

## New Church Day Cookies

### Note to Teachers and Parents

Among other uses, Sunday School can be used to help students feel involved with church, needed, useful, and appreciated. We want to encourage this experience, as one of our purposes is to lead students to enjoy being personally involved in helping the church serve others.

This project can be modified for at-home use, substituting the family instead of the church as the ones who will benefit from this service. Cookies could be a special after-worship treat or part of a New Church Day celebration.

### Prepare to Teach

**Easy Option:** Buy plain sugar cookies and premade red frosting and white frosting. Add red and white sprinkles if you have time to use them and clean them up during your lesson.

**Other options:** If you have extra time, find a frosting recipe that can be dyed red and white, buy the ingredients, and make the frosting with the students. Baking the cookies with the students is not recommended as cookies need to cool before they can be frosted. However, if you are doing this project at home and have time, you could bake the cookies as well.

Set out the cookies, frosting, plates, knives/spatulas and platter before your lesson. Give each student a certain number of cookies on a plate, and then let the ones who finish more quickly work on the remaining cookies. That way everyone decorates some cookies, and you can finish on time.

Set out card stock and supplies for making a sign to go with the cookies.

### Materials Needed

- plain sugar cookies
- red frosting
- white frosting
- optional red and white sprinkles
- plates on which to decorate cookie decorating (1 plate per kid)
- a table knife or spatula for spreading frosting, for each student
- a serving platter for finished cookies
- cardstock
- markers/colored pencils/pens

### Directions

1. When you present this project, tell students we get to do something special for everyone who came to church today. Emphasize the pleasure their work will bring to others and that their effort is valuable to/appreciated by the rest of the church community. Tell them that you don't have to be an adult to be able to serve others, both in and out of the church. Every kind, useful thing that anyone does, no matter how old they are, is important to others.

## Directions

2. Explain that New Church Day, June 19th, is the church's birthday. The cookies will be decorated with red and white, because red and white were chosen long ago as the New Church's colors. Some students may remember that the New Church flag is red and white. Red, which is a warm bright color, stands for love. The church has red as one of its colors because we want to encourage people to receive the Lord's love and pass it on to other people. The other New Church color is white, a pure clean color that stands for truth. The church wants to share the Lord's truth and encourage people to discover His truth for themselves.
3. Have the kids decorate the cookies and arrange on the platter.
4. Then have them make a sign with the card stock that says:

Happy New Church Day!

Cookies made by \_\_\_\_\_.

New Church colors are red for love and white for truth.

5. When your project is finished, have the students clean up. Point out to them that we all need to take care of the church and keep it clean and nice for each other. Church is not an experience provided by a few professionals for everyone else to enjoy if they feel like coming; the church experience is created by all of us working together and helping and serving each other.
6. Make sure the platters of cookies with the sign are laid out on the refreshments table after church. Make a plan for the clean-up of the platter and any leftover cookies after church.