Bank - Church with Craft Sticks

These church banks can be used to raise money for mission offerings, food drives, or any project. Have the boys keep the banks at home for a month (or more) and have them put any coins they have in the bank each day (they may even get their parents to empty their pockets each evening). Bring the banks back, remove the bottom with a Phillips screwdriver and total up their gifts.

Materials needed:

- 1. $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 4" $\frac{1}{4}$ " AC plywood for church floor.
- 2. Two 1 x 4 x 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " spruce/fir for end walls.
- 3. One 1 x 2 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " spruce/fir for steeple.
- 4. 20 craft sticks
- 5. 4 #6 x 1" wood screws.
- 6. White glue, Phillips screwdrivers or electric screwdrivers, rubber bands.

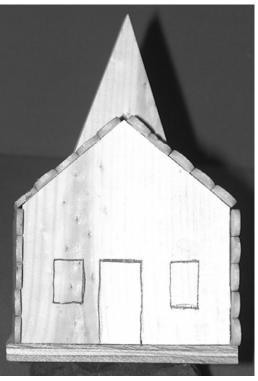
Before the meeting:

- 1. Cut church floor: 3 ¹/₄" x 4" ¹/₄" AC plywood.
- 2. Photocopy diagram for the ends for church from the 1X diagram.
- 3. Use photocopy to trace over carbon paper onto 1 x 4 spruce/fir (twice for both ends and once for the steeple).
- 4. Cut out the two building ends.
- 5. Cut out the steeple.
- 6. Predrill and counter-sink 2 holes in each end of the church floor (3 ¼" x 4" ¼" AC plywood) for #6 x 1" wood screws.
- 7. Sand all parts on a sander.
- 8. Optional: Draw door and windows on one of the church ends (or the older boys may do this at the meeting).

Assembly at the meeting:

- 1. Optional: Unless previously done, boys draw door and windows on one of the church end pieces.
- 2. Attach bottom to end pieces using 2 #6 x 1" wood screws for each end (see photo).
- 3. Glue 5 craft sticks to each side of the church. Glue 5 craft sticks to each side of the roof.
- 4. Put a rubber band around the bank to hold the sticks in place until dry.





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5. If necessary, use a knife to make the crack wide enough at the roof ridge so coins can be put into the bank.

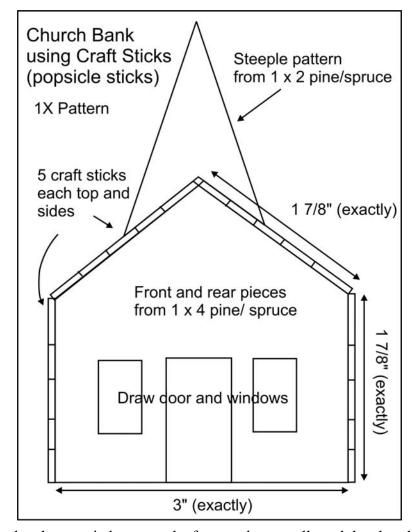
- 6. Put name on bottom of bank.
- 7. Glue on steeple. If the banks sit for about 15 mins., the boys could take it home. It might be best to have them take it home the next week (and this would give you an opportunity to check their glue joints. Some joints will, likely, need to be re-glued.). The banks need to be very sturdy, else the boys will tear them up!

Have the boys collect coins for a month, return the banks and count the money!



Bottom, showing 4 #6 x 1" wood. Notice screws holding the bottom.

Note: Don't attach the bottom with glue! You will need to secure it using only the 4 screws, so you can unscrew them to remove the money later!



1X drawing to be photocopied to trace the front and rear walls and the church steeple.