

APCE ROUNDTABLE
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS
November 9, 2021

Christmas in Worship:

- Glowsticks as child-friendly candles!
- Incorporation of Hanging of the Greens liturgy into Advent 1 worship service
- Livestream of sanctuary worship service in the fellowship hall so that families can join worship without confines of pews

Christmas Pageants:

- [Rotation.org](#) idea for pageant based on news interviews can work well for hybrid, when some segments are pre-recorded and some are 'live' interviews [News Team 7's Breaking News](#)
 - *Mindy Watts-Ellis*: Here is a fully recorded pageant I did with my children and youth for 2020 [First Pres. Champaign Christmas Pageant 2020](#) based on a news report. This could also work with a live anchor and a few live interviews in the sanctuary or room.
 - There are also ideas for flat lay or bird's eye photos as images used in a narrative read of the Christmas story on [Rotation.org](#).
- Here is a no-rehearsal Christmas pageant that has congregational interaction.
<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/script/interactive-no-rehearsal-christmas-pageant>
- No-rehearsal pageant can incorporate any visiting children/grandchildren well
- Drive-thru Christmas Nativity
- Outdoor Christmas Pageant
 - Combines tradition of pageant, but brings in COVID-friendly protocol of being outside.
Bonus: opportunity for live donkey.

Christmas Celebrations:

- ["For Us, A Child is Born: An All Ages Advent Devotional Booklet"](#) from the Synod of CNOB, Presbyterian Church of Canada
- ["A Free Interactive Advent Calendar"](#) from Synod of CNOB, Presbyterian Church of Canada
- Christmas Caroling in the neighborhood
 - Option of online sign-up if you'd like a visit from carolers
- [Mary's Treasure Box](#) book turned into a script
- Each family receives a treasure box with elements from story in it
- Christmas Tree Lighting outside; open to the whole community
- "Cup of Blessing" for families at home
- Bake sale
- [A Sanctified Art Advent Resources](#)
- [APCE Advent Pinterest](#)
- [APCE Christmas Pinterest](#)
- Gingerbread Party: Invite community in to make gingerbread houses
 - COVID version: dropped off ingredients at homes and Zoomed as they made them
 - Can also use graham crackers or Poptarts
 - Gingerbread nativity scenes/stables/etc.!

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- Alternative Christmas Market
 - Handpainted (by children or other members) components/characters of a nativity scene sold at the market. Money raised goes to mission/outreach.
- [Sunday School: The Heart that Grew Three Sizes](#)
 - All-church viewing of How the Grinch Stole Christmas