

ഈ വർഷം ഏപ്രിലിലെ ഈ വർഷം ഏപ്രിലിലെ

# Know Chocolate for Lent

A Resource for Congregations

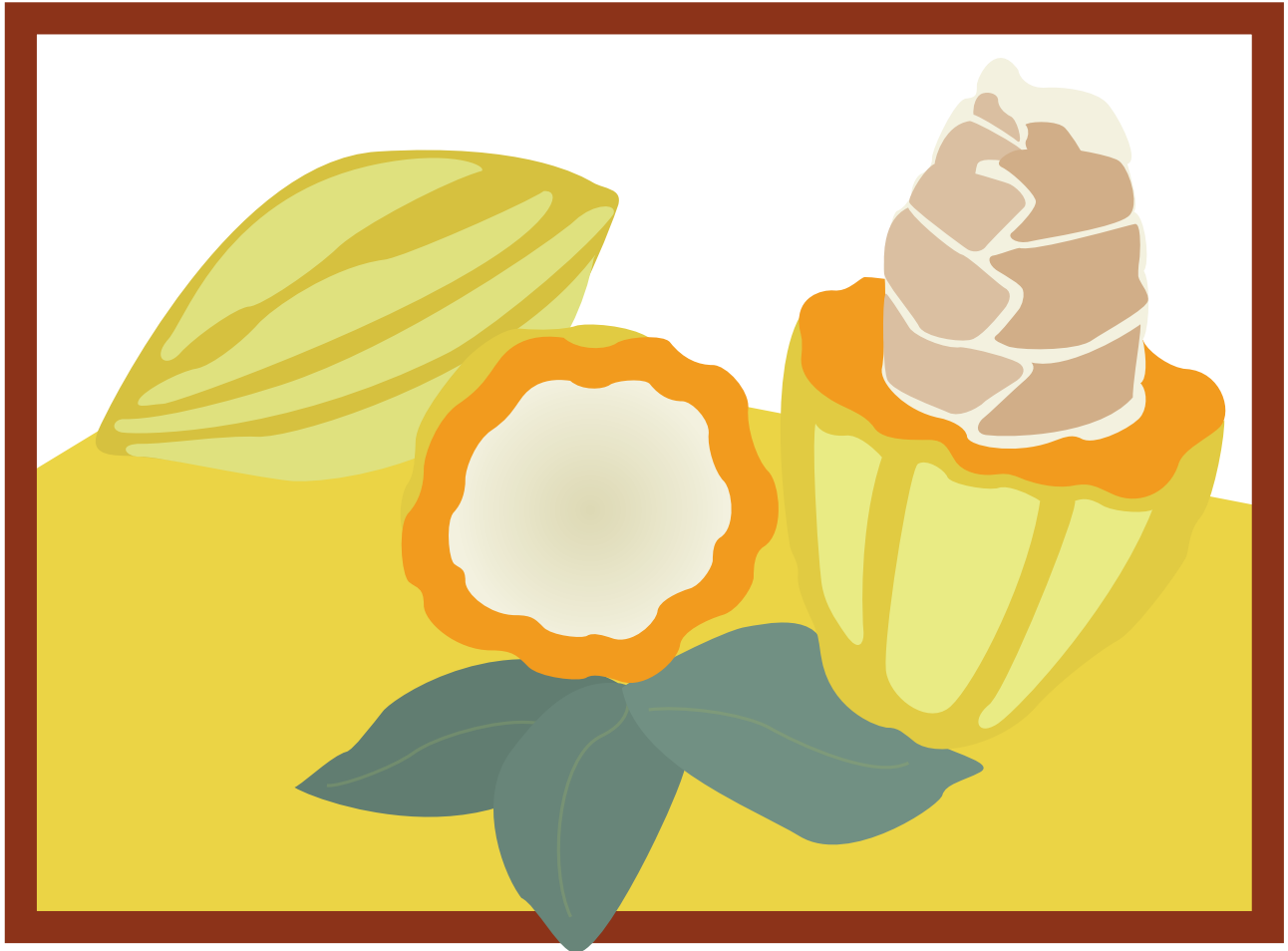


ഈ വർഷം ഏപ്രിലിലെ ഈ വർഷം ഏപ്രിലിലെ

Anna L. Liechty & Phyllis Vos Wezeman

# Know Chocolate for Lent

## A Resource for Congregations



# Table of Contents

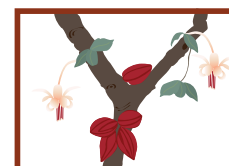
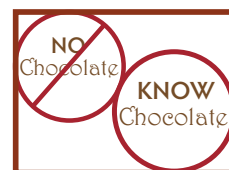
## 7 Introduction

## 9 Worship

- 11 Overview
- 11 Components
  - 11 Altar or Worship Center Arrangement
  - 11 Banner or Posters
  - 12 Children's Messages
  - 12 Scripture
  - 13 Sermons
  - 14 Teaching Tools
- 15 Supplies
- 15 Advance Preparation
  - 15 Banner or Posters
  - 15 Worship Center Arrangement
- 15 Leadership
- 15 Enhancements
- 16 Children's Messages
  - 17 Ash Wednesday: Know What
  - 19 First Sunday in Lent: Know Where
  - 21 Second Sunday in Lent: Know How
  - 23 Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which
  - 25 Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When
  - 27 Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why
  - 29 Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So
  - 31 Maundy Thursday: Know By
  - 33 Good Friday: Know That
  - 35 Easter Sunday: Know Who

## 37 Education

- 39 Overview
  - 39 Lent
  - 39 Easter
- 41 Learning Activities
  - 41 Adult Study
    - 41 Overview
    - 41 Viewing Guide for *Chocolat*
    - 43 Week One: Knowing What to Give Up
    - 44 Week Two: Knowing How to Give
    - 45 Week Three: Knowing Whom We Worship
    - 46 Week Four: Knowing without Judging
    - 47 Week Five: Knowing How to Receive
    - 48 Week Six: Knowing Whom We Follow
  - 51 Children's Programs



# Table of Contents

---

- 53 Women's Retreat – A Chocolate Feast: Celebrating God's Goodness
  - 53 Overview
  - 55 Worship
    - 55 Preparation
    - 57 Leader's Script
    - 61 Participant's Guide
    - 63 Reader's Scripture Selections

## **65 Nurture**

- 67 Family Devotions
  - 67 Overview
  - 69 Ash Wednesday: Know What
  - 71 First Sunday in Lent: Know Where
  - 73 Second Sunday in Lent: Know How
  - 75 Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which
  - 77 Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When
  - 79 Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why
  - 81 Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So
  - 83 Maundy Thursday: Know By
  - 85 Good Friday: Know That
  - 87 Easter Sunday: Know Who

## **89 Enhancements**

- 91 Banner or Posters
- 92 Illustrations/Patterns
  - 92 Ash Wednesday: Know What
  - 93 First Sunday in Lent: Know Where
  - 94 Second Sunday in Lent: Know How
  - 95 Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which
  - 96 Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When
  - 97 Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why
  - 98 Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So
  - 99 Maundy Thursday: Know By
  - 100 Good Friday: Know That
  - 101 Easter Sunday: Know Who

## **103 Resources**

- 105 Chocolate's Religious Roots
- 105 Historical Timeline of Chocolate
- 107 Scripture

## **109 About the Authors**

- 109 Anna L. Liechty
- 109 Phyllis Vos Wezeman

## **110 Limited Use License**

## Introduction

*Know Chocolate for Lent: A Resource for Congregations* offers a thematic approach for communicating the message of the Church Seasons of Lent and Easter. *Know Chocolate for Lent* uses the growing and manufacturing process of chocolate as a metaphor for the growth of faith and discipleship in the Christian life. Lent is an appropriate time for reflection and study so that believers comprehend the significance of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. *Know Chocolate for Lent* helps congregations reflect on the significance of the gifts that they often take for granted—the gift of chocolate and the gift of faith.

Through their participation, people of all ages will experience the connections between the growing process of chocolate and the growing process of being a Christian. They will connect God's gift of the rainforest and God's gift of the Church. In addition, they will understand that what they often take for granted—whether it is chocolate or faith—is much more satisfying when they know the story behind the traditions they celebrate.

An overview of the components of *Know Chocolate for Lent: A Resource for Congregations* for the six weeks of Lent as well as the special days of Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday is provided.



# Introduction

Week	Word	Theme	Scripture	Chart	Chocolate
Ash Wednesday	Know What	Know What we often take for granted	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	NO Chocolate/ KNOW Chocolate	Chocolate
First Sunday in Lent	Know Where	Know Where the best growth occurs	Mark 1:9-15 1 Peter 3:18-22	World map of chocolate-producing regions	Chocolate kisses Wrappers from chocolate products
Second Sunday in Lent	Know How	Know How being different is a blessing	Mark 8:31-38 Romans 4:13-25	Cacao tree with blossoms and pods	M&M'S®
Third Sunday in Lent	Know Which	Know Which part of life is most important	John 2:13-22 1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Open cacao pod revealing seeds	Chocolate covered cacao or coffee beans
Fourth Sunday in Lent	Know When	Know When it's time to share good news	John 3:14-21 Ephesians 2:1-10	Cacao beans ready for fermenting	Hot chocolate mix
Fifth Sunday in Lent	Know Why	Know Why health benefits both body and soul	Luke 17:6-7 Hebrews 11:1-3	Dried cacao beans	Dark chocolate bars
Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm/Passion)	Know So	Know So choices can be based on wisdom	Matthew 21:1-11 Philippians 2:5-11	Crushed cacao beans	Chocolate mini-bars
Maundy Thursday	Know By	Know By remembering Jesus' words and deeds	John 13:21-30 1 Corinthians 11:23-26	Advertisement for heart-shaped box of chocolates	Heart-shaped box of chocolates
Good Friday	Know That	Know That something bitter can make things better	John 19:16-18 Hebrews 19:19-23	Symbol for fair trade chocolate	Fair trade chocolate
Easter Sunday	Know Who	Know Who calls to us in faith	John 20:1-18 1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Final product	White chocolate bunny, cross, egg, or lamb

## Overview

## Components

- Altar or Worship Center Arrangement
- Banner or Posters
- Children's Messages
- Scripture
- Sermons
- Teaching Tools

## Supplies

## Advance Preparation

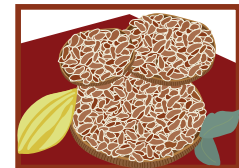
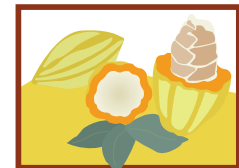
- Banner or Posters
- Worship Center Arrangement

## Leadership

## Enhancements

## Children's Messages

- Ash Wednesday: Know What
- First Sunday in Lent: Know Where
- Second Sunday in Lent: Know How
- Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which
- Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When
- Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why
- Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So
- Maundy Thursday: Know By
- Good Friday: Know That
- Easter Sunday: Know Who



*Know Chocolate for Lent: A Resource for Congregations* provides the focus for a wide variety of seasonal experiences including: creating visuals, decorating worship centers, providing special holiday services, preaching sermons, reading Scripture, sharing children's messages, and making visual and concrete the goodness of God's gifts. In addition to weekly worship helps, the book includes family devotions and activities for the six Sundays and the special days of Lent and Easter.

In order to use the thematic approach offered in *Know Chocolate for Lent*, the committee or people coordinating the Lent and Easter programming and decorating must adapt the elements provided to best fit the individual congregation's needs. Any or all of the following components may be used to enhance the preparation for and the celebration of the resurrection of Christ.

### Components

#### Altar or Worship Center Arrangement

A visual display could be created as a focal point for worship during Lent and Easter. One possibility would be to design a rainforest environment as a background for the altar or worship center arrangement. Each week the symbol suggested in the Chart portion of the children's message—and provided as an illustration/pattern in the Enhancements section of this resource—could be added to the display. As an alternative or an addition to the graphics, actual photos or scientific models of the symbols could be used. Consideration must be given to the dimensions of the sanctuary when determining size and placement of the display.

#### Banner or Posters

Illustrations for the symbols suggested in the Chart portion of the children's messages are included in the Enhancements section of this resource. Use these graphics to create a banner or a set of posters for the special days and Sundays of the seasons of Lent and Easter. Each visual helps to reinforce the theme for the day and serves as a reminder of the lesson. They include:

Ash Wednesday: Know What

NO Chocolate/KNOW Chocolate

First Sunday in Lent: Know Where

World map depicting chocolate-producing regions

Second Sunday in Lent: Know How

Cacao tree with blossoms and pods

Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which

Open cacao pod revealing seeds

Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When

Cacao beans ready for fermenting

Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why

Dried cacao beans

Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So

Crushed cacao beans



# Worship Overview

---

Maundy Thursday: Know By

Advertisement for heart-shaped box of chocolates

Good Friday: Know That

Symbol for fair trade chocolate

Easter Sunday: Know Who

Final product—white chocolate bunny, cross, egg, or lamb

## Children's Messages

Ten children's messages are included, one each for the six Sundays of Lent, plus the four special days of Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. The messages may be given as a part of the morning worship service, used as a segment of Children's Church, or offered as devotions for Sunday School classes or mid-week programs. If the Ash Wednesday message is not used on that day, be sure to incorporate the introduction to the theme and the explanation for the season into the previous Sunday's children's sermon or into the children's message for the First Sunday in Lent.

Each children's message outline contains several sections. They include:

Challenge

Conveys the theme of the story as it relates to the week's Lent or Easter message.

Chapter

Lists the Scripture readings that focus on the theme.

Chart

Provides the symbol connected with the theme.

Chocolate

Suggests the chocolate items to offer to participants.

Chat

Offers a suggested script for the children's sermon and a prayer to conclude the children's time.

## Scripture

Scripture lessons for the Sundays and special days of Lent and Easter are taken from the Gospels and the Epistles. All themes correlate with, but are not based on, the Revised Common Lectionary passages for Years A, B, and C. They include:

Ash Wednesday: Know What

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

First Sunday in Lent: Know Where

Mark 1:9-15

1 Peter 3:18-22

Second Sunday in Lent: Know How

Mark 8:31-38

Romans 4:13-25

Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which

John 2:13-22

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When

John 3:14-21  
Ephesians 2:1-10

Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why

Luke 17:6-7  
Hebrews 11:1-3

Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So

Matthew 21:1-11  
Philippians 2:5-11

Maundy Thursday: Know By

John 13:21-30  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Good Friday: Know That

John 19:16-18  
Hebrews 10:19-23

Easter Sunday: Know Who

John 20:1-18  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

### Sermons

Each theme may be used as a springboard for developing a sermon appropriate to the week's emphasis. They include:

Ash Wednesday: Know What

Know What we often take for granted  
Our Lenten commitment to "know chocolate" challenges us to recognize that we often take life's best gifts for granted—whether it is chocolate or God's loving presence.

First Sunday in Lent: Know Where

Know Where the best growth occurs  
Our Lenten commitment to "know chocolate" challenges us to acknowledge God's plan for providing growing conditions—both in the rainforest and in the Church.

Second Sunday in Lent: Know How

Know How being different is a blessing  
Our Lenten commitment to "know chocolate" challenges us to embrace the differences that make God's creation unique—both for the cacao tree and for the Christian disciple.

Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which

Know Which part of life is most important  
Our Lenten commitment to "know chocolate" challenges us to envision the potential for changing the world—both with chocolate and with God's love.

Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When

Know When it's time to share good news  
Our Lenten commitment to "know chocolate" challenges us to share goodness with the world—both the recipes for chocolate delicacies and God's good news of Jesus Christ.

# Worship Overview

---

## Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why

Know Why health benefits both body and soul

Our Lenten commitment to “know chocolate” challenges us to understand that God wants us to be healthy—both physically and spiritually.

## Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So

Know So choices can be based on wisdom

Our Lenten commitment to “know chocolate” challenges us to distinguish the genuine from the imitation—both in types of chocolates and in those we choose to follow.

## Maundy Thursday: Know By

Know By remembering Jesus’ words and deeds

Our Lenten commitment to “know chocolate” challenges us to remember those we love on special occasions—both with gifts of chocolate and with gifts of bread and cup.

## Good Friday: Know That

Know That something bitter can make things better

Our Lenten commitment to “know chocolate” challenges us to accept that God can use what is bitter to produce something good—both in the taste of chocolate and in the life of Jesus.

## Easter Sunday: Know Who

Know Who calls us to follow in faith

Our Lenten commitment to “know chocolate” challenges us to learn the difference that can happen when we are open to change—just like the process that can make white chocolate or the miracle of resurrection that can make new life.

## Teaching Tools

In addition to the weekly Chart, or illustration, associated with the theme for Ash Wednesday, the six weeks of Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, an additional teaching tool may be part of the presentation for the children’s message. In addition, a chocolate item is offered to the participants after the closing prayer. They include:

### Ash Wednesday: Know What

Chocolate kisses

Wrappers from chocolate products

### First Sunday in Lent: Know Where

Milk chocolate bars

### Second Sunday in Lent: Know How

M&M’S®

### Third Sunday in Lent: Know Which

Chocolate covered cacao or coffee beans

### Fourth Sunday in Lent: Know When

Hot chocolate mix

### Fifth Sunday in Lent: Know Why

Dark chocolate bars

### Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday): Know So

Chocolate mini-bars