

WORLD MISSION GATHERING – “Rafting Together”
May 8, 2009

I. Opening Prayer and Introductions

II. Seeking the Center

A. The call

1. Book of Order: W-2.5001-.5002 and G-3.0100-.0103
2. Quest in mission: to grow deeper together with God

B. Resources

1. Demographic Shifts; www.interchange-group.com
2. Theological Traditions: STREAMS OF LIVING WATER BY Richard Foster
(Names on place cards)

III. Interpretation Examples Using Richard Foster’s Theological Tradition Models from
STREAMS OF LIVING WATER

(Examples can be adapted to other traditions. Congregations typically contain a mixture of these models. Demographics can also be considered in determining model.)

A. The Contemplative Tradition:

Story Boards
Prayer Cards

B. The Holiness Tradition

“The Tree, The Dog, and the Bottle” Exercise
(as offered by Catalina Ruiz, Nicaragua)

C. The Charismatic Tradition

INTERACTIONS: Photolanguage by Eric H. F. Law
Photography used as visual in answering question
Question: “How has your culture affected your world view?”
Case Study: A Misunderstanding about Money
An issue presented to Session by international partners

D. The Social Justice Tradition

WILFRED GORDON MACDONALD PARTRIDGE by Mem Fox
Dramatic play/Intrinsic ethics as segue to international issues
THE TRUE STORY OF THE THREE LITTLE PIGS by Jon Scieska
 (“Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf? From “Heigh Ho Mozart” (CD)
Dramatic play re: looking at all sides of a story

E. Evangelical Tradition

World Communion Invitation to the Table by international partners

F. Incarnational Tradition

A South African experience via poetry, photography, and music

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IV. General Interpretation tools

A. Worship

1. 52 weeks of mission interpretation in worship
2. Faith sharing
3. Informational speaker
4. Children’s sermon
5. Prayer
6. Sermon
7. Adult Christian Education leader
8. Announcement and publications in pew racks
9. Focus on partners 1st and 3rd Sundays: chalice and fabric

B. Christian Education and Church groups

1. Classes/adult weekend conferences: Bob Edgar, J. Philip Newell, Rick Ufford- Chase, seminary professors, mission co-workers
2. One day mission involvement: \$50 per person up to 10 people
3. One mission hand-on a month for calendar year
4. Small groups have one hands-on within calendar year

C. Publications

1. 3-part. descriptions/contacts + mission philosophy + funding.
2. Faith journeys of participants re: mission trip involvements
3. Monthly involvement calendar on general and mission table
4. Angel Store brochure: descriptions/stories/prayer/alt. Christmas

D. Art

1. Fishing net: Nicaragua and baptism and One Great Hour of Sharing
2. Prayer photos
3. Eric Law photographs
4. Story boards
5. 12 Painted black boxes with 8 x 10 photos or posters attached
6. John August Swanson exhibit
7. Congregational artists for thematic development (ambiance/promo)
8. Fabric and chalice and crosses: communion table
9. Group additions:

E. Case Study

1. Session visit by international guests: a misunderstanding over money
 - a. Any singular situation/story to be discussed by a group
 - b. My story: South African questions
 - c. Group additions:

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- F. Books (to use in introducing generalized mission premise to adults; also used with youth/children). Any book can be acted out or read with artifacts from the story as part of group interaction. Music can be added as backdrop.
1. THE TRUE STORY OF THE THREE LITTLE PIGS (Jon Scieszka)
(the Wolf’s side of the story + music , “Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?” from “Heigh Ho Mozart” CD)
 2. VOICES IN THE PARK (Anthony Brown)
(three families at the park at same time have different takes on visit)
 3. CARLY (Annegert Fuchshuber)
(a refugee denied assistance via several excuses)
 4. LISTEN TO THE WIND (Greg Mortenson/Susan Roth)
(building schools in Pakistan; children’s book: THREE CUPS OF TEA)
 5. WATER HOLE WAITING (Jane Kurtz) and any other books by Jane Kurtz
(animals don’t compete for water source; acceptance of one’s role; discernment)
 6. THE THREE QUESTIONS (Jon Muth)
(based on a story by Leo Tolstoy—recognizing one’s role through discernment of another)
 7. THE LONG ROAD HOME (Garry Trudeau) (for use with adults)
 8. Group Additions
- G. Drama
1. WILFRED GORDON MCDONALD PARTRIDGE (Mem Fox) or any book
 2. Hurricane Mitch benefit: written by mission co-worker/PC(USA)News
Service reports/partner letters
 3. Group Additions
- H. Hands On
1. Children’s ministry with intergenerational involvement
 - a. one mission involvement per grade level
 - b. Christmas Advent workshop with mission facet
 - c. Vacation Bible School with mission facet
 - d. Habitat for Humanity playhouse build on church campus
 - e. Group additions
 2. All church Mission Possible 2-week event in community
 3. Veterans Hospital
 - a. all church picnic
 - b. Church choir and Bible studies
 - c. Wheel chair dances and conversation
 4. Community activities by internationals based on their choices.
 5. Saturday Dinner for People Without Homes (intergenerational)
(recipes differ each month; international food prepared for local shelter with country education give to the cooks/servers)
 6. Mexico work trips; alums/ participants/”recruited” for 31 years meet 5-6x a year as an ongoing social/MX support group
 7. Group additions

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I. Media

1. The rafting story: youth from US/Nicaragua go rafting together in neutral US site in 2007; hike/horseback ride in neutral Nicaragua site in 2009
2. Choir Sunday with Cameroon partners: music exchanged for joint concert once Cameroon visitors arrived.
3. The liturgy/invitations for Holy Communion was sent on video by pastors of four mission partners and used on Peace/World Communion Sunday. partners.
4. Ongoing secular images to augment one focus
5. Photo images with mission speaker
6. Group additions

J. Music

1. “Adagio for Strings” by Samuel Barber (also in vocal)
2. “African Sanctus” by David Fanshawe
3. “Migration” by Peter Kater and R. Carlos Nakai
4. Any music piece which evokes a consciousness for the plight of a world situation.
5. Any music piece which evokes a singular mood—happiness, sadness, ethnicity—as a backdrop to script or played in moments of reflection without words
6. Eric E.F. Law has composed an anthem in three languages—intertwined as one. THOSE WHO SOWED WITH TEARS (Psalm 126)
7. Reciprocity of music from partners; working through different notations for reading music
8. Group additions

K. Simulation experiences

- 1.. Border issues: Rick Ufford-Chase/BorderLinks all day experiential
2. Food Market survey from MX/Market survey from US
3. Africa Education game by Jeff and Christi Boyd (in presbyteries)
4. Card game without words
5. Group additions

Closing;

Bring place cards and international chalices on participants’ tables to Communion table draped with international fabrics.

Annie’s Story from Kenya

AMEN

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