



Making All Saints Sunday Personal and Holy

by David Bone

As All Saints Day (November 1) approached, Martha looked forward to thanking God for Jayne, a new saint in her life. In worship, Martha's church remembered the members who had died during the previous year. But they also celebrated the lives and influences of living saints: those teachers, pastors, friends, musicians, and others who, through their daily life, had shown others the Christian walk and faith.

In January, Jayne shared with her DISCIPLE group that she had an aggressive and inoperable brain tumor. As her body became weak, her faith became stronger. The Bible study group met at Jayne's home many times so that she could participate. A few days after the group's final Communion service was celebrated around her bedside, Jayne joined the Church Triumphant.

[... more](#)

Worship Planning: Interview with Betsy

What resources have helped you the most in worship planning?

Printed prayers and litanies. I don't consider myself a writer so I often find things others have written and find myself agreeing with the way something is worded. Sometimes I tweak words. Sometimes I even get inspired and write my own after reading others' work.

What tip or suggestion would you give a new pastor or worship team planning their first worship service?

Jot out a tentative plan so that the team can begin brainstorming ideas (scripture references and series). That doesn't mean you might not switch, but this gives people time to think things through.

If you could change one thing about your congregation's worship, what would it be? Why?

Not get too tied to a particular Order of Worship and more silence within the service. Sometimes we get comfortable doing the same things in worship, and it can get boring. Add more silence because we are all bombarded with too much noise. This way we carve out space to listen and rest in God.

What is your role in your congregation's worship?

I'm on the worship team. We discuss the scripture, brainstorm ideas, and then set up the worship space. We are currently meeting in an elementary school.

Share your worship knowledge with your peers!

Here at *WorshipConnection*, we are trying to find ways to share your ideas, what you've learned that works (or doesn't!), and the challenges we all face in worship planning. Please take just a minute to [click here](#) and take our survey.

Betsy's background is in Christian Education, and she's part of a group starting a new church. So she would love to hear how you are helping people understand how your church worships!

Sign up to receive the *WorshipConnection* newsletter every 2 weeks!

betsy's bytes

We changed the email "a bit". I hope you like it!

You may be wondering, "Why marigolds?" Read today's featured article by David Bone, a gifted musician and worship planner, to find out why. David gives us suggestions on how to celebrate All Saints Day in a way that celebrates the lives of those who have died and reminds us all of resurrection hope!

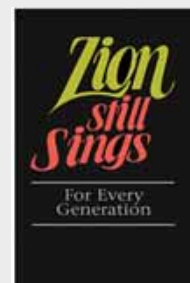
As worship planners, you may be like me--not always confident about your ideas. After setting up the worship space, taking it down, and feeling exhausted, you may still wonder, "Why did I volunteer for this?"

Having tangible ideas that don't cost a lot of money definitely helps me, and I am always on the lookout for fresh, new products to keep the creative juices flowing!

Advent is sneaking up on us, so I included some new resources I thought you would like.

Betsy Hall
Worship Leader
WorshipConnection.com

David Bone suggests ...

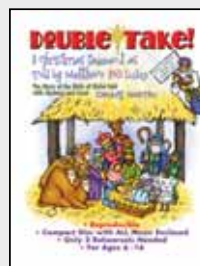


Advent: FastForward



The Christmas Star: Easy Christmas Dramas, Speeches, and Recitations for Children

Double Take: A Christmas Pageant as told by Matthew and Luke with Mystery, Humor, and Awe



Only 2 rehearsals needed!

Worship Feast: Advent and Christmas



Worship Experiences to Celebrate the Joyous Season!

O For a Dozen Tongues to Sing For Christmas: Ten Ready-to-Sing Anthems for Two-part Mixed Choirs

