



# Families Celebrate Summer

Dear Friend in Ministry,

We're thrilled you're using the *Families Celebrate Summer* cards in your congregation. We believe this devotional will bring value to your families' and community's life this summer.

There are five different types of cards included in every pack. Each card is color coded to show the activity type:

**RED** for specific/dated days

**ORANGE** for at-home fun

**YELLOW** for ideas during travel

**GREEN** for rituals to try

**BLUE** for acts of service

**The red cards for specific days can also be recognized by your congregation to bring the entire community together. These cards include:**

June 3: World Bicycle Day

June 19: Juneteenth

June 24: Birth of St. John

June 29: Peter and Paul

July 22: Mary Magdalene

July 29: Mary, Martha, and Lazarus

August 13: Florence Nightingale

August 15: Mary, Mother of Our Lord

Third Saturday in August: Honey Bee Day

There are many innovative ways in which these cards will help connect families to worship and the larger community in your congregation. A few ideas include:

- Distribute cards to families with a box of the supplies indicated on the supply list or provide families with the supply list to prepare themselves.
- Cards and their content could be used as inspiration for children's sermons throughout the summer. A card could be shown to children and they could complete the activity or reading with the whole congregation, tying their church and home lives more closely together.
- Placing cards in your worship activity bags or quiet bags for children to look through and play with during worship for summer.
- Using cards as centerpieces in your Fellowship Hall during coffee hour or other times of social gathering. Not only will the cards spark interest, they will also create intergenerational conversation among young children, families, and other congregants.

**We hope that Families Celebrate Summer cards enhance your congregation's summer.**



Hello,

We're so excited that you will be enjoying summer with the *Families Celebrate Summer* cards. There is no right or wrong way to use these cards. These cards are a tool to help you celebrate this time with your family and to help make family togetherness a priority. Here are a few tips and tricks that can help you make the most of your time together.

- Have older children help read through the cards and take ownership of leading the time together.
- Mark a calendar with all of the red, dated cards.
- After you have read through the cards, hang them up on your fridge or pin them on a cork board.
- Create specific times to use the cards throughout the week. Plan ahead for cards that involve a family outing.
- Don't worry if you don't use a card or two. This resource is flexible and you can read through multiple cards in a day or skip some if needed.

These are just a few ideas! We can't wait to hear about the experience you have with your family! When you come to church talk to others about these cards, share stories and ideas. We hope that these cards enhance your summer.

**Blessings to you and your family this summer!**



Hello,

We're so excited that you will be enjoying summer with the *Families Celebrate Summer* cards. There is no right or wrong way to use these cards. These cards are a tool to help you celebrate this time with your family and to help make family togetherness a priority. Here are a few tips and tricks that can help you make the most of your time together.

- Have older children help read through the cards and take ownership of leading the time together.
- Mark a calendar with all of the red, dated cards.
- After you have read through the cards, hang them up on your fridge or pin them on a cork board.
- Create specific times to use the cards throughout the week. Plan ahead for cards that involve a family outing.
- Don't worry if you don't use a card or two. This resource is flexible and you can read through multiple cards in a day or skip some if needed.

These are just a few ideas! We can't wait to hear about the experience you have with your family! When you come to church talk to others about these cards, share stories and ideas. We hope that these cards enhance your summer.

**Blessings to you and your family this summer!**





# Families Celebrate Summer

## Supply List:

In addition to basic coloring supplies and standard household items, you may want to have the following supplies ready when using the indicated cards.

- Marshmallows for roasting (Last Day of School)
- Cookie ingredients (Last Day of Summer Vacation)
- Friendship bracelet or embroidery floss to make your own bracelet (First Day of School)
- Honey, crackers, and dried cranberries (Birth of St. John)
- Hot cocoa mix (Mary, Mother of Our Lord)
- Honey (Honeybee Day)
- Sidewalk chalk (Disciple Hopscotch and Encouraging Chalk Walk)
- Bubbles (Rainbow Bubbles)
- Pillowcase and fabric pens (Just in Case)
- Microwave popcorn (Popcorn Blessings)
- Trash bags (Park Pickup)



# Families Celebrate Summer

## Supply List:

In addition to basic coloring supplies and standard household items, you may want to have the following supplies ready when using the indicated cards.

- Marshmallows for roasting (Last Day of School)
- Cookie ingredients (Last Day of Summer Vacation)
- Friendship bracelet or embroidery floss to make your own bracelet (First Day of School)
- Honey, crackers, and dried cranberries (Birth of St. John)
- Hot cocoa mix (Mary, Mother of Our Lord)
- Honey (Honeybee Day)
- Sidewalk chalk (Disciple Hopscotch and Encouraging Chalk Walk)
- Bubbles (Rainbow Bubbles)
- Pillowcase and fabric pens (Just in Case)
- Microwave popcorn (Popcorn Blessings)
- Trash bags (Park Pickup)