



A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Mr. Rogers Day Resources

Fred Rogers was an ordained minister of word and sacrament for the PC(USA) and is a notable public figure whose work around peace and reconciliation as well as neighborliness and kindness are worth remembering. Rogers was also a pioneer in the world of Christian education and formation of young children. *March 20th* was his birthday and the day that the PC(USA) has chosen to highlight all we can learn from his work. This Resource Roadmap is a list of resources for faith communities to engage in this emphasis day.

PCUSA RESOURCES

- [Walking in God's Path of Peace Intergenerational Worship](#) – This is a complete worship liturgy from the Office of Theology and Worship based on Ephesians 6:15 with suggestions on how to celebrate Mr. Rogers as well.
- [Jesus, Teach Us to be Neighbors](#) – This is a hymn commissioned by the Office of Theology and Worship. The text was written by David Gambrell and melody and accompaniment by Wil Smith. [Here](#) is the hymn with chords. [Here](#) for the words and melody. And [here](#) is a recording of the hymn from the Wellshire Presbyterian Church Denver Colorado. This may be helpful to share in worship virtually or to teach others hymn.
- Mr, Rogers Coloring Page –This reproducible original artwork is based on Ephesians 6:15 and features the text "As shoes for you feet, put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace." inside Mr. Rogers sweater. His shoes and neighborhood are also present. Designed especially for Mr. Rogers Day by the folks at [Illustrated Ministry](#), the artwork can be downloadable in a variety of sizes – [8.5x11](#), [11x17](#), [24x36](#) and [36x48](#) in black/white. It is also available in [color](#) in all the sizes.
- [Peace Cards: Activities and Ideas](#) – This quicksheet provides suggestions of ways to use the set of Peace Cards for discussion and reflection. And you can order the [Peace Cards from the PCUSA Store](#). [Here](#) is an article about the cards.

Compassion, Peace & Justice

- [Building a Neighborhood Together: An Intergenerational Peacemaking Project from Family Communications](#)—Producer of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood". This NEWLY UPDATED free downloadable booklet describes the process for building a neighborhood out of boxes and other everyday household supplies. It is an activity for all ages and all kinds of families working

together. The Neighborhood Build is based on Fred Rogers' ideas about relationships, creative play, pride in making things, family communication, and community.

- [Peacemaking in the Family by Mr. Rogers, Four Intergenerational Events for your Church - UPDATED](#) This free downloadable adaptable resource, is UPDATED from the original coauthored by Rev. Fred Rogers and Barbara Marsh. This resource is organized around four areas of family life – feelings, growth, hard times and celebrations – and identifies peacemaking skills that can be employed to strengthen all members of a household. For each topic there is helpful background information and an intergenerational program design. It is based on the book *Mr. Rogers Talks with Parents*, written by Fred Rogers and Barry Head.
- [Peace Fair](#) - This is an intergenerational event which is a part of the Season of Peace materials from the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.
- [Season of Peace Doodle Coloring Poster](#). This is available for download in a variety of sizes.

Office Of Christian Formation

- [Neighboring Sunday Quicksheet](#) - The neighborhoods around our homes and our faith community gathering places are the heart of our ministries. If we are to live out the Matthew 25 vision we should understand our communities. This Quicksheet provides you with a template and ideas to plan an experience and worship service around your neighborhoods.
- [A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: 15 Things to Do for Mr. Rogers Day](#) – This Quicksheet is a set of suggestions for in person or at home; for worship, education, and outreach; for children, families, and intergenerational.
- Additional resources and Quicksheets created by this office are listed in New Resources and all are available at pcusa.org/mrogers .

Presbyterian Publishing, Flyaway Books, Westminster John Knox

There are a number of books for children and adults which tie to themes important in Mr. Rogers work. Some of them are listed below and can all be found at

<https://www.pcusastore.com/misterrogers> .

- [Who Is My Neighbor?](#) by Amy-Jill Levine & Sandy Eisenberg Sasso and illus. Denise Turu
 - Blues and Yellows just don't mix, and that's how it's always been—until the day Midnight Blue takes a tumble along the road and a Yellow named Lemon stops to help him.
 - A free coloring sheet to go along with the book is available here: <https://www.flyawaybooks.com/resources>
- [Three Lines in a circle: The Exciting Life of the Peace Symbol](#) by Michael G. Long.
 - The bold picture book tells the story of the peace symbol – designed in 1958 by a London activist protesting nuclear weapons – and how it inspired the world.
 - [Here](#) is a recording of the author reading the story.
 - A free downloadable activity to go along with the book is available [here](#).
- [Walking toward Peace: The True Story of a Brave Woman Called Peace Pilgrim](#) by Kathleen Krull and illus. Annie Bowler (Available March 2, 2021)
 - Tells the true story of Peace Pilgrim, a female activist and spiritual leader who sacrificed everything to travel by foot around America promoting peace.
 - A free downloadable maze to go along with the book is available for download [here](#): Or all of the resources at <https://www.flyawaybooks.com/resources>

- [Here](#) is a recording of the book being read that could be used in a class or shared with families.
- [Brian the Brave](#) by Paul Stewart and illus. Jane Porter
 - Brian thinks all of his fellow sheep can play together—until the others say they can only be friends with sheep that look and speak just like them. This playful book encourages children to challenge bias and prejudice.
 - Free printable puppets to go along with the book are available for download here: <https://www.flyawaybooks.com/resources>
- [A Very Big Problem](#) by Amy-Jill Levine & Sandy Eisenberg Sasso and illus. Annie Bowler
 - The first garden in the world is filled with diverse characters who are competing for God’s love until they’re reminded that God’s love is big enough for everyone and that without one another, there would be no garden at all.
- [Peaceful Neighbor: Discovering the Countercultural Mister Rogers](#) by Michael G. Long
 - A look at the convictions of Mister Rogers and how he expressed his beliefs through his TV program.
 - [Here](#) is a book group handout.
 - Watch YouTube [video](#) of Michael G. Long talking about Mister Rogers.
- [Neighborhood Church: Transforming Your Congregation into a Powerhouse for Mission](#) by Krin Van Tatenhove & Rob Mueller
 - A resource that helps inspire churches to become a vibrant and engaging community partner with the families and neighborhoods living around them.
 - A free church [study guide](#) and sermon Scripture ideas are available.
- [Mister Rogers Intergenerational Curriculum](#) based on Mr Rogers’ Neighborhood. This is a free downloadable 4 session curriculum. <http://www.pcusastore.com/misterrogers>

Theology and Worship

- [The Presbyterian Book of Common Worship](#), Westminster John Knox Press, 2018. This includes services for the dedication or blessing of health care facilities, schools, community service agencies and homes. See pages 670-684.
- [Everyday God-Talk Video](#) – PCUSA Staff member Jeff Eddings talking about Mr. Rogers

MOVIES AND TELEVISION

- A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood – Movie, Sony Pictures 2019
Study Guide available <http://resources.abeautifulday.movie/>
- Won’t You Be My Neighbor? - Documentary Movie, Universal Studios 2018
- Mister Rogers and Me – Movie, Wagner Bothers 2010
- Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood - <https://www.misterrogers.org/>
- Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood - <https://pbskids.org/daniel/>

OTHER RESOURCES

- “Will You Be My Neighbor” Intergenerational Vacation Bible School Curriculum - from PCUSA Certified Educator Jenna Campbell. She is happy to share the resources with you directly if you can contact her at jenna.campbell@stillwaterfpc.org
- [Here](#) are some links to virtual backgrounds you can use for photo booth, zoom or other virtual events from PBS Kids.
- The Fred Rogers Institute - <https://www.fredrogersinstitute.org/>

- *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: A Poetry Book of Mister Rogers* by Fred Rogers, Quirk Books, 2019 (This also includes the words from his songs and could be used as part of creative liturgy.)
- Mr. Rogers testifies to Congress about Public Television
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKy7ljRr0AA>
- [Who is My Neighbor: Learning to Love Like Jesus](#) Vacation Bible School (2019) from MennoMedia
- *The World According to Mister Rogers: Important Things to Remember* by Fred Rogers, Hachette Books, 2003

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP RESOURCES

As noted above [Walking in God's Path of Peace Intergenerational Worship](#) is a complete service outline.

Some Scripture Connections

Matthew 22:34-40	The Greatest Commandment
Luke 10:25-37	Who is my neighbor?
Luke 14:15-24	Story of the Great Dinner
Jeremiah 1:4-8	Before I formed you, I knew you
John 21:15-17	A story of Peter and Jesus
Acts 10:28-36	A story about Peter and Cornelius
Genesis 33:1-11	A story two twin brothers
Deuteronomy 10:17-21	A story of the Hebrew people

Hymn Suggestions

[Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal](#), Westminster John Knox, 2013 (GTG)

God of the Sparrow (GTG 22)

For the Fruit of All Creation (GTG 36)

Like a Mother Who has Born us (GTG 44)

Jesus, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (GTG 203)

Now Go in Joy (GTG 745)

When the Poor Ones (GTG 762)

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound (GTG 766)

What Is the World Like (GTG 771)

[Jesus, Teach Us to Be Neighbors](#) (New Hymn)

Office of Christian Formation: www.pcusa.org/formation

Office of Theology and Worship: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/theology-and-worship/>

Office of Compassion, Peace & Justice: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/>

March 2023

