meringue about an inch apart on the paper. You can either use a spoon to form the cookies, or if you or your child feels especially creative, use a pastry bag to form more regular shapes.
4. Place in the oven and bake for 1 1/2 hours. Turn off the oven and allow the meringues to continue drying for several hours.
5. Your meringues should easily lift off of the parchment paper.

Variations: To create **pastel shades**, add a couple drops of food coloring. **Chocolate chip** - Fold in one 6 ounce bag of mini chocolate chips. **Flavoring** - Add a splash of vanilla, almond or mint flavoring.



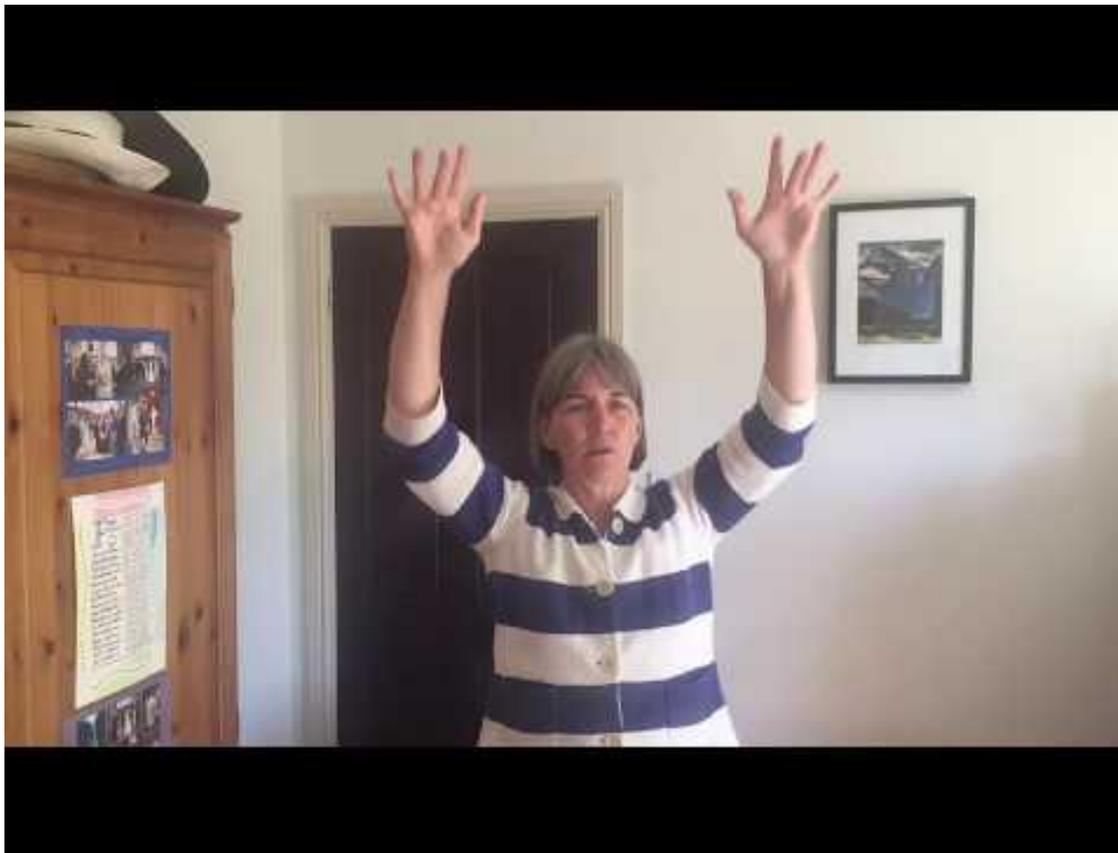


# Closing Celebration Worship





# Lord's Prayer with Actions





# **Dinner Ideas and Discussion**

Messy Church dinner will not be the same without the long tables with paper tablecloths to color on, lots of yummy food served with smiles by MC volunteers, and lots of talking and laughing, but i hope you have a wonderful dinner for your Messy Church time.

Dinner thoughts: It's a birthday celebration for the church. If you have the ingredients at home, make a birthday cake or cupcakes. Maybe cook together as a family some of your family's birthday favorites food with what you have in the pantry, or order out and support your local restaurants.

Discussion thoughts for your mealtime: Talk about favorite birthday memories. Parents - maybe you can share some favorite childhood birthday memories.



## **NCC's Messy Church Closing Song & Blessing**

*"Wherever Love Is" by  
Bryan Sirchio*

Wherever love is,  
God is there too.

God is in me 'cause,  
I love you.

Wherever love is,  
God is there too.

God is wherever love is.

