

Dear Friend in Ministry,

We are thrilled you are interested in using Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas cards in your congregation. We believe this devotional will bring value to your families' and community's life this Advent season. There are many innovative ways in which these cards will help connect families to worship and the larger community in your congregation. A few ideas include:

- Placing cards in your worship activity bags or quiet bags for children to look through and play with during worship for the Advent and Christmas seasons.
- Using cards as centerpieces in your Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Not only will the cards spark interest and conversation, they will also create intergenerational conversation among young children, families, and other congregants.
- Cards and their content could be used as inspiration for children's sermons throughout Advent. Card could be shown to children and they could complete the activity or reading with the whole congregation, tying their church and home lives more closely together.
- An event could be organized during social hour, before or after church on November 25th the Sunday before Advent begins. At this event card decks could be handed out to families and intentional intergenerational conversations could be fostered to help children and families feel apart of the larger church community.
- This free, downloadable promotional pack is full of resources to help make the most of Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas cards in your congregation. This promotional pack includes: bulletin inserts, PowerPoint slides, posters, sign-up sheets, labels, coloring sheets, full color postcards, coloring sheet postcards and a note for parents with tips and games to use with the cards.

We hope that Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas cards enhance your congregation's observance of all of Advent and Christmas. We would love to hear about and see all of the ways in which you used these cards. Please share with us through our Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/augsburgfortress/

Many blessings to you and your ministry in this season of waiting, hope and love.



FILE INDEX

1. **01_Bulletin-Insert.pdf** - A bulletin insert created for you to print and insert with your weekly church bulletins leading up to Advent. The left side encourages families to purchase *Families Celebrate Advent & Christmas 2018-2019* from Augsburg Fortress or through Amazon. The right side is useful for congregations who are asking members to sign up and planning to place a larger order to so your church can take advantage of the quantity discount available from Augsburg Fortress. *Quantity discounts are not available through Amazon.*
2. **02_Promotional-Posters.pdf** - This file contains a few options for promotional posters. The first poster encourages families to purchase their own copies. The second and third poster include a sign up form so your church can order with quantity discount from Augsburg Fortress.
3. **03_Promotional-Slide.pdf** - This file contains two slide options for promotion similar to the posters and bulletin inserts.
4. **04_Labels.pdf** - Labels designed to be edited, printed, and placed on the cards.
5. **05_Postcards.pdf** - Editable postcards for thank you, announcements, worship reminders, or check ins. Black and White Postcards can be colored by students and sent to loved ones or members of your congregation. Designed to be printed on Avery 5689.
6. **06_Letter-to-Families.pdf** - A letter from you to be given to families with the cards. You are welcome to print and use this letter or use the content for inspiration for your own letter.
7. **07_Coloring-Sheets.pdf** - Coloring sheets using some of the imagery on the cards. Make as many copies as you need for this season.

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