



Mission and Engagement Ideas

God With Us:

When we are uncomfortable or afraid:

God chose Mary to birth the Messiah. While Mary was afraid of this call and responsibility, she responded by saying, “I am the Lord’s servant...May your word to me be fulfilled.” (Luke 1:38). How is God calling your congregation into mission that is life changing yet out of your comfort zone? Identify three mission ministries you have considered in the past that were outside of your comfort zone and have your mission or leadership team discern how to take the first steps in accomplishing one of the mission ministries in the name of Christ.

Questions to consider:

- Are there mission opportunities that you were nervous about starting or continuing at the beginning of the pandemic but can begin to do now?
- Are there places God is calling your congregation to travel to, either near or far, but you were too afraid?
- Are there people with whom God has called you to be in mission but you were hesitant?

As we go above and beyond to share Christ’s love with others:

When Joseph learned Mary would conceive a child, he planned to do good and divorce her, so as not to disgrace her. However, God called Joseph to go even further, to stay with her and be a participant in God’s extraordinary plan. This Advent, how is Christ calling you to go above and beyond in your mission ministries to participate in God’s plan and mission in the world? Select one mission ministry and identify three ways you can shine Christ’s love even more. For instance, during the COVID-19 pandemic, a GNJ church not only served meals to the homeless but also opened their doors to allow people to eat their meal in a warm (socially distanced) space and to use the restroom.

As we proclaim the Good News:

Just as the shepherds proclaimed the message of Emmanuel, so must we. Who in your community and life needs to hear the Good News proclaimed? Identify three ways to share the Good News in your community this Advent season. Some examples include:

- Offering services at times that work well for the community and in languages that reflect the community
- Sharing how the Good News has transformed your life and community in personal conversations
- Proclaiming the Good News via a theatrical/musical program in the community