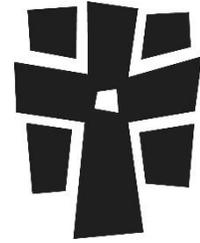


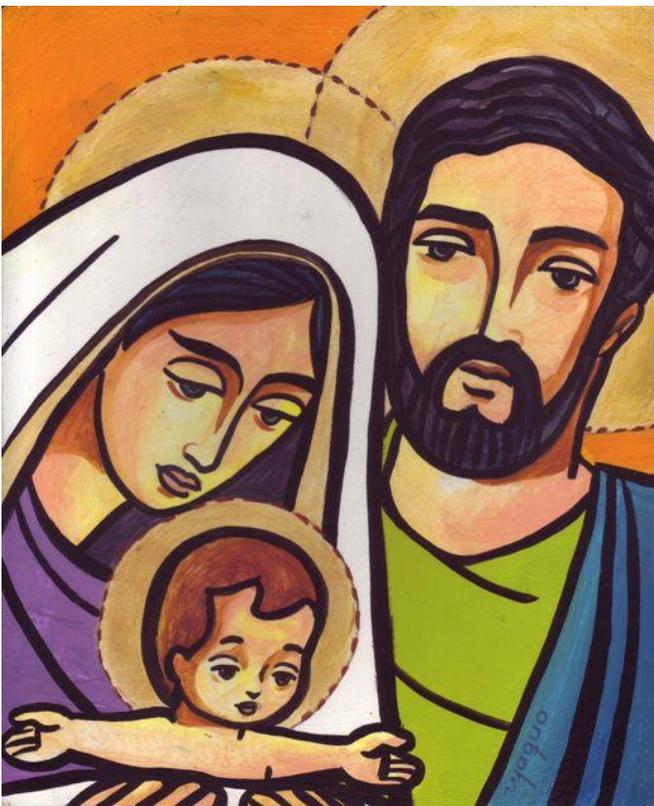
Church Without Walls

Children's Church News

March/April 2017



Lent Begins... This season of preparation for Easter is upon us and many of you have already begun your Lenten traditions or have been thinking about what you'd like to try this year with your family. Talking about Lent and exploring this season as a way to come close to the story of Jesus can be a meaningful experience for families. For more ideas for all ages, check out the CWOW website for a Lenten guide. All 3 Godly Play classes are going through the Godly Play story "Faces of Easter" which follows the story of Jesus' life and ministry on Earth. In light of our race series, it's worth noting that the materials for these stories are plaques with images on them depicting Jesus, sometimes with fair skin and blue eyes. These are older story materials and now, Godly Play only makes these with more historically accurate depictions. It is my goal to replace these plaques with a variety of depictions of Jesus—using this opportunity to bring images of Jesus as a person of color. A Peruvian artist, Marco Gomez, has made alternative plaques, and I am hoping to find a way to use his beautiful work.



Faces of Easter, Part 1 by Marco Gomez

Talking to Kids About Race Booklist

Many CWOWers attended the seminar "How to Talk With Children About Race" with Dr. Alison Briscoe-Smith at First Pres Berkeley last month and it was a good place to start sharing our experiences of anti-racist parenting. One way to engage this topic in your family is through children's literature. There are many, many book lists out there with great resources. Oakland Public Library has a great one here: <http://oaklandlibrary.org/blogs/from-main-library/listen-learn-participate-blacklivesmatter-resource-series> And here is one from some of us here at CWOW:

Let's Talk About Race by Julius Lester
Martin's Big Words by Doreen Rappaport
Sit In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down by Andrea Davis Pinkney
We March by Shane Evans
Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom by Carole Boston Weatherford and Kadir Nelson
Henry's Freedom Box by Ellen Levine
Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans by Kadir Nelson
Sojourner Truth's Step, Stomp, Stride by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Gordon Parks: How the Photographer Captured Black and White America by Carole Boston Weatherford
The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles
Separate is Never Equal by Duncan Tonatiuh
The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss
Sylvia and Aki by Winifred Conkling
The March trilogy, graphic novels by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, Nate Powell. (For middle schoolers and up)
A Different Mirror for Young People: A History of Multiracial America by Ronald Takaki (Also for older children)

CWOW member Denise Yip, who led our church in a seminar about talking about race in February and contributed to this booklist, has this additional tip for families: "Take immersive outings, trips to places where another culture or language is dominant. Explore what you see, what you hear, how you feel, what is challenging, what is awesome, etc."

Parent-to-Parent Discussion Group

March 27, 6-8pm at the Yan's home, 2603 Fulton St. in Berkeley. These periodic meetings are opportunities for parents to share their experiences and build our community of support in parenting. We call it "Parent-to-Parent" because we don't bring in an expert, we just share in round table discussion together, but any folks who have kids in their lives and want to learn more about the topics we cover are most welcome to join. This group's topic is "Friendships", how do you support your child in their friendships? How do you deal with the drama that can come along with friendship troubles? And what about the basics—sleepovers, playdates, etc.? Let's talk about it! Childcare and dinner provided, but please RSVP to Jill! jill@churchwithoutwallsberkeley.org



Godly Play Training

Sunday, April 23, 2:30-3:45 at REALM. Are you curious about Godly Play? As a parent, have you always wondered why CWOW uses this curriculum and what it's all about? This training is a great opportunity for **anyone** to come, hear a Godly Play story, learn about the 4 languages of Godly Play and some of the reasons we do this contemplative curriculum at CWOW. I'd also just love to share my heart for this method with you. Godly Play is my single most favorite thing about my job as Children's Ministry director and it's truly what launched me into my deeper calling into the world of children's spirituality.

Children's Choir at Resurrection Sunday Service

This year, the children of CWOW will be singing the song "Beautiful Things" at the Resurrection Sunday Service on April 16 at 10am. We have been singing this song during celebration and the children will also be working on it during Children's Church. Here are the words and a [link](#) to a video of the song are here if you want to work on it at home.

Beautiful Things by Gungor

All this pain
I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life could really change, at all
All this earth
Could all that is lost ever be found?
Could a garden come out from this ground, at all?

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us

All around,
Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life is being found, in you

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us
Oh, you make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us

You make me new,
You are making me new
You make me new,
You are making me new

