

## Thanksgiving Ideas

- 1) **Record a video diary.** A couple of Sundays before Thanksgiving, take a video camera, roam the halls and ask attendees what they're thankful for. Or set up a video confessional closet like on the reality TV shows. Show the clips in the service, laugh a little, and pass the Kleenex.
- 2) **Raise an Ebenezer (not Scrooge!).** Invite the congregation to build a monument to God's faithfulness with messages on paper-covered bricks or on a butcher-paper-covered wall.
- 3) **Give thanks Jewish style.** Using Psalm 136 as a model, invite worship attendees to take turns saying in one sentence a way God has blessed them. Then have the congregation respond after each one, "*His faithfulness is everlasting.*"
- 4) **Collect something.** Place a cornucopia on the table up front and invite worship attenders to stuff it with baby products for the crisis center or socks for the homeless shelter. Anything but squash.
- 5) **Reconnect.** The lull before the Christmas rush is a fine time to send notes to those who haven't been at church lately. Have a note-writing party and let them know that your church is thankful for them.
- 6) **Choir Effect.** Have the choir open the service by mixing themselves up in the pews amongst the congregation, and at a signal, standing up and singing their special number from there.