



CANADIAN  
BAPTISTS  
of Ontario  
and Quebec

**CBOQ  
SUNDAY**

**INTERGENERATIONAL  
WORSHIP**

Welcome!

Thank you for taking the time to review this resource. This resource was originally created for our churches in preparation for our annual CBOQ Sunday. Each year we highlight a different theme related to our annual Assembly theme in June. 2018 the focus was on Next Generation and so we created this planning resource to encourage and equip churches in leading an intergenerational workshop service.

Inside you will find a planning template—a ‘how to’ for planning an intergenerational service. The rest is an outline for a service using a particular theme and Scripture. I’ve included a supply list, service order, a sermon outline segment, song list and so on. And there are even more tips throughout.

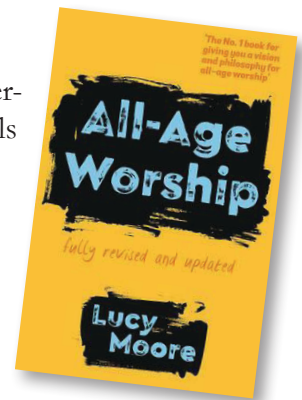
There are many ways to develop and plan intergenerational worship and this is just one way that I put together to consider. If you are interested you may also view this service ‘in action’ from our CBOQ Assembly 2018 workshop here:

<https://youtu.be/Uf2GNoS5inA>

One book I would highly recommend both for learning more about intergenerational worship and for some very helpful and practical planning ideas and tools is called *All Age Worship*, by Lucy Moore.

Blessings as you explore intergenerational worship for your community!

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# PLANNING OUTLINE

You do not need to be radically different from your usual order of service! Use that as a template as you move through these planning suggestions.

## SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Questions to consider: What is the main point or theme?

What does it say about God?

What does it say about us?

How does it relate to people?

## MAIN THEME

What is the main theme you are communicating?

## MUSIC SELECTION

Are there songs known by children, youth and adults that you could use?

## VISUAL

What visual elements could be included to develop the theme? This could include pictures/objects that are displayed at the front or around the sanctuary, PowerPoint images that are projected on the screen, or within a worship program/bulletin.

## EXPERIENTIAL ELEMENT

What are the ways people participate in the service? Are there other ways you could invite participation?

## SERMON

The sermon does not need to be 'dumbed' down for younger participants, however sermon delivery should be different!

- Consider breaking down the teaching into 5-7 minute segments with experiential elements coming out of each segment. This could include videos, response activities, discussion opportunities, movement, etc.
- Use simple language and define terms that may not be familiar to all participants. Even if not all participants can understand every sentence spoken there should be an opportunity to connect with the main theme in some way.
- Consider equipping parents of younger children ahead of time with tips for how they could help explain different aspects of the message.

# PRO-TIPS!

Choose Scripture that all ages could learn from.

Choose a single theme and develop it in many ways.

Plan for 'programmed' movement. For example, actions to a worship song, response activity that involves people coming to the front or different activity stations. What are other interactive elements you could include?

Other tips:

- The whole service is an opportunity for learning the 'how' and 'why' of worship in your church, particularly for those that may not usually be present in the full service. Use simple, clear explanations for every element of the service.
- Involve different generations in the planning of an intergenerational service. Allow different ages to share ways the Scripture/main theme could be communicated.
- Keep in mind that this is not a 'children's' service. Do not forget about those that are older in your congregation as well as the younger ones.
- Let people know 1-2 weeks ahead of time that this service will look a little different than usual. Near the beginning or within the welcome, be sure to let people know that it is an intergenerational service. Consider the following:

Good morning. Welcome to [Your Church Name]. We are so glad you are here. If you are visiting us this morning we are delighted to welcome you. Today we will worship in a different way than usual. All ages will worship together and we will have some different ways that we will invite you to participate. We believe God invites us all to come together and offer our praise and worship and so we want you to know that you are all welcome to join us as we worship.

# INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE OUTLINE

The following outline provides ideas for a service based on a particular theme and Scripture that you may want to consider for CBOQ Sunday.

Supplies to Gather/Prepare ahead of time:

- 4 pieces of Bristol Board with one letter (L, O, V, E) written large in marker.
- Heart shaped paper, enough for every person to have 1 or more pieces
- Pens/pencils for participants
- ‘Storybox’ (a box or bag used during the sermon time to pull objects out)
- Heart shape (could be an object, picture, etc to fit in the storybox)
- Cross (to fit in the storybox)
- Wooden figure or other object to represent a person (to fit in the storybox)
- Tape (see activity in sermon outline to determine how many rolls, or best way for your context)
- Heart shaped cards, 1 for each person with the take away ‘Love is...’ statements (see Take Away Activity instructions)

**SCRIPTURE: 1 JOHN 4:7-12**

**MAIN THEME: LOVE (GOD’S LOVE FOR US, LOVE OTHERS)**

Ahead of the service display the four pieces of Bristol board at the front of the sanctuary.

This outline is based on a 60 minute service and includes Communion.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 96:1-2

Sing to the Lord a new song.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

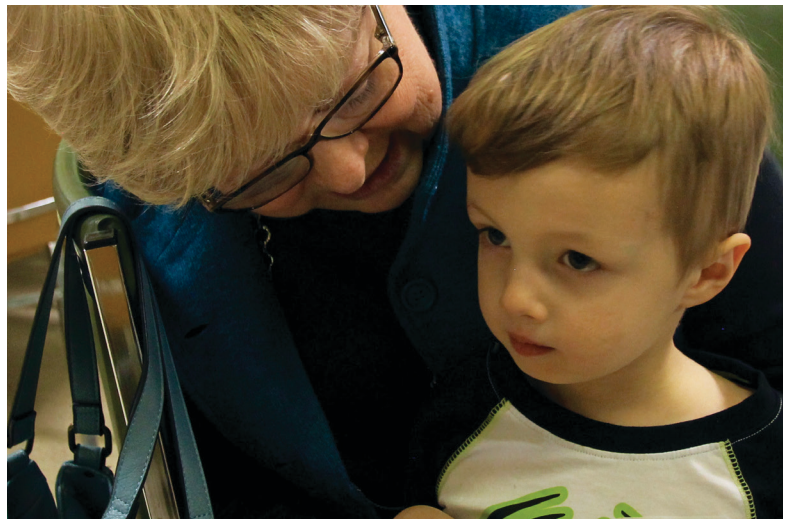
Sing to the Lord and praise his name.

Every day tell how he saves us.

2-3 Songs (see song suggestions list)

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Consider a statement such as: Good morning. Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are so glad you are here. If you are visiting us this morning we are delighted to welcome you. Today we will worship in a different way than usual. All ages will worship together and we will have some different ways that we will invite you to participate. We believe God invites us all to come together and offer our praise and worship and so we want you to know that you are all welcome to join us as we worship.
- Consider the best ways to communicate briefly that it is CBOQ Sunday. Mention the magazine people will receive (if you chose to give this out) You may want to have a brief time of prayer focused on CBOQ/Next Generation as well. (\*Next Generation is the theme this year! You may also consider a focused time of prayer for your next generation people)



## CBOQ SUNDAY VIDEO

### PRAYER

Consider inviting a few people to lead short sentences of prayer representing different generations. An idea could be to pray in response to the things in the video as well as your community's particular requests.

Or prepare a responsive prayer that you invite different sections of the church to say together.

Are there other creative ways you could engage people in prayer?

### SONG

### OFFERING

This is a great way to involve younger people in participating in the leadership of the service. Children as young as 3 could help collect the offering, perhaps with a parent or other adult.

### SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 4:7-12

Consider inviting a group of people, representing different generations to read a verse of the Scripture reading

### SERMON (SEE SERMON OUTLINE SECTION)

### RESPONSE SONG

### COMMUNION

Consider the following introduction to Communion and proceed according to your church custom:

We come before this table today because God loves us. (You may wish to insert a line of explanation as to what Communion is here.) Before we proceed let's take a moment to think if there is anyone that we might need to say sorry to because we have not spoken or acted lovingly towards them, including yourself! (Be sure to pause in silence for 30 seconds to allow people the time needed)

### BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord in the name of Jesus. Amen

### PRO-TIP!

If you want to follow the activity involving people coming to the front suggestions consider scalability for your context. For example, if you have a large congregation, including balcony seating you may want to invite people to participate in different ways by having various stations set up around the sanctuary or to work in small groups. Or you might consider inviting people to pass papers to one person in each row to bring to the front.

Now, I invite you, with palms outstretched to indicate receiving from God, to take a deep breath and let God fill you with his love. (At this point proceed with Communion customs: giving instruction on how it is done, reading Scripture/prayers for the bread and cup.)

## SERMON OUTLINE

This sermon outline is designed to be communicated in 3 segments with experiential elements for each segment. It is not fully scripted but there are some guiding statements/suggestions for each segment. Please note that you may not be able to teach everything you would want to in each segment. The goal is simple and concise statements. Choose your words prayerfully, thoughtfully and carefully. Each segment should be no longer than 5-7 minutes of talking.

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Have your storybox prepared with the 3 objects in it: heart, cross, wooden figure. Pull each item out at the beginning of that particular segment.

**Heart:** Consider the best way to communicate God is love. Because he is love he poured out his love: he loves us. The response activity is to take the blank heart shaped paper and write a response to the question: How do you see God pouring out his love? Write a word that begins with one of the letters: L, O, V, E. Bring it to the front and attach it to the appropriate Bristol board. (see Pro-tip on scalability.)

**Cross:** Consider the best way to communicate that God showed his love by sending his one and only Son Jesus to die for our sins. Communicate in the most simple and concise way the gospel message. You may consider including the opportunity for people to respond to Christ if they have never taken that step of faith before. Another option is to invite people to turn to someone and share briefly (1-2 minutes) what it means to them that Jesus is their Saviour.

**Wooden Figure:** Consider the best way to communicate that because God is love we are created to love. If we do not love we are not doing what we are created to do. You may want to invite people to reflect on these two questions: How does love tell us who we are? How do we understand our identity?

As you are preparing, reflect on how you might communicate these 2 questions through your preaching: Who are we and why do we do what we do? A main summary point is the desire for us to love is because God loves us. Other thoughts to reflect on with this passage: Love is not abstract! God came to us in Jesus. When we talk about love we must talk about Jesus! The fact that Jesus came in history means we must—it happened! We can't not talk about Jesus!

From here move into the Take Away Activity (see instructions on the next page). Consider the best way to distribute the heart shaped cards that were prepared ahead of time. Simply explain that 1 Corinthians 13 offers one of the most well known and beautiful descriptions of love. On each card is one characteristic describing love. This is your word to think about and learn more about this week.



## TAKE AWAY ACTIVITY PREPARATION

Ahead of time, prepare heart shaped cards, enough for each person using the follow descriptions from 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 (1 sentence per card, along with the 3 questions)

### 3 Questions

This should be on each card under the love statement:

1. What does this say about God?
2. What does this say about me?
3. What is my action step?

Love is patient...  
Love is kind...  
Love does not envy...  
Love does not boast...  
Love is not proud...  
Love honours others...  
Love is not self-seeking...  
Love does not get angry easily...  
Love does not keep records of wrongdoing...  
Love rejoices in the truth...  
Love always protects...  
Love always trusts...  
Love always hopes...  
Love always perseveres...

## MUSIC SUGGESTIONS

Here are some ideas if you are looking for new songs to try. Make sure you choose some songs that will be familiar to your community.

Hymn: The Love of God  
Hymn: My Saviour's Love  
Hymn: In my heart there rings a melody  
How He Loves us: Kim Walker  
This is Amazing Grace  
How Deep the Father's Love for Us: Stuart Townsend  
Glorious Day: Casting Crowns  
Build my Life: Housefires  
Good, good Father: Chris Tomlin  
One Thing Remains: Kristian Stanfill  
The Proof of your love: For King and Country





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