Pathlight

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

Mission Project: God Provides

In this mission project, you will help children see how God has provided for various organizations in your community. You will also lead children in prayer for these organizations. These prayers are your mission this month as children hear about and trust in God's provisions. Before these sessions begin, ask four organizations (or someone who works with missions at your church) to come speak. Ask them to talk about how God has provided for the people with whom they work, and what they would like to see happen in the future.

Week 1: Ask an organization (or someone from your church) to speak about how they (or your church) help the homeless in your community. Pray for the homeless in your community, that God would help them find a safe place to live, enough food to eat and warm clothes to wear. Ask God to help your church find ways to help.

Week 2: Ask an organization (or someone from your church) to speak about how they (or your church) help people who are hungry in your community. Pray for people who are hungry in your community, that God would help them have enough to eat. Ask God to help your church find ways to help the hungry have food to eat.

Week 3: Ask an organization (or someone from your church) to speak about how they (or your church) help children in need in your community. Pray for children in your community who do not have everything they need. Ask God to provide what they need. Ask God to help your church find ways to help them have what they need.

Week 4: Ask an organization (or someone from your church) to speak about how they (or your church) help people who are sick in your community. Pray for the sick. Ask God to provide the care that they need. Ask God to give them strength and peace. Ask God to help your church find ways to encourage them.

Preschool Stations

Station 1: Books/Puzzles

September 6: *Read books about working together* | Use books from your classroom or library, or use some of the titles found here: https://childrenslibrarylady.com/books-cooperation-teamwork/?srsltid=AfmBOoooZ7N-FuC70OntlVM-GTwOD3FiH2szWYOTfXvJtm2SG5-x83_x2 or https://childrenslitlove.com/2020/02/26/fantastic-reads-to-build-teamwork-and-cooperation-skills.

September 13: *Gather a few puzzles* | Encourage the children to complete the puzzles together. Talk about how it is sometimes easier to do things together than it is to do them alone.

September 20: *Read* When God Made You *by Matthew Paul Turner* | Read aloud version with pictures: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ih83AfGRwfs.

September 27: *Play with blocks* | Build houses, a city, roads, etc. Talk about how Refuge and Hope is a place of safety for refugees.

Station 2: Art/Music

September 6: *Create a Welcome Sign* | Items needed: butcher paper, crayons. Write "Welcome!" in big letters on your sign. Encourage children to draw on and color in your sign. Hang it in your church so that others know they are welcome.

September 13: *Learn a Welcome Song* | TV with internet, welcome songs (www.youtube.com/watch?v=OsFV58Jps2k or www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVlcKp3bWH8&list=RDtVlcKp3bWH8&start_radio=1). Decide which welcome song you would like to use. Show the video to the children and help them learn it. Talk about how saying hello and being kind to others helps them know that they are welcome.

September 20: *Create a Painting* | Items needed: dot markers, paper. Encourage children to use their dot markers to create a painting. Encourage them to be creative. Perhaps they would like to do a painting of a rainbow or a butterfly. For very young classes, consider printing dot marker coloring sheets (such as these: https://daydreamintoreality.com/summer-dot-marker-pages). Talk about how volunteer artists taught refugees at a refugee camp in Cyprus how to paint.

September 27: *Listen to "My Hope is in the Lord"* | Items needed: music video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=tJeP-CzTaQo4 or other songs about hope. Listen and dance to "My Hope is in the Lord" (or another song about hope). Tell children that God gives us hope. We can trust that God is with us and that God will help us.

Station 3: Play Pretend

September 6: *Pretend to be an Explorer* | Items needed: binoculars (or children can use their hands), backpacks, maps. Encourage children to be explorers, wearing their backpacks, looking at the map, and using their binoculars (real or their hands) to see things. Talk about some of the things the children saw as they explored.

September 13: *Play Church* | Encourage children to play church, where someone directs the music, someone preaches, etc. Talk about the different pieces of worship.

September 20: *Open Presents* | Items needed: gift bags and tissue paper (1 set per person), paper, crayons. Put some tissue paper into each gift bag—one bag per child. Encourage children to pretend to open a present (make sure they know it's empty first!). Then, encourage them to draw a heart or a favorite shape and color it in. Encourage children to put their picture in their bag and then open their present. Remind them that each one of us is a gift from God. And God gives us gifts, too.

September 27: *Build a Refuge* | Items needed: sheets or towels, chairs, pillows. Create a fort and pretend it is a refuge. Encourage children to play in the refuge. Talk about how refuges are safe places.

Station 4: Games

September 6: *Cross the Ocean* | Talk about the ways we may cross the ocean. Encourage children to cross the ocean by flying like an airplane, riding the waves on a boat, and however else they can think of to cross the ocean. Talk about how Brooke and Mike moved across the ocean, back to the United States.

September 13: *Play Sports* | Items needed: balls, frisbees, other sports equipment. Set out sports equipment and encourage children to choose things they'd like to do. Talk about how playing games together helps us build friendships and community.

September 20: *Play Ziziros* | This game is a traditional game in Cyprus. "Ziziros" means cicada/insect in Greek. Encourage children to make a "ZZZZ" sound like a cicada and wave their fingers at one another. Choose a person to be "it." They will cover their eyes with their hands. Someone will come up behind them and touch their shoulder. They will step back and everyone will make the "ZZZZ" sound and wave their fingers. The child who is "it" must guess who touched them. Continue guessing until they get it right, and then another child is it.

September 27: *Play Mamba* | This game is popular all over Africa (where Uganda is located). Choose a person to be "it." They will try to tag another child. When someone is tagged, they link up to the person who is "it," holding on to their shoulders. The person who is "it" tries to tag someone else. The game continues, with the linked line of children looking a bit like a mamba (snake). The last person to not be tagged wins!