



**WALK WITH
THE
ANIMALS**

**WELCOME TO
WALK WITH THE ANIMALS**

The following PDFs represent the opening pages of the 12 chapter manual (over 100 pages of information) for this event. They will give you an overview of the purpose and plan designed for *Walk with the Animals*. The details, forms, charts, etc. are found in the chapters following these PDF pages.

If you wish additional information or if you have any questions,
please call 1-800-669-0887.

© 2006 Kremer Publications, Inc.



OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

(Read first)

This Overview and Introduction will provide a general presentation of this program. Most areas covered here will be handled in greater detail.

THE PURPOSE

For the past 50-plus years, many Christian churches have reached out into the local community each summer with a Vacation Bible School program. At first, these courses were intended especially for children, and often ran up to ten days. Many publishers (including Kremer Publications) continue to produce these materials with relative success. Some churches have begun to schedule their VBS as an evening event, which also serves to welcome youth and adults.

However, over the years this type of program has become more difficult for many congregations to provide. This is partially due to scheduling problems, budget restraints, the ever-growing problem of busy calendars for both children and teachers, and just a general weariness of doing the same thing each year.

Kremer Publications has studied this dilemma with the hope of producing a new form of outreach program that would be similar to the VBS curriculum (even using five Bible stories), that could be presented to all ages, and that would solve the scheduling problems of a five day curriculum. As a result we have created a one-day outdoor community event that reaches out to the community. It is designed to give churches an opportunity to invite the entire community—young and old alike—onto the church campus for one special day. For these few hours, visitors are entertained, fed, and presented with a delightful festival of fun, crafts, and shows, all prepared in a very non-threatening way. In other words, with the “Walk with the Animals” one day outreach, churches invite the community to an all-day, outdoor party, at no cost whatsoever to your visitors.

This event is planned to run about four or five hours, giving your guests an opportunity to come and go as they please, to stay for a free lunch, to make some

fun crafts with their kids, to play a few games, and to enjoy some interesting entertainment.

Yet there is an underlying purpose beneath this outreach project. This Christian kindness event will also give your church members an opportunity to offer God's Word to your community in some very unique and effective ways. These include Bible story puppet presentations, Bible skits, crafts, games, and numerous giveaways that share the church's love for the gospel's saving news of salvation. In a sense, you will be compressing your entire Vacation Bible School week into a one day event that is intended for all ages.

But how can such an undertaking become a reality? It sounds like a major project for any size congregation. The writers at Kremer Publications have looked at this program from all angles and written a church manual that includes details necessary to carry out this festival of outreach. Every aspect of the event is covered, including mapping out the church property, committee arrangements, food suggestions, puppet and skit scripts and costume patterns, detailed advice with advertising and marketing, and even logo art. We also provided a support ministry that will answer any questions that might arise during the planning process.

THE THEME

We needed a theme for the event! It had to be an appealing topic that would bring in interested visitors. The title chosen was *Walk with the Animals*. Animals are certainly an enjoyable topic for both young and old. This means that we will wrap everything in this one day event around the theme of animals:

- ...the Bible stories used in the skits and puppet shows all include animals such as Daniel in the Lion's Den, Elijah Fed by Ravens, Jonah and the Big Fish, and the Donkey that Spoke,
- ...the crafts are all animal related,
- ...and the activity books, coloring books, bookmarks, and other handouts continue to reflect the animal theme.

For added features, we even suggest inviting outside presenters such as a local veterinarian, pet store owner, farmer, dog trainer, etc. to help reinforce the theme.

But that's not all. We also suggest several fun booths for the children such as a fishing hole for the very young, face painting with our animal footprints, and even a "Jonah" dunk tank.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOUR CHURCH?

Although the church benefits are many, there are two main points that should be obvious:

First, your church members have a tremendous opportunity to put their faith into action. It is an ideal forum for



Christians to show their love for the Lord and their community. A program as this can truly motivate the entire church.

Second, it calls on all members to make this a reality, from the senior adults responsible for the mailings, and puppet production, to the youth who present the skits and puppet plays; from the men who grill the lunch to the women and children who help with the crafts. It becomes a team project. What a marvelous way to get an entire church to work together. And the results will be long remembered by your church and your community!

WHAT'S IN IT FOR THE COMMUNITY?

Walk with the Animals is also a tremendous blessing to the community. This program will give visitors an opportunity to enjoy themselves in community fellowship, and they will hear God's saving message and see the joy that can be found at the foot of the cross. They will see your church's joy in action—outside of the “intimidating” church walls. Perhaps they might even be compelled to return at a later time to see what takes place within those walls.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

This manual includes a number of important suggestions and details to help guide you in planning and presenting the *Walk with the Animals* event. Although we cannot cover each question and problem that might arise, we have made every attempt to guide you in resolving these problems. You will find a number of files, and sub-files that cover all areas of the program. Be certain to view all the files presented, including the sample pages, charts and forms.

WHAT ABOUT SUPPORT?

You are more than welcomed to speak with the authors at Kremer Publications (1-800-669-0887.) We are more than happy to lend our assistance or to hear your suggestions for future programs.

The “Acts 1:8 Ministry” has agreed to serve as a sounding board to help answer any questions you might encounter. This ministry, centered in Green Bay and Waukesha, Wisconsin, provides churches with a unique evangelism experience called “Performing Acts of Christian Kindness” or “P.A.C.K.” ministry. They are familiar with many of the problems that might be encountered with an event as this and would be happy to assist you. You may contact them by calling 920-494-2289 or E-mail them at info@acts18.org. (And while you are at it, check out their fascinating outreach program.)

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

A reliable committee is necessary, as is a minimum of meetings. To accomplish both objectives, it is recommended that you divide the various tasks and responsibilities into committees so that no single individual will be weighted down with an exceptionally large amount of work, and no one will be attending time-consuming meetings that do not deal with their area. At the head of the program is an Event Director. Next there will be eight committee leaders, each taking on his or her responsibilities. The committee leaders and the Event Director constitute the STRUCTURE COMMITTEE. (More details of each committee are on this CD.) Note: An Animal Logo coincides with each committee title.

COMMITTEE LEADERS:

EVENT DIRECTOR	This person serves as the head of the entire event and is ultimately responsible to see that all areas of the event are planned and carried out from the conception and selection of the Structure Committee to sending out the final Thank You cards.
 Fund Raising	FUND RAISING COMMITTEE This committee is responsible for projecting overall costs and seeing to it that they are properly funded. There will be costs incurred in several areas, including food, crafts, give-aways, publicity, staging, printing, etc. Several suggestions will be given regarding fund-raising and budgeting.
 Publicity	PUBLICITY COMMITTEE This committee will see to it that every possible avenue is explored to get word out about this event to both the congregation and the community. This is vital for a successful festival. Again, many suggestions will be offered to assist this committee. This work will be carried on in several levels of public notification, including: Media (Newspaper ads, cable television, community calendar, radio...) Church Generated (Doorknob hangers, posters for grocery stores, doctor's offices and local businesses, post cards, lawn signs, banners...) Many detailed suggestions are provided for you in the program.
 Construction	CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE The Construction Committee is responsible for making and setting up all necessary areas including stage, puppet theater, tents for food and crafts, etc. They will also be responsible for the take-down of such items.
 Layout	LAYOUT COMMITTEE This committee's sole work will be to map out the area to be used. Set location, sizing and crowd movement are all important. Additional considerations will be rest rooms, entrance, parking, police notification, etc.
 Technical	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE The technical committee is responsible for all technical items, including the sound system, and any other technical service that will be needed for the puppet theater, diorama, stage, etc.
 Entertainment	ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE This committee will oversee all entertainment including skits, puppet shows, costumed actors, plus securing outside presenters like pet store owners, dog training show, veterinarian talk, zoo keeper presentation, etc. This committee will also be responsible for scheduling the day's events. Many suggestions are included with this program.
 Food	FOOD COMMITTEE There will be a separate committee for planning and preparing the food. Costs and work force will need to be considered, plus careful planning in quantity and storage.
 Craft	CRAFT COMMITTEE This group will oversee the craft tables. Here again plans will need to be made as to cost, availability, scheduling help, etc. Many craft suggestions are included on this disk.

EVENTS

Walk with the Animals is designed to bring about a festival-like atmosphere on your church campus. Every church has a different size and location situation. Obviously a large green area or parking area that can be roped off will work best. Although we give many suggestions on mapping out the area, every church will need to measure the church property to provide a proper area for the event. A rough estimate of people attending will also be necessary when designing the layout area. In some communities it may be possible to team up with other congregations to share the best facility available.

The following “stations” will be necessary to present a complete event to your community:

1 MAIN STAGE

This area will be used for skits, area presenters, choral presentations, church band, etc. It should be a raised platform with a sound system. A diagram for construction is provided with this manual.

2 PUPPET THEATER

This theater will have presentations taking place throughout the day. It should also have a sound system. There is a diagram for constructing your own puppet theater.

3 DIORAMA

This should be an enclosed walk-in area in which a Bible story will be presented to a small audience.

4 FOOD COURT

A tent can set off the area where FREE food is served to the guests. Here grilled foods will work great in summertime. Tables and seating will be necessary.

5 CRAFT TENT

This area with tables is set up to give the little visitors an opportunity to print a T-shirt or make some other FREE craft items they can take home with them.

MISCELLANEOUS AREAS

Several additional areas may be added if room permits. These could include a booth for face painting, a fishing pond, an area for pony rides, a bingo tent, display areas for local businesses such as pet stores or Christian book stores, or even a roped off area for a local farmer to bring baby petting animals.

EVENT DIRECTOR NOTES



NOTES for the Event Director...

“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 who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others...We have different gifts, according to the grace given us...If it is leadership, let him give diligently.” Romans 12:4-8.

You are about to begin work on a one-day community outreach event. This event is designed to provide your church with an opportunity to reach out into your community and say “welcome” to those living in your area. It should be a fun-filled event for both your congregation members as well as your visitors.

We have provided this manual to guide you through the thought process and to present you with some practical suggestions and details regarding this event. We have made every attempt to make the planning simple yet thorough. We tried to leave “no stone unturned” as we explored the many angles that needed to be addressed.

As Event Director, you are responsible to see that committee leaders are chosen, meetings are scheduled, work progresses, and the event is presented with as little disruption as possible. You will also make a detailed follow-up after the event and keep records for the next Event Director.

Obviously there is no way that we can lay out your particular church property, know what types of grilled food your region of the country enjoys, know what craft projects would work best, realize the manpower you have available, or understand how much your church budget can handle. However, we have provided an outline which should at least get you and your committees’ creative juices flowing. In other words, you and your leaders must “think outside the box” in some or several of these areas. That’s when the real fun begins, and your project begins to take shape.



A WORD ABOUT THIS PROGRAM – READ IT THOROUGHLY
As Event director you are responsible for the oversight of this project. PLEASE be certain to read through ALL of the material provided on this disk. Kremer Publications has made every effort to make this program manual easy to follow. However, there are many hints, suggestions, and ideas contained throughout the manual. We do not want you to miss any of them.

A WORD ABOUT OUTREACH – A POINT TO STRESS TO YOUR COMMITTEES
It is obvious that a major reason for this event is to share your love for Jesus with your community. That is certainly in keeping with Christ’s command to go and teach all nations. This objective should be stressed in every meeting and be at the forefront of each committee’s plans. However, with that being said, we would issue a word of caution here as well. There is another reason for this event which

should not be overlooked. That is to provide an enjoyable day of food, fun and entertainment for your guests and visitors. You must be certain never to “overwhelm” your guests with an “in your face” type of evangelism. You do not want the guests to be met with church advertising at every turn. Some well meaning church members may feel that now that you have them on “your turf” it’s time to make that evangelism call. Your guests already know it is your church that is sponsoring this event. You should be ready to give printed information about your ministry, but do not force it on anyone. Be ready to tell those interested about your church, but do not make everyone go through an “evangelism speech.” A high pressure approach simply will not work in this setting.

THIS MANUAL

You have permission to print out any pages you wish as many times as you need them.

This manual is divided into several sections to make your job easier. The following is a brief overview of the chapters as they are presented. Whenever you see a (*) it means that page is a FORM or CHART that can be reproduced and given to your committee leaders.

Chapter 1: OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION (Read First)

- The Purpose**
- The Theme**
- What’s in it for Your Church?**
- What’s in it for Your Community?**
- What Is Included?**
- What about Support?**

Chapter 2: COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Why Have Committees?**
- Choosing Committee Leaders**
- Some Suggestions on Committee Formation**
- When to Meet?**
- *Committee Formation**
- *Committee Leaders**
- *Structure Committee Assignments**
- *Committee Contacts**
- *Fund Raising Contacts**
- *Technical Contacts**
- *Publicity Contacts**
- *Entertainment Contacts**
- *Construction Contacts**
- *Food Contacts**
- *Entertainment Contacts**
- *Craft Contacts**

***Volunteer Sign-Up**
***Notes**

Chapter 3: PLANNING YOUR CALENDAR

Defining This Program

Theme

The Event

Three Phases

Calendar Forms/Printouts

***Important Dates**

***Detailed Calendar**

***"Dear Member" Letter**

Chapter 4: FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

Church Budgets

The Committee

Paying for Expenses

Seven Suggestions

***Cost Considerations**

Chapter 5: PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

The Goals

The Plan

The Committee

The Details

Attachments

Logos

Sample Newspaper Ad

Sample Newspaper Insert

Sample Doorknob Hanger

Sample Press Release

Sample Web Page

Chapter 6: CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

The Committee

The Stage

The Puppet Theater

The Diorama

Other Considerations

Chapter 7: LAYOUT COMMITTEE

The Committee

Rural vs. Urban

How Much Space Is Enough?

Some Suggestions

Sample Maps

Chapter 8: TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

- The Committee**
- The Plan**
- Some Suggestions**

Chapter 9: ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

- The Committee**
- Skits**
 - The Stage**
 - Time**
 - The Cast and Costumes**
 - Microphones**
- Puppet Theater**
 - The Theater**
 - Time**
 - Puppets**
 - Backdrop Designs**
 - Narrator**
 - Actors**
 - Microphones**
 - Handouts**
- The Diorama**
 - Costume**
 - Backdrop**
 - Entrance**
- Other “Milling” Characters**
- Other Fun Activities**
- Some Final Suggestions**
- Costume Patterns**
- Skit and Puppet Dialogue**
- Noah’s Diorama/Dialogue**

Chapter 10: FOOD COMMITTEE

- The Committee**
- Regulate Your Diners**
- What to Serve**
- Food Safety Considerations**
- Additional Thoughts**
- *Shopping Check Lists**

Chapter 11: CRAFTS COMMITTEE

- The Committee**
- The Set-up Area**
- The Crafts**

Chapter 12: FREE GIVEAWAYS, GIFTS, AND PRIZES

Why?

Welcome Table Entrance

Puppet Theater

Stage/Skits

Noah Diorama

Face Painting

T-Shirts/Iron-Ons

Mulling Characters

Food Tent Treats

Fish Pond

Bingo Prizes

Door Prize

At first glance, this might seem like a huge project, however the majority of the work must be done by the committees. An early start to the project will result in greater enjoyment and fewer problems on the day of the event.