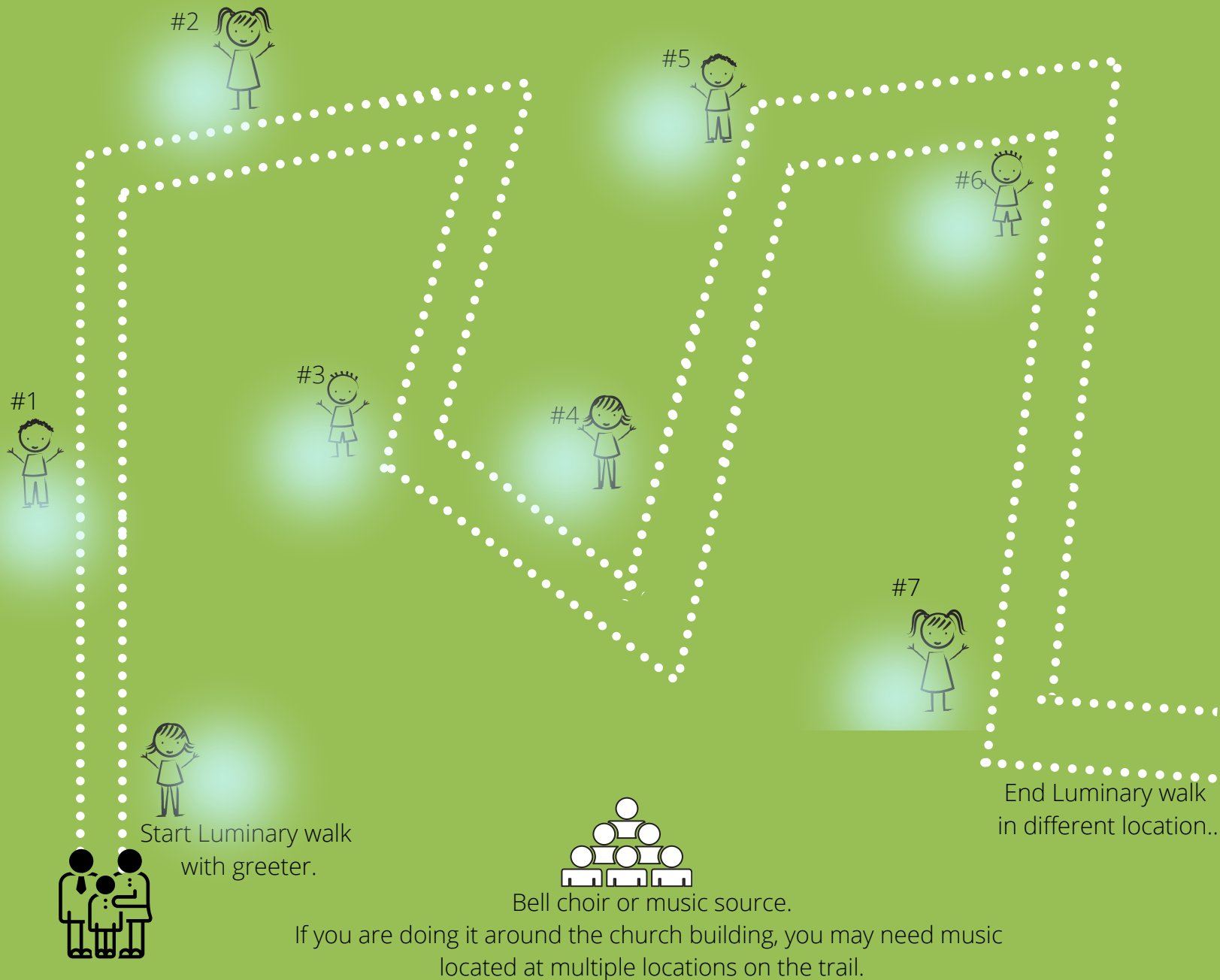


Luminaries lighting our path to Nativity

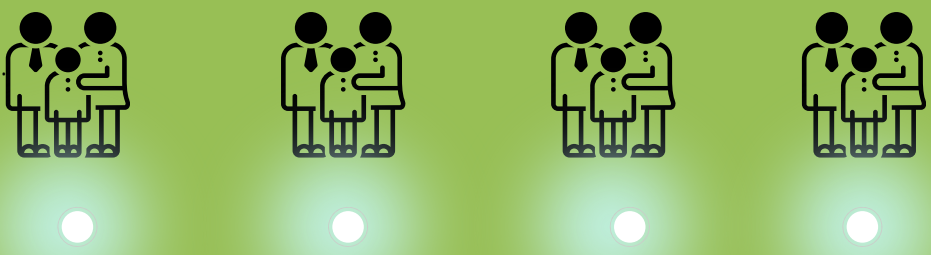
Families are looking to have experiences with their children, and now more than ever they have limited opportunities. Churches able to have in person worship will not be able to worship the overflow crowds in multiple services that Christmas worship brings. You could create a neighborhood outreach that gives the candlelight worship feeling and a children's Christmas program experience all in one outdoor Luminary walk.



Here is an example layout of luminary layout. It would also work well if you had safe walking space around your church. You pick path best for your church. Be sure to space your people and no double back paths.



6 ft apart waiting in line.
You may want to mark with a luminary.



What you will need:

- Outdoor space and no rain.
- White paper lunch bags, candle, sand. You could buy the battery candle for less flame worry.
- Choose what night or nights best work for your church. Multiple night may reduce numbers and allow a variety of families to be storytellers.
- Candle glow sticks (kids can take home)
<https://www.orientaltrading.com/candle-glow-sticks>
- Decide if you have a waiting space on a sidewalk that you can safely space families 6ft apart who are waiting to walk the luminaries or in parking lot.
- Have a masked greeter at the beginning of the Luminary walk that watches the trail and spaces out the admittance of waiting walkers so no one bunches up on the trail.
- 7 different families volunteer to help their child dress in nativity costumes who can be the storytelling vignettes.
- Parents should hold an Eveready 80 watt flashlight (\$4.98 Lowes) on the child storyteller as they read and then turn off as they finish group pass. All participants should wear facemask, so make sure they now how to speak loudly.
- Have your adult bell choir playing or music on speakers. Music should be just for setting mood not to over power the storytellers.
- Create a trail with the luminaries that spaces storytellers at least 10-15 feet away from each other and it is fun if the luminaries twist around and are not in a straight line.
- Use the child storyteller script free see download button.
- Or purchase the book *The Donkey in the Living Room* by Sarah Cunningham to have more of a light hearted storytelling script. There are 9 rhyming Nativity storytelling parts to be found in this book.
- Since this would likely be the first time you have done this event, be sure to publicize what you are doing starting the first of December so people can plan for it as a family event. In all publications, be sure to note that all those who would like to participate must wear a face mask for Covid 19 protection.

