



May 26, 2019

Art Contest Time !

Lightning is more common than you think. By educating our congregations and children, we can all do our part to keep our members and building safe.

Our theme for 2019 is:

“Lightning Awareness Saves Lives and Our Churches”

This is an opportunity to put summer art activities directly to work in the care of your churches/camps. Discuss with children when and why lightning occurs as well as the risks associated with lightning. Ask them to create images/messages depicting lightning, its power and the damage it creates.



Three CASH prizes of \$1000 each to the sponsoring church/camp in each group:

7 and under, 8 to 12 and 13 to 17

Winners will be featured on Insurance Board' Facebook page and in the newsletter.

First 12 churches/camps to email Danielle Grasso confirming participation will receive a \$50 art supply reimbursement. Danielle will send you full details. Email Danielle at Grasso@InsuranceBoard.org



Cultivating Generous Congregations

An interactive seminar experience that changes the way you and your congregation approach giving and generosity.

August 23-24, 2019

Watch for more information to follow soon!



“Memorial Day”



Excerpt from Psalm 31

"My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

Reflection by Lillian Daniel

Memorial Day began after the Civil War as an effort toward reconciliation between the families of veterans in the North and the South. After the war, there was already a tradition in the North of decorating soldiers' graves, called "Decoration Day." But in 1868 an organization of Northern war veterans decreed it ought to be a national holiday. May 30 was carefully chosen as the date because it was not the anniversary of a specific battle, and therefore would be a neutral date for both sides.

Memorial Day did become a time to remember all veterans, a time to visit the graves of family and friends, and to remember their lives. In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill moved three holidays off of their specific dates and onto Mondays, in order to create three-day weekends. Memorial Day came to be associated with the beginning of summer, as well as the Indianapolis 500.

Today, let us remember the spirit in which the day was conceived, as a way to bring together those who had once been bitter enemies. After the fighting is over, the loss and heartbreak are shared throughout the human family. God's mercy pours out over all God's children, with no respect for the borders of nation states, which are awfully temporary, from the perspective of eternity.

Prayer

On this day, we pray for comfort for all those who have lost a loved one to the ravages of war. We pray that the peace of Christ, which passes all human understanding, will knit together this weary and war-torn world. Amen.

-written by Rodney Mundy