

Module 3: Happy New Year! - Please Wait to Be Seated! Gathering Activities

Please Wait to Be Seated! Gathering Activities are designed to be entry points for engaging participants as they gather. They introduce the theme and content of this event and provide tools for integrating its various components.

The description for these activities, along with craft patterns and participant sheets, are outlined below. A Program Planning Grid (PDF file) is available to assist you in coordinating some of the details and tasks involved. You may wish to display a sign to distinguish the gathering activities from the learning centers. A "Please Wait to be Seated" sign design (PDF file) is provided for this purpose.

Scan through the program offerings and feel free to adapt them to enrich your own schedule and intent. You might also consider using these activities to enrich other intergenerational or age-specific events throughout the year.

Please Wait to Be Seated! Gathering Activities

"Special Guest" Check-in - Participants will pick up "Reasons for the Seasons" Party Planners, "Stirrin' Up a Celebration" menu cards and wooden or paper Stirrin' Spoons to check out "whatza cookin'" with the seasons of the church at each learning center. Name tags and patterns for chef hats are also available.

Resource Support:

- Church Year Wheel (PDF file)
- "Happy New Year! Party Pack logo (PDF file)
- Reasons for the Seasons Party Planner A-F (PDF file)
- Chef hat nametags (PDF file)
- Stirrin' Up a Celebration menu card (PDF file)
- Stirrin' Spoon pattern sheet (PDF file)
- Stirrin' Spoon reference sheet (PDF file)
- "Please Wait to Be Seated" sign design (PDF file)
- Planning Grid (PDF file)

Taster's Choice: A Sampling of Seasonal Sensations - Participants will play a game to acquaint them with some of the characteristics of each season of the church year. They will also have the opportunity to enjoy a color-coded treat.

Resource Support:

- Happy New Year! Coloring Sheet (PDF file)
- Symbols and Seasons game board (PDF file)
- Seasonal Sensation cards A-C (PDF file)
- Taster's Choice reference sheet (PDF file)
- "Please Wait to Be Seated" sign design (PDF file)
- Planning Grid (PDF file)
- "Please Wait to Be Seated" sign design (PDF file)