Welcome to Messy Church @ home for May, below you will find some activity ideas, and ideas for a Celebration as we look at the story of Jesus calming the storm

**Boat crafts**

**Bottle top / foil pie case/ margarine tub boats**

![Boat craft images](image)

**You will need:** *bottle top, foil pie case, margarine tub, cocktail stick or straw, paper, Blu-tack or playdough*

- Use a bottle top, foil pie case or margarine tub as the boat, with a cocktail stick or straw as the mast and triangle(s) of paper as the sail(s).
- Piece or hole punch the sail(s) in two places and thread the mast through the sail.
- Attach the mast to base of boat with a blob of Blu-tack or playdough

**Balloon boats**

**You will need:** Container for the boat (e.g. mushroom tray), hole punch, plastic straw, rubber band, balloon, hot glue/Blu-tack /playdough, bath or paddling pool of water

Origami boats

You will need: Paper, (Optional felt tip pens/crayons, stickers to decorate)

Small Origami boat instructions
https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/easy-origami-boat-instructions-4057416

Larger Origami boat instructions

Origami boat competitions

1) Have a competition to see who can create the biggest storm. Place a paper boat in the middle of a table. Two competitors stand on either side of the table, and on ‘Go’ they each attempt to blow the boat off the opponent’s side of the table.

2) Have a boat race, line all the competitors’ boats up at end of a water tray/paddling pool/bath and on ‘Go’ they should attempt to propel their boat to other end by blowing through a straw.

Egg box boat

You will need: Bottom of egg box, card, lolly stick, felt tip pens/crayons

Template for figures & sail
**Fruit boats**

**Banana boats**

**You will need:** *Half a banana, half a strawberry, a Twiglet/French fries crisp or cocktail stick/part of barbeque skewer (mast) for each boat*

- Attached strawberry to the end of whatever you are using for your mast
- Insert other end of mast mid-way down length of banana

**Apple/pear boats**

**You will need:** *Half a cored apple or pear (boat), a cocktail stick, a triangle of paper, cheese slice or strips of fruit sweet belts (sail)*

- Skewer the cocktail stick through the sail material and secure into boat

As an alternative, tinned peaches, pears or apricots could be used

You may like to serve your fruit boats on a sea of jelly (Lime or Blackcurrant)

**Savory boats**

**You will need:** *mini peppers, Cream cheese, carrot*

For instructions see: [https://www.eatsamazing.co.uk/fun-food-for-kids/creative-food-tutorials/fun-snack-idea-mini-pepper-boats](https://www.eatsamazing.co.uk/fun-food-for-kids/creative-food-tutorials/fun-snack-idea-mini-pepper-boats)

As an alternative filler, humus could be used.

As an alternative to the carrot sail, you could use a tortilla chip crisp

**Storm Crafts**

**storm in a bottle**

**You will need:** *Transparent plastic bottle or jar with lid, glitter, water, food colouring (blue, green or black) Vegetable or baby oil, funnel (optional) Sellotape Super glue/hot melt glue gun (optional)*

- Fill bottle/jar half full of water, add a small amount of food colouring at a time until you get the desired colour.
- Add glitter and fill bottle/jar up to about 5cm from the top.
- Securely attached lid to bottle/jar, you (adults) may wish to use super glue or a glue gun for this
- Cut out a boat shaped from paper and attached to the base of the outside of the bottle/jar with double back loops of Sellotape
Rain stick

You will need: kitchen roll, coloured paper/card, glue stick, scissors, Sellotape or coloured electrical tape, stickers, fillers (polystyrene chips, pasta, rice, dried peas/lentils, beads).

- Glue sheet of paper around kitchen roll
- Draw around the end of the kitchen roll tube onto a sheet of paper to produce two circles.
- Then cut a larger circle around these circles. Cut strips from the edge of the circles to the smaller circle in the middle, then fold the strips inwards and glue one of the circles to one end of the kitchen roll.
- Criss-crossing Sellotape/electrical tape around to secure the end to the kitchen roll.
- Fill Kitchen roll ⅔ full of filler material
- Cover remaining open end of the kitchen roll with the remaining circle which you cut out earlier, glue in place and secure with Sellotape/electrical tape.
- Decorate with strips or shapes of cut up paper, or stickers

Stormy and Calm collage

You will need: Large piece of paper, collage material (e.g. paint, tissue paper, tin foil, fabric, cotton wool), scissors, glue stick/PVA glue, felt tip pens/crayons.

You may like to fold your piece of paper in half and make a contrasting collage, between the chaos of the storm and the calm restored as Jesus told the storm to stop.

If you are painting a storm, you could write in wax crayon ‘Be still’ before painting. The wax crayon will repel the paint and stand out.

Paper plate boat scene

You will need: White paper plate, blue paint in two tones, paper/card, lolly stick, glue stick, scissors, sharp/craft knife

See instructions at: https://craftulate.com/paper-plate-boat-scene

You may like to split the scene with half stormy, half calm
**Jesus calms the storm picture**

**You will need:** Blue paper, white paper, glue stick/PVA glue, scissors, barbeque skewers, brown paper & grey Paper (Optional), Sellotape (Optional)

See instructions at: [https://paththroughthenarrowgate.com/jesus-calms-the-storm-craft/](https://paththroughthenarrowgate.com/jesus-calms-the-storm-craft/)

**Jesus calms the storm model**

**You will need:** Card, split pin, felt tip pens/crayons

See template & instructions at: [https://biblecraftsbyjenny.weebly.com/uploads/1/0/1/2/101295324/jesus_calms_the_storm_brad_wheel_pdf.pdf](https://biblecraftsbyjenny.weebly.com/uploads/1/0/1/2/101295324/jesus_calms_the_storm_brad_wheel_pdf.pdf)

**Anchors**

**You will need:** long (17cm x 2.5cm) and shorter strips (12.5cm x 2.5cm) of paper/card, semi circles of paper/card, hole punch, glue stick, ribbon or string, a string line (Optional Felt tip pens/crayons, Tissue paper, stickers)

- Take a longer and a shorter piece of paper and glue them together to make a cross shape.
- Stick a semi circle on the bottom of the cross
- Hole punch and attach a loop of ribbon or string

- Decorate by colouring or with tissue paper/stickers
- Make into bunting by creating multiple anchors.

You may like to write words of hope and encouragement (e.g. Thank you, Keep safe, Be kind, Hope for the future) on your anchors to encourage others in your family or community if you hang them in a window.
Games for a large space/garden

Storm on the sea
You will need: Sheet, ball, people to play

- Play with a sheet and a small ball.
- The sheet is the sea and the ball is the boat.
- By moving the sheet up and down can you move the boat around the sea without it fall off.

Port and starboard
You will need: People to play, a volunteer to be the ‘Captain’

- The whole of your playing space is a boat.
- Assign one side as starboard (right), the other port (left), the back as the stern and the front as the bow.
- Appoint someone as ‘Captain’ The players must follow instructions from the captain as quickly as possible, who will instruct them to run to one part of the boat or give them other instructions.
- Other instruction may include the following which you may like to come up with your own actions/mines
  - Hoist or lower the sails
  - Pull the anchor up or down
  - Scrub the decks
  - Bail out the water.
- Instructions are shouted out fairly calmly initially, but when a storm is announced, the instructions get louder and faster until players are dashing everywhere and struggling to keep up.
- When the captain suddenly says, ‘Jesus is here, the storm has stopped. Everyone can sit and rest.’

Boat race
You will need: Two teams of players, large sheets of paper/newspaper, cardboard/folded newspaper

Cut out boat shapes from paper/newspaper and in teams, take turns to flap the boats across the playing space from one side of the ‘lake’ to the other, using fans made from cardboard or folded newspaper.
Man, the Boat game (An adaptation of the classic game ‘Islands’)

You will need: Boat shapes cut from paper/newspaper/cardboard, people to play, someone to decide when the ‘storms’ will strike

- Spread boat shaped pieces of paper/cardboard out around your playing space.
- Players circle the ‘boats’ until ‘storm!’ is shouted; they then must all jump onto a boat – anyone who can’t find one is out.
- After each round, remove a boat or tear off some paper/card so they get smaller. The winner is the person who gets to the last remaining boat or ‘piece’ of boat.

Talk Together:

- Talk about the weather’s ability to cause damage and destruction (Strong winds flattening trees and damaging buildings and heavy rain causing flooding)
- What is it like to be out in stormy weather?
- Have you ever been really frightened by the power of the weather?
- Talk about how if you are far out to sea there is little protection from the weather and the potential force of a storm.
- Have you ever been on a boat in bad weather?
- How would you feel if your work involved sailing on the sea in all sorts of weather?
- Talk about how when we face difficult times in our lives, it can feel we are facing a storm, causing disruption and upset in our lives.
- What sort of things in your life are like storms, making you anxious, scared and frightened?
- How do you cope with difficult times and what helps you face up to these and come through to better things?
- Who do you go to when you are frightened?
- Talk about the value of the love and care of family and friend, and the trusted support others can offer when we face difficult times.
Celebration

Listen to or why not join in with the song ‘My God is so big, so strong and so mighty’ - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77PP4kUsMjl which reminds us God made everything in the world.

Read the story of Jesus calming a storm from the Bible or a bible story book https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark%204%3A%2035-41&version=ICB

OR

View a presentation of the story (Click on slideshow tab)

Younger Children: http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lsc-jesus-storm/

Older Children: http://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-jesus-storm/

Watch: ‘Jesus calms the storm’ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzPwRXytr7U

Younger Children: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEAUHujq7nI

Older children: Jesus Calms the Storm! A Minecraft Mini-Movie https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tj3rGHVAQDg

Talk Together:

- Talk about how the disciples must have felt when the storm hit, and then how they felt when Jesus commanded the storm to stop
- What sort of things can we learn from the disciples’ responses to the storm and about who Jesus is?
- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus wants to help us face the storms of life and promises to never leave us, when we trust him?

Listen to or why not join in with the song – ‘Wonderful Lord’ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qZWkBZ2E2P which reminds us that Jesus watches over us and help us with our fears.
Prayer:

You will need: Paper and felt tip pens/crayons

On a piece of paper draw a stormy cloud, then write the names or draw those people in or around the cloud who you know who are finding life difficult at the moment, pray that they will know God’s care and help in some way

You may like to pray the following.

Lord Jesus, sometimes it’s easy for us to forget that you are there, even though you never actually leave us.

We pray for all those people we have put on our storm clouds.

We ask you to help them in their situations and pray they will be able to feel your love for them.

When times get tricky for us, help us to remember that you love us and that we should trust in you because you never leave us.

Thank you for always being there and looking after us. Amen

Say the ‘Lord’s Prayer’ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOugEQpcc_k

Why not join in with the actions

Listen to or why not join in with the song ‘Every step’ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZBhKp5_HwE which reminds us that God is with us, every step of our life’s journey