

Module 1: ALL YE, ALL YE, COME HOME FREE - A Celebration of Faith Community

This large group celebration is designed to be the entry point for an “All Ye, All Ye, Come Home Free” event. It provides an vehicle for exploring some of the key dynamics and characteristics of living and growing in a faith community. It includes a skit that features five whimsical “Lil’ Buddies from the Back Pew” who bring new and deeper meaning to the age-old game of Hide-n-Seek and it’s notably familiar phrase “All Ye, All Ye, Come Home Free” as they discover some amazingly unique aspects of faith community.

The program outline below includes some song suggestions and a litany. Please feel free to adapt these program offerings to enrich your own schedule and intent.

Time: Approximately 20-25 minutes

Suggested Program Outline:

Opening Song:	Life Together, <i>LifeSongs</i> # 126
Bible Texts:	Ephesians 4:14-16 Matthew 18:20
Skit:	“It’s Not A Game-It’s A Gift!”
Song:	We Are the Church, <i>LifeSongs</i> #133
Litany:	Lessons, Songs and Prayers Sheet
Song:	Life Together (Chorus)

Equipment and Supplies:

- A copy of the “All Ye, All Ye, Come Home Free” banner design (PDF file)
- *LifeSongs* Songbook: 0-8066-4271-8, *LifeSongs* Leader Book: 080664270X and the split-track cd: 0-8066-4272-6 (optional) The resources are all available through Augsburg Fortress Online Bookstore www.augsburgfortress.org or (800) 426-0115
- Piano, CD Player or other form of accompaniment
- Copies of the script for “It’s Not A Game-It’s A Gift!”
- Overhead projector and transparencies
- Poster board, newsprint or banner cloth
- Markers, poster or tempa paints
- A sample Community ID & Discovery Card from the Check-in Center in the Come On In! Gathering Activities (PDF file)
- Copies of the “Lessons, Songs and Prayers” reproducible sheet

Leader’s Notes:

Photocopy the “All Ye, All Ye, Come Home Free” banner design onto an overhead transparency. Use an overhead projector to enlarge the design for display on a banner. Plan to display it in your large group gathering space.

Scan through “It’s Not a Game-It’s A Gift” and recruit upper elementary children, youth and adults who can portray the characters in the most dramatic way. Schedule a time to

rehearse the skit in the stage area you will use for the actual presentation. Gather the props, costumes and accessories necessary to set the stage. You may also want to obtain a large cardboard box to define your stage area with a picket-type fence.

Become acquainted with the songs suggested for the large group celebration or choose some that are more familiar to your participants. "We Are the Church" and "Life Together" are from a collection of songs entitled "*LifeSongs*." The Leader Book, Songbook and split track cd are available through Augsburg Fortress. (The CD will give you the option of using a pre-recorded accompaniment.) You may wish to display the words to the songs in large print with pictures or symbols for young children. The litany and Bible texts are printed on the "Lessons, Songs and Prayers" sheet.

Prepare a sample of the Community I.D. Card to display as you present an overview of your event. It is designed to be utilized to engage participants in a version of Hide-n-Seek as they visit the Hide-n-Seek Discovery Centers. The cards include a word search exercise that may be completed as participants collect key words to find at each discovery center. The Check-in Center, a Come On In! Gathering Activity, provides a time to introduce and distribute these cards.