

Stories of Redstone

Christ at work in our midst

Let the Little Children Come to Me

Serving as acolytes, collecting offering, singing in the children's choir: our congregations have long found ways to include even some of the smallest members of the family of God in worship leadership.

Last Advent, the Colver and Ebensburg Churches sought out new ways to actively include children in worship. From Colver's Hanging of the Greens service to Ebensburg's "Jesse Tree" (which includes biblical symbols from Creation to the birth of Christ), it was the children who led the adults into a deeper experience of that season of hope and expectation. And during worship each Sunday, the children helped to usher a ceramic Mary and Joseph (very carefully!) ever closer to the manger at the front of the sanctuary.

On Christmas Eve, each church celebrated the culmination of that hope and waiting with their own Service of the Nativity. As the Christmas story unfolded through readings and carols, members ages one to ninety-three rose from their seats around the sanctuary and brought forward the figurines to complete the scene, beginning with Mary and Joseph and Jesus, then adding the animals, shepherds and angels. It was a very special moment when one of the most dedicated members of Ebensburg, who was also a preschooler, carefully cradled the tiny Jesus figurine in her hands and placed him on the straw. When a young couple at Colver brought their year-old daughter forward with them as they placed baby Jesus in the manger, the humanity and beauty of the Christmas story touched the congregation in a new way.

How is your congregation incorporating children into worship?

How might you include more of God's family in worship leadership?



Communicate the Word...Carry on the Work...Change the World

Together!

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