Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. Psalm 119:105 (CEV)

Mission Project: Create Love of God Picture Books

Week 1: Talk about God's love and where we see it in our own lives. Encourage children to brainstorm ideas for pictures that share God's love (for instance: a heart, the cross, a picture of someone helping someone else, a picture of a church, a picture of communion, etc.). Fold several pieces of paper in half for each child. Give children paper, pencils, colored pencils, crayons and markers, and encourage them to draw pictures that share God's love. Stack the folded paper to form a book.

Week 2: Encourage children to draw more pictures that share God's love. Talk about how we can help others understand that God loves them even when we don't speak the same language.

Week 3: Design a cover and an end page for your Love of God Picture Book.

Week 4: Using a stapler, put your Love of God Picture Book together. Finish your cover. Write a note on the inside that says, "God loves you!"

Week 5: Decide who you will give your Love of God Picture Books to. Encourage children to share names of people they want to tell about God's love.

Preschool Stations

Station 1: Books/Puzzles

May 3: *Landscape Puzzles.* | Gather puzzles of the desert, forests, the ocean and other landscapes, or puzzles of animals who live in them. Talk about the different landscapes around the world.

May 10: *Show pictures and encourage children to come up with their own stories.* | For instance, show a picture of children playing in front of a house or having a picnic or playing on the beach. Encourage children to create their own stories using these pictures.

May 17: *Play with puzzles.* | Mix up the pieces of two puzzles and help children figure out what piece goes to which puzzle. Talk about how hearing people speak another language can feel like a puzzle. You must try to figure out what they are saying.

May 24: *Read books in other languages.* | Look at books in other languages. Alternatively, use google translate or another translation tool and show children words like "hello," "goodbye" and "welcome" in other languages.

May 31: *Read wordless picture books.* | Choose books from this list: www.readbrightly.com/8-wonderfully-wordless-picture-books. Look at the pictures and encourage children to talk about what is happening. Talk about how pictures can help everyone know what the book is about, even when we don't speak the same language.

Station 2: Art/Music

May 3: *Create a picture of welcome.* | Give children paper and crayons and encourage them to imagine someone making them feel welcome. Using colors that make them feel happy, draw a picture of what welcome looks like. Talk about how welcome feels like a warm hug.

May 10: *Draw pictures.* | Give children paper and crayons and encourage them to draw pictures of things they like (like a cat, a dog, spaghetti, bananas etc.). Talk about how pictures can help us understand what people are saying when we speak a different language.

May 17: *Hear a worship song.* | Gather a video device and access this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=sF-lpfqly-VA&list=PL7N8-ZChFapxa-MNRDiwyjviUFz7OObKz&index=2. Tell children that they will watch a Japanese version of the English worship song, "What a Beautiful Name." (You can find the English version here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQWFzMvCfLE&list=RDnQWFzMvCfLE&start_radio=1). Tell the children that when Kanazawa Baptist Church and Kanazawa International Baptist Church worship together, half of the service is in Japanese and half in English. When they sing, half of the verses are sung in Japanese and half in English.

May 24: *Dance to Ukrainian music.* | Items needed: Gather a video device and access this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l3IMZ20j2k Play the video and help children learn the dance moves to the Ukrainian Hopak. They will also learn how to say "hello," "dance," and "goodbye" in Ukraine.

May 31: *Create a home.* | Gather construction paper or cardstock, tissue paper or scrapbook paper (optional), crayons, scissors and glue (if using other paper). Encourage children to create a home on their paper. Once they are finished, have them share their pictures and talk about their homes.

Station 3: Play Pretend

May 3: *Trek through the jungle.* | Pretend to walk through the jungle. Encourage children to step high to get through the grass, push vines out of the way, and run from snakes!

May 10: *Pretend to speak a new language.* | Make up new words for things! Help each other figure out what your new words mean. Talk about how there are over 7,000 different languages in the world.

May 17: *Pretend to cook.* | Encourage children to cook for each other and serve each other "food." Talk about how Kanazawa Baptist and Kanazawa International Baptist Churches cooked pancakes for one another after a joint worship service.

May 24: *Pretend to have an Easter egg hunt.* | Hide plastic Easter eggs around the room and encourage children to find them. Talk about how Ukrainians create very detailed eggs for Easter that are called pysanky. Show pictures from the following link: (www.housebeautiful.com/entertaining/holidays-celebrations/a46976353/pysanky-pysanka-eggs).

May 31: *Play house.* | Encourage children to use your play kitchen and any other items you have to play house. Talk about how Michelle Norman and Mamáventura helped Olivia have a place to live, a bed, sheets and a refrigerator.

Station 4: Games

May 3: *Sort the clothes.* | Bring in a laundry basket full of clean clothes. Encourage children to find all the shirts, the socks, the pants, etc. Then, encourage them to sort the clothes by color. Talk about how Yosenderi sorts and arranges clothes to give them to immigrants.

May 10: *Play "I Spy."* | Encourage children to pick something and then say, "I spy with my little eyes something (yellow, green, whatever color it is)." Help children give hints as needed. Give each person a turn to spy something.

May 17: *Play "Would You Rather?"* | Use ideas for questions from here: https://superstarworksheets.com/classroom-printables/120-would-you-rather-questions-for-kids/?utm_campaign=coschedule&utm_source=pinterest&utm_medium=The+Crafty+Classroom&utm_content=120+Would+You+Rather+Questions+for+Kids. Talk about how Kanazawa Baptist and Kanazawa International Baptist churches played this together after their worship service.

May 24: *Play "The Dragon Game."* | Encourage children to form a line and hold onto each other's shoulders. The first person is the "dragon's head," and the last person is the "dragon's tail." The head tries to catch the tail—without breaking the chain or using hands. When the head catches the tail, they switch places and play again.

May 31: *Play a balance game.* | Gather paper plates or construction paper. Give each child a paper plate or piece of construction paper. Encourage them to stand on it. Then, ask children to stand on one foot, hop on one foot, turn around, etc. Talk about how easy or hard it is to balance while they are on their paper plate or piece of paper.