

Thursday Morning Workshops (continued)

TH-4 Safe Church / Sex Offenders in the Congregation: Balancing Welcome and Accountability, Rev. Susan McKnight

Description: This is one church's experience with incorporating a sex offender into a congregation that includes a widely-known survivor of sexual violence. Participants can learn how to open up the difficult subject of sexual abuse / violence within their own congregations where the chances are good--according to statistics--that abusers and survivors are living side by side. By breaking the silence on this important and pervasive issue, God's grace and healing balm can be revealed and applied to hurting people who really need it, and churches can find their way to being both welcoming AND safe places for more of God's children.

TH-5: Profiles of Faith "Being and Doing" Mary and Martha, Elsa Marshall, CMCE

Description: This story is not a simple contrast of the domestic diva and the student mystic. This is a comparison of doing and being. And doing the work of ministry is important. When we are able to discover what God calls us to do and have the opportunity to actually do it, it's important. In this context, our work becomes an extension of ourselves. Not so easy to figure out which part of us is Martha, and which part of us is Mary. What if there was a way to combine our Marys and Marthas? What if we are called to be in both of the being and doing worlds: a little Martha and a little Mary?

Presenters

Rev. Mary Angela Davis has served churches in ME, MA and CT. She has a love for equipping the saints for ministry. Presently, she's the Pastor and Teacher in Ellsworth Falls. She's learning a lot as the new kid on the block!

Rev. Lynne Dolan has served in parish ministry for 20 years. She was first introduced to the practice of labyrinth walking in 2001. She has taught and utilized this spiritual practice for more than 10 years. She has walked the labyrinth in many settings and has introduced this spiritual practice to disciples of all ages from children to adults.

Rev. Linda Fernandes-Bailey is a graduate of Yale Divinity School, The Women's Leadership Institute and Associates in Christian Education at Hartford Seminary, a trained Spiritual Director and a SoulCollage Facilitator. She has been a pastor of Spiritual Formation for 10 years at First Congregational Church in Southington.

Rev. Abby Gackenheimer is the pastor of New Haven Congregational Church in New Haven, VT. She is also the chaplain of Cooperative Christian Ministry at the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT. She and her husband, The Reverend Ryan Gackenheimer, live in Starksboro, VT with their newborn son, Keadyn, and their dog, Korwyn.

Rev. Jennifer Geary is the Director of Irons Homestead Camp & Retreat, a ministry of the Rhode Island Conference United Church of Christ. Jennifer has served as a church educator, youth advisor, camp director, disaster response coordinator and pastor in four UCC Conferences. She also substitute teaches and coaches in public schools.

Heather Eaton Gray was formerly Director of Christian Education for several Connecticut churches. Heather is now the stay at home mom for one three year old boy.

Kelly Luetkemeyer has led a contemplative prayer small-group for adults for many years in Upton, MA at the United Parish and this will be his fourth time leading a contemplative workshop at NEACUE. He was brought up in the

Catholic tradition and was introduced to Centering Prayer by Father Keating in Colorado. He has been influenced by a variety of contemplative practices from different religions.

Rev. Bert Marshall is a storyteller, musician, songwriter, recording artist, UCC pastor, Yale Divinity alum, war resister, union organizer, trucker, dairy farm hand, and a member of the Nebraska Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame. He lives in Plainfield MA.

Elsa Marshall is a Commissioned Minister, Association for Christian Education, MACUCC, Resource Center Director, MACUCC, CE COP coordinator, MACUCC and Semi retired commissioned minister living in Gloucester MA in summers and Stuart FL winters, mother and grandmother.

Rev. Susan McKnight served for 13 years as Director of Christian Education at the Barre Congregational Church and is beginning her 14th year as pastor of the Warren United Church UCC, both in Vermont. Among the great gifts in her life are the friendships and faith formation offered by NEAUCE over the years.

Wendy Ritger has been Sunday School Director at First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, ME for 20 years. Over these years our church and Sunday school have tried out many ideas and programs in our efforts to be welcoming to families, teens and younger children, and provide spiritual nurture for youth as well as adults. Wendy has been involved in this as a leader, parent and church member.

Rev. Anne Robertson is the author of a number of books and Bible studies and is a popular workshop leader and preacher. As United Methodist clergy, she has won awards for her preaching and sermons. She lives in Plymouth, MA.

Rev. Jane H. Rowe was ordained in 1988. Jane has served churches in CA, NY and CT as solo pastor and Minister of Faith Formation. She is Co-Chair of CAUCE and has presented several workshops for faith formation leaders in CT. She enjoys planning and leading creative services that build upon the worship forms and practices beloved by the congregation.



NEAUCE is the New England Association of United Church Educators, a regional chapter of the national Association of United Church Educators www.auce-ucc.org

NEAUCE is endorsed by the MACUCC Commission for Educational Ministries

44th Annual NEAUCE Conference on beautiful Cape Cod Craigville Conference Center, Centerville, MA May 5-7, 2015



*They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"
Luke 24:32*

Keynote Speaker: Molly Baskette

The Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette is the Lead Pastor of First Church Somerville UCC in Somerville, MA. She is the author of *Real Good Church: How our church came back from the dead, and yours can, too.*

2014 NEAUCE PLANNING TEAM

Chair: Carolyn Keilig revcehk@yahoo.com
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Massachusetts: Sally Tomasetti sallyt@hillchurch.org
Vermont: Eileen Ashe eashe@icloud.com

Craigville Conference Center www.craigville.org

Worship and Music Leaders

The Rev. Ryan Gackenheimer serves as Associate Pastor at the First Congregational Church of Essex Junction, Vermont. He writes: "It is a blessing and honor for me to have been ordained in the United Church of Christ in 2008 after graduating from Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO. My life has taken me from Indiana, to Spokane, WA, to St. Louis, MO, and now to Essex Junction, VT. It has been inspiring and faith forming to worship and share life with faithful folks from coast-to-coast."

Maddie Downer is Co-Coordinator of Children and Youth at Wellesley Hills Congregational Church UCC in MA. She is currently working on her Master of Divinity at Andover Newton Theological School and expects to graduate in May 2015. In her free time, Maddie enjoys playing guitar, singing, crafting, running, and yoga. She enjoys taking day trips around New England, seeking out small farms and orchards, comic book shops, and restaurants with weird themes.

Wednesday Morning Workshops

W-1 Keeping a Vital Sunday School in Changing Times, Wendy Ritger

Description: While some churches today have no Sunday school and are unable to attract young families with children, ours has been fortunate to have an active youth program for many years. We will talk about what this church has done to appeal to all ages and to be relevant to families in a changing world. How do you minister to young families, start a Sunday School or youth group, and keep it going. I look forward to sharing my experience with this and also getting ideas from others about youth programs that have worked well in other churches.

W-2 Contemplative Prayer, Kelly Luetkemeyer

Description: A contemplative prayer practice allows one to calm the mind and body and rest in the quiet presence of God. This workshop is experiential. You will have an opportunity to close your eyes and draw your attention your breath, listen to your mind and body, and allow the peace of God to be with you and to share your experience with others.

W-3: Biblical Storytelling for Just About Everyone, Rev. Bert Marshall

Description: Encounter our sacred texts in new ways and unleash your inner storyteller to make biblical narratives come alive in worship, at church gatherings, and on street corners. The workshop will include examples, group participation, music, and a few words about oral tradition.

W-4: A Bible Study Resource Progressives Can Love, Rev. Anne Robertson

Description: Believe it or not, everyone should know the Bible. That is the tagline for Exploring the Bible: The Dickinson Series, a new educational resource from the Massachusetts Bible Society. Come learn about this highly-acclaimed new series of Bible studies for small groups that can be used in ecumenical and interfaith groups and is welcoming for the "nones" in our communities. Easy to lead, inexpensive to run. Come and get a free set of course materials.

W-5 Leading Adult Retreats, Rev. Linda Fernandes-Baily

Description: Linda has been leading retreats for 10 years. In this workshop she will share the basics of how to lead an adult retreat. We will cover picking a theme, resources to assist you, making the retreat schedule, what the purpose of a retreat is, and more. There will be time for questions and answers and plenty of handouts to assist you in your leadership.

W-6 Ministry Around the Campfire and S'more, Rev. Jennifer Geary

Description: Retreats, camps and mission trips provide powerful experiences for our youth and children. Deep bonds are formed quickly and often, personal information is shared. Many children and youth are not equipped to deal with all the emotions they experience. We will discuss appropriate ways to create safe space while maintaining confidentiality, guarding against emotional

overstimulation and protecting the vulnerable spirits of children as they grow in faith.

Wednesday Afternoon Workshops

WA-1: Sticky Faith for Youth, Elsa Marshall

Description: This workshop will focus on youth ministry. It will be looking at some of the ways that make disciples from practices that help faith "stick" to their lives.

WA-2: Living the Labyrinth, Rev. Lynne Dolan

Description: There will be a brief introduction and labyrinth walk followed by a meditative practice (journaling, creating and/or coloring of mandalas, artistic prayer expression).

WA-3 Let's Swap Ideas for Intergenerational and Children's Ministry!, Rev. Mary Angela Davis

Description: Don't you love getting new ideas for resources and programs at NEAUCE? Let's celebrate our teaching experiences, and rejoice in what has gone well in our ministry with children. Please bring resources you have found helpful, and the instructions and plans to pass on to others. Come prepared to share stories about activities, practices, and events you found creative and inspiring.

WA-4 Nurturing Tiny Sparks, Heather Eaton Gray

Description: Young children are active, curious, spirited beings. When children are invited to participate in the life of a congregation, the Holy Spirit works through their desire to be connected and to understand and their faith blossoms. Together we will explore authentic and creative ways to support faith formation in early childhood.

Thursday Morning Workshops

TH-1 Collegiate Trust: Faith in the Journey, Rev. Abby Gackenheimer

Description: The Reverend Abby Gackenheimer will lead a workshop outlining the journey of a student's faith from home to university. As a student transitions from home life to university life the question, "will my child/this student stay connected to his/her faith?" is often heard posed by pastors and parents alike. Join Rev Abby, a campus minister at the University of Vermont in exploring how we can help our students develop a faith that they will take and keep while in college. Trusting that what we offer our student(s) is enough and that our student(s) will find ways to engage and stay connected to their faith.

TH-2 It Only Takes a Spark: Ideas for Intergenerational Worship, Rev. Jane H. Rowe

Description: Intergenerational worship is key to effective faith formation for disciples of all ages, engaging worshippers at different levels of spiritual development through symbol, story and sensory experience. Often one simple idea or symbol will be the spark that ignites a whole Spirit-filled worship service. This workshop will present some "sparks" that have ignited creative worship in a variety of local churches, and invite the sharing of participants' ideas as we explore some scripture passages together.

*This is an **intermediate** workshop for lay and ordained people who lead worship or are part of worship planning teams*

TH-3 Intro to Soul Collage, Rev. Linda Fernandes-Baily

Description: SoulCollage is a creative, fun tool for easy artful self-expression. It was developed by Seena B Frost, M. Div, MA. Using intuition and imagination, you create your own deck of collaged cards, where each card reflects a different aspect of who you are. The cards are made from simple materials, magazine images, scissors, glue and mat board. This is a soul-tending practice honors one's personal journey, while promoting personal growth and self-acceptance. Best of all, this is a creative process that is accessible to everyone. And it's FUN!



Scan the QR Code or go to <http://conta.cc/1JYGVIO> if you prefer to register online. Secure credit card payments can be made online.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Alternate phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Church Name: _____
C.E. Role: _____
In which state? _____
Have you attended NEAUCE before? Yes _____ No _____
Roommate Preference _____
AUCE Member – Yes / No _____
Full Event cost for AUCE members \$250 _____
Full Event cost for non-AUCE members \$285 _____
Full Event Commuter Rate for AUCE members with meals \$160 _____
Commuter Rate for For Non-AUCE Members - \$180 _____
(Become an AUCE member before 3/30/15 and save).
Single room - add **\$55 per night-\$110 for 2 nights** \$ _____
Monday night lodging – Yes / No - add \$65 \$ _____
Registering after 4/1/15 – add \$30 late fee \$ _____
Scholarship -Yes/No- Where is scholarship coming from? _____

Subtotal: \$ _____

Total due upon arrival: \$ _____

Minimum non-refundable deposit required: \$55.00

Make checks payable to "NEAUCE." Make a copy of your registration form for your records and mail completed registration form and payment to:

Georgette Huie, NEAUCE Registrar – P.O. Box 2851, Waterbury, CT 06723

Workshops:

Wednesday Morning : W _____ Title _____

Wednesday Afternoon: WA- _____ Title _____

Thursday Morning: TH- _____ Title _____

Questions? Email Georgette Huie or contact your state representative

Expected Schedule

May 5: 1-3pm registration, 2:30pm new to NEAUCE orientation, 3:15pm Welcome, worship, keynote #1

Each day will include meals, workshops, keynote, worship and hospitality and some free time. For detailed schedule check out online registration page.