



# Faith in Action

## "The Nurturing Community"

"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others" Romans 12:4-5

**Lesson:** Not to be confused with talents or skills, spiritual gifts are better defined as abilities, passions or powers given by God, through the Holy Spirit, to every believer to help build and support the Church and her mission in the world. The Pauline epistles to the Corinthians, Ephesians and Romans recognize twenty gifts in all that range from administration and apostleship to servanthood and wisdom. The diversity of God's gifts is not to set us apart or create spiritual hierarchies, but rather to strengthen the Body of Christ, while glorifying its one Source, through our multiplicities as God's children.

### To Know Them is to Love (and USE) Them

We can't expect to use our spiritual gifts if we don't know what it is God has given us! So, this week spend some family downtime unwrapping each members' gift with this spiritual gift assessment quiz.

[https://www.fumcr.com/June\\_8\\_-\\_Youth\\_Spiritual\\_GiftsTest.pdf](https://www.fumcr.com/June_8_-_Youth_Spiritual_GiftsTest.pdf)

And because good things also come in small packages,

<http://cozmtzion.weebly.com/uploads/9/9/1/6/991676/92739299-youth-spiritual-gifts-test-1.pdf>

offers a spiritual gifts test for your littlest disciples (K-6<sup>th</sup>).

But remember, as Leo Buscaglia wrote, *Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God.*

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[http://www.calvarypgh.com/docs/Spiritual\\_Gifts\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.calvarypgh.com/docs/Spiritual_Gifts_Assessment.pdf)

can help guide you in applying your gift to the Church and community.



***This week, put faith in action by...***

### GETTING STARTED

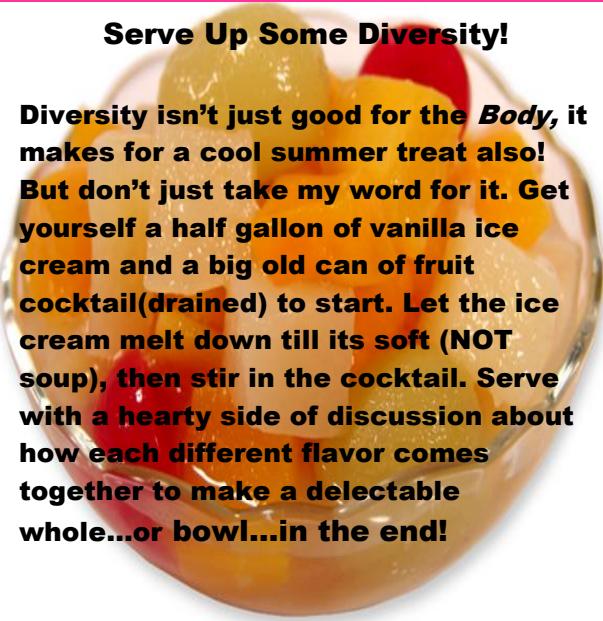
*It takes a village to raise a child...and run a church! Which means that this is a great time to start talking to your young disciple about all of the ministries UMC of Red Bank has to offer both within the Church and outside her doors. Surfing the website together can help show them what faith in action really looks like, while also providing potential outlets for service. Seasoning your conversation with affirming and encouraging words further reinforces the value of their God-given gifts in the life and ministry of God's family.*

### ✓ It out!

Looking to add some freshness and faith to your same old family game night? Then head on over to <https://www.worldvision.org/charitable-giving-news-stories/fun-kids-family-activities#gift-giving> and check out World Vision's Gift Giving game, complete with conversation starters and activities. It's the ONLY game in town where EVERYONE wins by paying their gifts forward to others!

### Serve Up Some Diversity!

**Diversity isn't just good for the *Body*, it makes for a cool summer treat also! But don't just take my word for it. Get yourself a half gallon of vanilla ice cream and a big old can of fruit cocktail(drained) to start. Let the ice cream melt down till its soft (NOT soup), then stir in the cocktail. Serve with a hearty side of discussion about how each different flavor comes together to make a delectable whole...or bowl...in the end!**



### Lego and Let God!

*In 1 Peter, we, the faithful, are called to be “living stones,” the interconnected building blocks whose active love for Christ and variety of gifts keep the church growing and vital.*

*This week, use your child’s Lego ingenuity and your faith to build a miniature church. As the church “grows,” talk about how each Lego locks together, giving support to the rest, in order to form a strong and solid structure. Use the different shape, size and color of each Lego to show how we, though different, all work together to form one church – the Body of Christ.*



### Defining Moments

*Helping your child understand the meaning of their spiritual gift is one of the best gifts you can give them. The United Methodist Church can help you unwrap the mystery with a practical spiritual gift directory which defines all 20 abilities in everyday language. They even offer poignant questions to help get you thinking about how spiritual gifts can be used in daily life, which can easily be modified for children.*

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/exploring-your-spiritual-gifts>

*After helping to define their gifts, define moments in your child’s life when you saw their gifts in action. Family photos and mementos can enrich and give deeper meaning to the conversation.*

### Just for Fun!

**This week why not unleash your inner creativity and have a little family fun by reinventing yourself into your very own spiritual superheroes whose powers are...your spiritual gifts, of course! Draw a comic book style self-portrait of your superhero complete with costume! And be sure to highlight your spiritual gift in action! Because as Peter Parker (AKA Spiderman) said, “With great power comes great responsibility.” And that goes for the power of our spiritual gifts too!**