

CHURCH OF THE MASTER 175TH ANNIVERSARY COLLECTION

STORIES OF BELONGING

In 2026, we are celebrating the 175th anniversary by creating a booklet comprised of contributions by members of our community. Happy Birthday, Church!

This celebration will be complete when all of us participate. We all belong. This booklet will contain our writing and our artwork.

Here is a menu of ideas that may help each of us create our own way to celebrate how this church makes us feel. These can be used as a piece of writing. Or they can be illustrated with a painting or drawing or use them to inspire a painting or drawing with or without words.

You are invited to use any of these or your own idea. We have underlined suggestions that may be most suited to PreK with help from an adult.

What is your favorite place at church? Why? How do you feel when you are there? How do you feel when you are on your way there? Does a favorite activity happen in that place? Describe that and why it means so much to you.

Fill in any of these blanks:

- a. When I am church, I want to
- b. When I am at church, my body wants to
- c. When I am at church, my face wants to
- d. When I am at church, my voice wants to
- e. When I am at church, my eyes want to
- f. When I am at church, my ears want to
- g. When I am at church, my arms want to
- h. When I am at church, my brain wants to

- i. When I am at church, I want to
- Name as many things as you can that only happen at church:
 - Create a birthday card for the church.
 - Use your imagination to answer any of these questions:
 - j. Our church is like an animal. What animal is it? Why?
 - k. Our church is like a song. Name that song and describe it.
 - l. Our church is like a dance. What dance is it? Does it make you want to dance along?
 - m. What kind of weather describes our church?
 - n. Close your eyes and imagine our church being painted all one color. Which one? Why? How does that make you feel?
 - Sometimes places have ads or slogans that describe them. For example, Disney is “the happiest place on earth.” Arby’s is “We have the meats.” State Farm Insurance says, “Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.” KFC’s slogan is “Finger lickin’ good.” Write an ad or slogan for our church that describes what kind of place it is. Or write a slogan for M&Ms. The candy M&Ms used to have this as a slogan: “melts in your mouth, not in your hand.” Fill in the blanks with as many ideas as you can. At our church, M&Ms _____ in your _____, not in your _____.

Please return your signed writing or artwork by May 7th. We will produce a printed booklet and a digital copy on the church website for the September 27th celebration.

Questions: Contact Beth Stroble at bjstroble@gmail.com