

# A Kids Friendly Sunday



 Presbyterian Church  
of Aotearoa New Zealand

*This document is intended as a resource for the Church. The information it contains is not prescriptive. The Book of Order and its subordinate standards contain the Church's official rules and directions. Any perceived conflict between the information contained in this resource and the Church's Book of Order and subordinate standards is entirely unintentional.*



## INTRODUCTION:

Kids Friendly churches are intent on welcoming children and families effectively. Including and engaging children in worship and offering a quality children's Christian education programme is one of our key ideals.

Kids Friendly Ideal 3: **A KIDS FRIENDLY SUNDAY**  
**A Kids Friendly church intentionally provides opportunities for all children to experience the love of God through worship, quality Christian education, faith transitions, fellowship, pastoral care and opportunities to serve.**

This package of resources aims to assist you to consider how you express your Kids Friendly-ness on Sundays. It is not meant to be prescriptive, but rather a sharing of ideas that some of our churches have found work well for them.

***"Sunday Worship is our shop window" Bishop Cray, Fresh Expressions***



**“A Kids Friendly Sunday”** is a collection of resources namely:

## 1. A Kids Friendly Welcome

How do we best welcome the children in our midst and beyond?

### **CONTENTS:**

A Kids Friendly Welcome

A Kids Friendly Welcome Table

A Kids Friendly Welcome Pack

- ✓ Sample welcome pack example:
- ✓ Sample inserts for welcome packs:
  - Welcome flyers
  - Enrolment form
  - Children’s newsletter

Kids Friendly Activity Packs

- Sample front cover for activity pack
- Sample activity book

## 2. Kids Friendly Worship

### **CONTENTS:**

#### a. Worshipping with children

- PCANZ Directory for worship
- Ideas for involving and valuing children in Church
- Other kids friendly considerations
- Stories from our churches
- Recommended resources for worshipping with children
- Questionnaires/reviews

#### b. Kids Friendly Ministers

- What makes a minister Kids Friendly?
- Stories from our churches

#### c. Kids Friendly Sacraments

- Baptism
  - PCANZ Worship directory
  - Resources for a Kids Friendly baptism
  - Some ideas for including children and families
  - Helping families remember the event
  - Stories from our churches
- Communion
  - PCANZ Worship directory
  - How do we make children feel welcome at the table?
  - What children can understand about Communion
  - Some ideas for teaching children about Communion
  - Stories from our churches

## 3. Planning a Kids Friendly Children's Programme

### CONTENTS:

#### 1. Elements of a Successful Lesson Plan

- Lesson Objective
- Set-up
- Welcome
  - Getting to know you games
- Lighting the Christ Candle (rituals)
- Prayer
- Introducing the theme/scripture of the day
- Reinforcing the theme through activities
  - Story
  - Game
  - Quiz
  - Craft, Baking, Woodwork, Lego etc.
  - Singing
  - Small Group Time
- Learning this week's memory verse
  - Memory Verse activities
- Closing
- Resources needed for the lesson

#### 2. Praying with Children

- A. Prayer Time
  - Explain
  - Role Model
  - Encourage
- B. Well known Prayers
  - The Peace Prayer
  - The Lord's Prayer
- C. Interactive Prayer Ideas
  - The 5 Finger Prayer
  - Prayer Wheel
  - Prayer Huddle
  - Spin the Bottle
  - Prayer Ball Ideas
  - Prayers for the World
  - Musical Prayers
  - Candlelight Prayers
- D. Prayer Acronyms
- E. Introducing Prayer
  - The Praying Mantis

- Prayer Starter
- Prayer Speech Bubble Ideas
- F. Graces and Blessings
  - Graces
  - Blessing

### 3. Interactive Storytelling

- A. Dramatisation – by Children
  - Bartimaeus Play (by Maurice Sweetsur)
- B. Dramatisation – by Leader
  - The Good Shepherd (by Andrew Ramsbottom)
- C. Using Actions and Sound Effects
  - God is on David’s Side
  - Jesus calms the Sea
- D. Using Artwork
- E. Puppet Shows
- F. Helpful Websites

### 4. Games

- A. Team Games
  - Capture the Flag
  - Crazy Outfit Relay
  - “No-hands” Race
  - Ping-Pong Blow
- B. All Together Games
  - Captain’s Coming
  - Tangled
  - Shipwreck
  - Calming down Time
- C. Helpful Websites

## 4. Praying with Children

### CONTENTS:

#### a. Praying with Children

- Prayer Time
  - Explain
  - Role Model
  - Encourage

#### b. Well known Prayers

- The Peace Prayer
- The Lord's Prayer
  - Acting out the Lord's Prayer

#### c. Other Prayer Ideas

- The 5 Finger Prayer
- Prayer Ball Ideas
- Prayer Acronyms
- Prayer Starter
- Musical Prayers
- Candlelight Prayers
- Graces
- Prayer Speech Bubble Ideas

#### d. Other Resources

Download:

- 1. A Kids Friendly Welcome**
- 2. A Kids Friendly Worship**
- 3. Planning A Kids Friendly Children's Programme**
- 4. Praying with Children**

from the Kids Friendly website

<http://www.kidsfriendly.org.nz/resourcing/sundays/>

Or contact us: <mailto:admin@kidsfriendly.org.nz>

<http://www.kidsfriendly.org.nz/about/contact-us/>