

Messy Church Planning Meeting Tuesday 27th March 2012

Theme: Moses

Present: John Benvie, Margaret Burgess, Jo Fletcher, Margaret Simpson, Sandra Snowball, Melissa Wearden.

Apologies: Sandra Sanderson, Alison Thornley, Jill Totten.

Jo opened the meeting in prayer.

Feedback from 25th March:

- The new ideas had generally worked well and easily fed into Messy Church. Andy had done an excellent job of incorporating the story of Zacchaeus into the Worship and explaining how this linked into the theme of new life. The game of "hangman" with the memory verse was inspired, even if it did highlight that the children hadn't really grasped hold of the idea of learning a verse from the Bible! We'll try to encourage the volunteers who are leading the various activities in April to push this as much as they can.
- Questions/discussion points were put onto the handout, which was given to people as they arrived, but it's difficult to know how many people read/used these. At least they were offered!
- The numbers were slightly lower than recent months (29 children in total) but this was probably/hopefully explained by the sunny weather!
- John raised the question of how many new people are then coming back to Messy Church on a regular basis. These numbers are building but we do need to focus on this as far as possible.

Planning action points for Sunday 29th April:

Theme: Moses

Worship:

Dorian Clamp will be leading Worship in April. The suggested memory verse (to be written on all the craft activity signs) and to be incorporated into Worship is from Exodus 2 chapter 3 v12: God said "I will be with you". Margaret Simpson suggested a useful way of looking at how God is with us/following us on our journeys, which Jo will pass onto Dorian.

Action:

Jo to speak to Dorian and also forward the planning notes to him and Jo or Dorian to liaise with the music team before the 29th.

Activities for 29th April:

Group activity: Burning Bush – Alison Thornley

To create a burning bush using oasis, placed in a large plastic bowl, and then twigs covered in red/orange/yellow paper pushed into the oasis. The burning bush could then be used in Worship in church.

Action:

Margaret has some twigs, which Alison could use, and then Alison to resource and run. It might be worth speaking to Val Everard about oasis.

Craft activity 1- Frogs: Margaret Burgess and Sandra Snowball

The older children will create their own frogs out of stained glass and then the younger ones can make a cardboard frog (with green cellophane centre) sitting on a log.

Action:

Margaret to resource and run stained glass activity and then Sandra Snowball to resource and run the activity for the younger children. Sandra to put together some wording on a stone/log, which the frog will sit on. Jo to buy green cellophane paper for Sandra.

Craft 2: Moses in a basket with reeds- Margaret Simpson

Children to make and decorate their own Moses in a basket in amongst the reeds.

Margaret has a template and then the children can just decorate and add the words "Moses was saved" at the bottom.

Action:

Margaret to resource and run.

Craft 3: Moses basket made out of balloon modelling- Claire Green

Claire to show children how to make their own Moses basket out of balloons. They should be able to learn how to blow up and mould the balloons themselves! The baskets could then be used at home – the children could put their own "Moses" into the basket.

Action:

Claire to resource and run.

Craft 4: Clay plaques – Jill Totten

Children to model their own small tableaux/plaques out of air-dry modelling clay and then put an inscription in hieroglyphics, using cocktail sticks or something similar. The plaques will be approximately 10 or 15cm wide and put on a cardboard base.

Action:

Jill to resource and run.

Craft 5: Plaque picture – Sandra Sanderson

The children can decorate their own plague pictures, which will be mounted on beige paper to look like Egyptian wall paintings.

Action:

Sandra to resource and run.

Miscellaneous action points:

- Jo to put a notice/reminder in the notices about Messy Church around 19 April.
- Jo to ask Keith Wright to put up the banner w/c 23 April.
- Anyone who gets a Sunday newspaper to bring it in and Jo to buy milk and biscuits for the adults and cheese, bread etc for the children.

Next planning meeting:

This will take place during w/c 7 May.