



Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

June 2012

Editor's Corner



Welcome to the first edition of the Christian Education & Formation Newsletter. This newsletter is designed to be a regular publication tailored to the needs of those who serve in this transformational ministry. A ministry continuously bearing new challenges & opportunities.

In my part time role on the Conference staff, I will be offering this newsletter as a way for us to share ideas and resources that are relevant in embracing these opportunities and celebrating our accomplishments.

This is a very exciting and transformational time for our ministry at both the national and local levels. I am inspired by the work of Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi and my vision is to incorporate the results of her research into future plans for Christian Formation here in NH.

I hope you enjoy the Newsletter and would love to hear your thoughts and suggestions on ways I can improve the newsletter, enhance communication channels to educators throughout the conference, and best serve your needs.

Together may we continue to learn, share, and grow in our faith.

Ann

Join Our Mailing List!

Christian Education & Formation - A Transformational Ministry

I intentionally refer to this ministry as "transformational" not just because it has the potential to change lives, but because the ministry itself is dynamic. Even the words we use to speak about our work are full of new life. The once familiar Christian Education is now often coupled with or replaced by Christian Formation.

In a recent interview The Rev. Geoffrey A. Black, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, offered his perspective on this shift in the terminology and practice. He said, "It speaks to the notion that our work is about the forming of disciples, of people who are grounded and see their whole being in this moment in time. It's about how I relate to people, walk the earth, and live my life".

[Click here](#) to read the complete interview.

Save the Date - NEAUCE 2013

The NEAUCE planning team recently gathered in Peacham, Vermont to work on plans for next year's conference. The team is delighted to announce:

NEAUCE 42nd Annual Conference

May 7-9, 2013

Craigville Conference Center

Cape Cod

"Vibrant Colors of Faith"

Psalm 89:17-18 The Message

Keynote Speaker: John Roberto

John Roberto is president of LifelongFaith Associates and editor of the journal Lifelong Faith (<http://www.lifelongfaith.com>), and coordinator for the Faith Formation 2020 Initiative (<http://www.faithformation2020.net>). John also works on the Vibrant Faith Ministries team as project coordinator of the Faith Formation Learning Exchange (<http://www.faithformationlearningexchange.net>).

Christian Faith Formation Research Study

Last summer the United Church of Christ (UCC) called Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi to serve as Minister for Christian Faith Formation Research on the Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Ministry Team, Local Church Ministries. The goal of this 18-month position is to provide an assessment of the Christian Education/Faith Formation life of the denomination and make recommendations for the future of this ministry.

In the fall of 2011, she conducted a National Listening Campaign on Christian Faith Formation and Education and received over 1,100

Resource Center

[Faith Formation Web Links for NH Conference Pastors and Educators](#)

Recently Updated!

[Called To Educational and Formational Ministries: A Guide for Local Churches, Educators, and Youth Workers](#), provides a wealth of information and practical strategies for developing an effective Educational and Formational Ministry

In response to discussions at the April NHAUCE meeting a new [Scripture Index for Faith Practices](#) is now available

Quick Links

The Association of United Church Educators (AUCE)
[National](#)
[New England](#)
[New Hampshire](#)

responses to the survey.

In a series entitled "Dialogues on Christian Faith Formation and Education" she held one-on-one conversations with faith leaders to hear their views on the past, present, and future of faith formation in the United Church of Christ. Visit <http://www.ucc.org/education> to learn more.

She continues to participate in conferences and workshops around the country to gain new insights and hear about best practices.

The results of her work are expected to be published in a report due out this Fall. Stay Tuned for Updates!

Summer Happenings



National Youth Event (NYE) - July 10-12, 2012

The NYE is a UCC event held every four years for youth to gather for worship, workshops, faith, fellowship and fun. This summer over 2,000 youth are headed to Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana to imagine the new thing God is doing through and with them. Imagine being a part of their journey. You can by visiting <http://www.ucc.org/youth/nye/> or following them

on Facebook and Twitter.



New Resource: edUCCators epistle

The **edUCCators epistle** is a new bi-weekly e-mailing from the UCC's Publishing, Identity, and Communication Ministry Team. It provides another resource to inform, enlighten, and inspire you as you continue your good work. Each issue will focus on a different educational setting to keep it timely and fresh.

To sign up, send a request to Aimee Jansohn at jannsoha@ucc.org

Upcoming Events - September 2012

Safe Church Policies & Implementation
 NHAUCE Meeting
 10:00-11:30 AM September 19, 2012
 NH Conference Center

Confirmation Roundtable
 Sponsored by NHAUCE & CCL
 9:30-11:30 AM September 26, 2012
 NH Conference Center

Advent Workshop - facilitated by Rev. Maren C. Tirabassi
 "Follow the Star and not the Stress!"

Sponsored by CCL (look for registration details in the Weekly News during the month of July)
 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM September 27, 2012
 NH Conference Center

The Word of God

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Romans 12:2 (NIV)

Contact Info

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