

**New! First Christmas Milestone Moment**

**Christmas Tree Milestone Moment**

**Taking Faith Home Christmas Day Free Download**

**Lent 2017 - Frogs Without Legs**



## **Taking Faith Home Christmas Day Free Download**



This year Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. Many will worship on Christmas Eve but may not return to the sanctuary for a Christmas Day worship service. This does not mean there is no church because as we state in our five principles, *"Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church too!"*. We invite you to download this Taking Faith Home and either place printed copies in the Christmas Eve bulletin or



## **New! First Christmas Milestone Moment**

A child's first Christmas provides an opportunity for family to gather and recognize the very first time a child will experience the joys of Christmas and hear the stories told of the birth of Jesus. It is a good time to revisit family rituals and involve the entire family, from parents to siblings to grandparents to great-grandparents to neighbors and friends to celebrate this wonderful occasion.

This Milestone Moment includes an outline for the Four Key Faith Practices which encourages growing in our faith by recognizing the home and family gatherings as church, too. A simple five-step structure is also included to establish a solid base for faith formation.

This Milestone Moment is reproducible and is a wonderful way to encourage parents and grandparents to provide a faith-filled moment in the home as they gift the newest member of the family with a first Christmas ornament.

*"The more we observe what is happening in our everyday lives and seek God's presence, the more we see places and times where a devotion in hand can be a resource that brings together family and friends to recognize and observe God's presence among them, be thankful, and pray together. I wrote this Milestone Moment after taking a*

send in an email to encourage a devotion time in homes on Christmas day.

[Click here to download.](#)

## Lent 2017 Frogs Without Legs

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1st. Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear for Lent (Lectionary Year A) has been revised and updated and is available to complement the [Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear](#) source book. This 130 page reproducible workbook offers a thematic presentation of Lent that will help lead worshipers, congregational leaders, families, small groups, and Bible study participants into a deeper experience of the life of the church that partners the home and congregation in ministry. This series offers the following: Weekly themes: recommended Bible texts; sermon helps; family and small group caring conversations and service suggestions; devotional prayers for the week; short readings from the *Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear* book; and five skits for introducing the Four Key Faith Practices.

[Click here to order download.](#)

[Click here to order CD and one book.](#)

[Click here to order Leader Package](#)

*meal to our neighbors who had a beautiful baby girl in October. They were thrilled! Then I thought of a few of my friends who have new grandchildren this year." - Debbie Streicher*

[Click here for the \\$2.95 download.](#)



### Christmas Tree Milestone Moment

The Christmas Tree Milestone Moment can be used to celebrate setting up the Christmas tree during the season of Advent. The custom of an indoor Christmas tree was introduced in Germany in the 16th century. Legend tells us that the evergreen was chosen and decorated with candles to represent God's creation and the gift of God's Son as the Light of the World. This tradition is continued today as we use evergreen trees, strings of lights, and ornaments to decorate the tree in our homes as a faith formation ritual and tradition to be handed down from one generation to the next.

[The Christmas Tree Milestone Moment](#) is a resource for the home as a reminder of God's presence as we decorate the tree each year.

*Suggestion:* Download the [Christmas Tree Milestone Moment](#), make copies, place in a gallon size plastic bag along with a special ornament (perhaps a nativity or Jesus ornament), and invite families to take a bag home and use it with family while putting up the tree. Ask them to take pictures. Then as a follow-up, perhaps after New Year's Day, gather households to tell stories about their experience with using the Milestone Moment and share pictures.

***"Grow the church by growing people in faith."***

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*The Milestones Ministry Mission is to provide congregations and households with resources and coaching services to nurture the Christian faith and reach out to others with the love of God in Christ.*

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