“Summertime! Summertime! Sum, Sum Summertime!”

Have you found ways to connect with families in your church this summer? Often times, families in our congregations scatter for a time. How can we connect with them and draw them in?

Vacation Bible School – Traditional, daytime or evening… or how about a weekend all ages event? A summer musical put together by the congregation for the community?

Summer Reading Challenge – Like we see the big thermometers when people are fundraising… Encourage Bible reading with individuals and families… track number of chapters read (or Bible stories for children)… perhaps a chapter a day for a month? Celebrate accomplishments at the end of the summer!

Put a map on the wall and encourage families to mark where they have visited as the summer progresses, welcome them back home and encourage families to tell where they saw God on their travels! (Notes/stories on the wall… or on a facebook page?)

How about a summer vegetable garden for the local food shelf?
These ideas were brought to you by the the Christian Education Network of the ELCA, formerly The Lutheran Association of Christian Educators (LACE). For more ideas and a network to brainstorm ideas, questions, and concerns, please consider joining! Go to [www.faithfulteaching.org](http://www.faithfulteaching.org) for more information or email the coordinator at lacecoordinator@faithfulteaching.org.

Our Vision is...

*Building a community which equips, encourages, and empowers those engaged in lifelong faith formation in a changing world by:*

- Providing resources, support and educational opportunities
- Facilitating communications and conversation
- Offering networking, idea sharing, and mutual support
- Nurturing spiritual growth

*Those involved in lifelong faith formation are encouraged to share in this vision through your membership —Join Today!*