



### BEFORE WORSHIP:

Ask each person in the congregation to hold an item from an UMCOR school kit:

- One pair blunt scissors
- One box of 24 crayons
- Three one-subject notebooks
- One pack of loose-leaf paper
- One pencil sharpener
- One ruler
- Six unsharpened pencils
- One eraser

Prepare a box to look like a treasure chest (or just wrap a box in brown paper and write the word “treasure” on it).

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**Hold the treasure box and say to the children:**

In today's Bible reading, we heard Jesus say that where our treasure is, there we will also find our heart. I think he meant that the things we consider most important are a sign of what kind of people we are.

**What does God want us to care most about?**

(Listen for some answers.)

- God wants us to treasure our relationship with Jesus.
- God also wants us to treasure our relationships with other people.

In some places in the United States and around the world, children don't have the school supplies they need to be strong students. Maybe they lost a lot through a hurricane, war or some other disaster.

Our church is part of a very important organization called UMCOR – the United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR works with communities after a disaster to help repair the damage. One thing they do is collect school kits to send to children who need them.

**Today, we will go on a treasure hunt and find school supplies to put in this treasure chest. Will you follow me?**

- When you see the item that I name, shout out “UMCOR!” and we will put the item in our treasure chest.
- As you name each item, ask the congregant who is holding that item to put it in the aisle for the children to find.
- When all items have been placed in the treasure box, carry the box to the alter and ask the students to pray.

### PRAYER:

*Thank you, God, for pencils, paper and scissors.*

*Thank you for UMCOR.*

*Thank you for treasuring each of us.*

*Bless these gifts and the students who receive them.*

*May your children gathered here and the recipients of the school kits grow in wisdom and strength to serve you in Jesus' name. Amen.*

