

ACTIVITIES

1. Breath of life

We can't see our breath, but it makes the paper come alive and move. We can't see the breath of God — the Holy Spirit — but it made the followers of Jesus come alive with courage and hope and they spread God's Spirit of love all over the world. Wind and flames of fire are signs of the Holy Spirit.

Materials: plastic cup with a dime-sized hole in the bottom, thin strips of colored crepe paper about 6 inches long, masking tape and markers (or washi tape), scotch tape.

Directions: Decorate the outside of the cup using the tape and markers (or washi tape). Stick strips of crepe paper to the inside rim of the cup (going about halfway around it), then blow through the hole in the bottom so the strips move with your breath.



2. Birthday cupcakes

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church because that's the day when God's Spirit of love came upon the first followers of Jesus. The Holy Spirit is the gift of Jesus to his disciples.

Materials: Plain cupcakes, icing, cake sprinkles and decorations, candles and holders.

Directions: Decorate the cupcake while talking about the joy of birthdays and Pentecost. Participants can save the cake for after our shared supper (or not)!



3. Japanese Origami Peace Dove

In the Bible, the Holy Spirit sometimes comes in the form of a dove, the symbol of peace. Whatever form it takes — as a dove or as wind and fire — God's Spirit connects us together and amazing things can happen. God's Spirit says to us, "Peace be with you." And we say to one another, "Peace be with you."

Materials: Origami paper.

Directions: Found online. There are many versions, and you can choose a few for different levels of ability.



4. Wind chime

God made every person unique and beautiful like each line of your wind chime. When God's Spirit of love blows, the lines make a beautiful sound together. We are better together.

Materials: Sticks, fishing line (20 lb), beads and charms, bells, long-nose pliers.

Directions: Lace beads with a bell at the bottom and tie it to the stick or dowel. Alternatively, holes could be pre-drilled into the wood.



5. Painted hands

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit brought people together who spoke different languages and came from different countries. We all belong to God's worldwide family. How can God's Spirit of love work through us, and our hands, to make the world a place where everyone feels they belong?

Materials: White paper, spray bottles, different colors of liquid watercolor.

Directions: Mix liquid watercolor diluted with water in spray bottles. Place your hand on a paper and spray around your hand with different bottles. Then do your other hand. It works better when you don't completely saturate your paper.



6. African djembe drum

Drums are described as the soul, or heartbeat, of many African and Native American communities. Drumbeats unite people across cultures and help us celebrate together. Music connects us to God's Spirit or presence. What helps you feel connected to God's Spirit? What helps you connect with other people?

Materials: 2 brown paper cups, scissors, black sharpie, masking tape, rubber band, large balloon, colored craft tape, pipe cleaners, yarn.

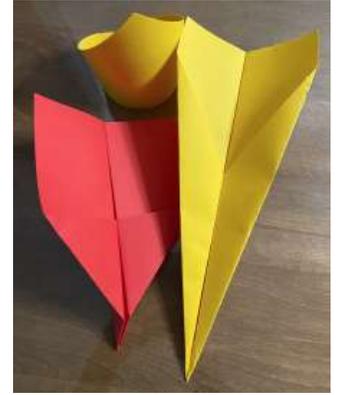
Directions: Cut the bottoms out of the cups and use masking tape to stick the bottom of the cups together. Stretch masking tape over the top end of the cup. Or stretch a cut balloon over the top end of the cup and use the rubber band to keep it in place. Use masking tape and the sharpie to decorate. Pipe cleaners or yarn can wrap around the middle.



7. Paper airplane prayer

As the wind lifts up a plane and helps it fly, the Holy Spirit can help us do things we didn't think were possible. Pray that God's Spirit of love will help you or someone in need. Prayer lifts our hearts and connects us together in kindness and care.

Materials: Yellow, orange and red paper, pens, tape, markers, directions for folding planes.

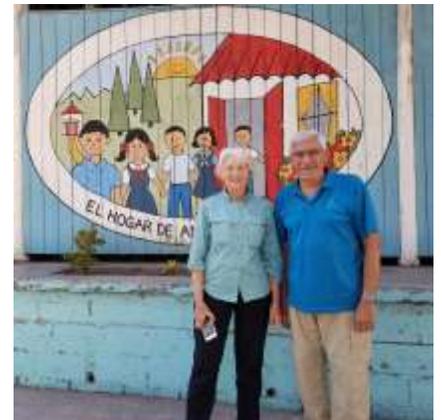


Directions: People choose an easy or more challenging way to fold a paper airplane, and when it is made, they write a name of a person or situation they would like to pray for on the plane (and initial their plane). When we pray later in worship, we'll throw our planes and place them on the altar, and then take them home afterwards.

8. "Peace be with you" in the languages of our mission partners

In the Gospel of John, when Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his followers, he said, "Peace be with you." The beginning of the Book of Acts recounts how the Holy Spirit unified people from all over the world: they were able to speak and understand each other's languages. We learn how to say "Peace be with you" in the languages of our mission partners in Honduras, Haiti, Israel/Palestine and Navajoland.

Materials: Markers, colored paper, and a display of "Peace be with you" written in Spanish, French, Arabic, Hebrew and Diné (Navajo). This activity will take place under the TV with slides appearing of El Hogar, Clinique Saint Esprit, Ahli Hospital, and Navajoland.



Directions: Caption your card with "Holy Spirit: Peace be with you" on one side of your card and on the reverse print a translation and decorate your card however you'd like with doves, peace symbols and images from our mission partners.

9. Maracas

In many Latin American countries, maracas are used to celebrate. Pentecost is about celebration. We feel and express joy knowing that God's Spirit is always with us. How do you celebrate God's presence in your life? How do you share joy with others?

Materials: Plastic spoons, colored masking tape or duct tape, empty plastic easter eggs, rice.

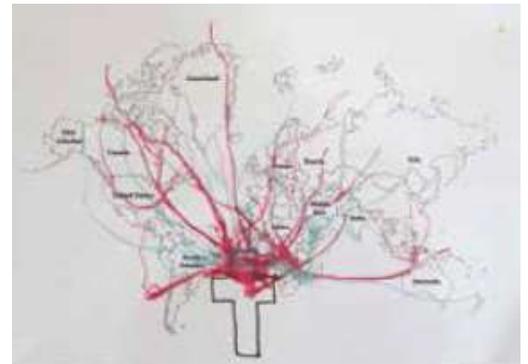
Directions: Place a teaspoon of rice inside a plastic egg. Tape the egg between two spoons.



10. Spreading Good News

The fearful followers of Jesus were huddled and hiding in a room in Jerusalem until the day of Pentecost. Filled with God's Spirit, they spread the story of Jesus and God's love to every part of the world on your map.

Materials: A simplified map of the world (<https://www.wpmap.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/fpwm2.gif>), markers, diluted paint in containers, drinking straws.



Directions: Draw a cross shape at the bottom of your map and put a blob of paint in the middle of your cross. Using a straw, blow into your paint and see if you can get it to reach every area of the world on your map.