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## Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

November 2012

### Editor's Corner

Thanksgiving Poems  
By Ralph Waldo Emerson

For each new morning  
with its light,  
For rest and shelter  
of the night,  
For health and food,  
For love and friends,  
For everything Thy goodness  
sends.

For flowers that bloom  
about our feet;  
For tender grass, so fresh, so  
sweet;  
For song of bird,  
and hum of bee;  
For all things fair  
we hear or see,  
Father in heaven,  
we thank Thee!

### Join Our Mailing List!

### Resource Center

Visit the  
NH Conference Website  
Christian Education &  
Formation Webpage  
On-line Resource Center

Based on input from the  
Insurance Board, the section  
of the On-Line Resource  
Center dealing with safety  
issues has been **renamed  
Safe Conduct**. The UCC is  
now officially using the term  
"Safe Conduct" because the  
terms Safe Church, Safe  
Sanctuary, and Safe Ministry  
have been trademarked by  
others. The Safe Conduct file  
has also been updated to  
include some information on  
Social Media.

### "The Guide"

[Called To Educational and  
Formational Ministries: A  
Guide for Local Churches,  
Educators, and Youth Workers](#)

**edUCCators epistle**  
Bi-weekly e-mailing from the

### The Transition Continues

As we embrace change and celebrate our dynamic Educational Ministry here in New Hampshire, I encourage you to keep abreast of the latest information regarding Faith Formation at the National Level.

On October 30, 2012, the UCC released a letter from the Rev. Ben Guess, Executive Minister of Local Church Ministries, with an update on plans for [Transitioning the Ministry of Christian Faith Formation and Education in the United Church of Christ](#).

God is working in us and through us: tending to our ministry in the context of the here and now, sculpting us to thrive in the future.

### Celebrate the Christian New Year

### The Revised Common Lectionary - Year C starts December 2, 2012

Does your church follow the Revised Common Lectionary? If so, why not consider having a party to celebrate the beginning of Year C on the first Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2012. Ideas for this type of celebration can be found at: [www.thechristiancalendar.com](http://www.thechristiancalendar.com)

### Featured Lectionary Resources:

- Are you asking, "What is the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL)?" The Consultation on Common Texts provides a good primer on their website: <http://www.commontexts.org/rcl/index.html>
- [A Lectionary Blueprint](#) was originally intended for use with *The Inviting Word* curriculum, however, it is easily adapted to serve as a workshop introducing the Seasons of the Christian Year.
- [Liturgical Colors and the seasons of the church year](#) is an overview on the use of colors associated with each of the church seasons.
- [Weekly Seeds](#), is a free lectionary-based Bible-study tool for adults. It includes the scripture reading, a brief meditation, and reflections from ancient or contemporary sources. There is also an online discussion forum and blog to supplement this resource.
- Lectionary-based curricula (for multiple age groups): *Seasons of the Spirit* and *The Best of Whole People of God Online*

### NEAUCE Update - 42nd Annual Conference



### VIBRANT COLORS OF FAITH

The New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE) Planning Team met on Friday, October 26 to continue their work in preparation for the conference next spring. Mark **May 7-9, 2013** on your calendar and plan to head to beautiful Cape Cod for a time of Worship, Music, Workshops, Fellowship, Friends and Fun.

UCC's Publishing, Identity, and Communication Ministry Team. To subscribe, contact Aimee Jannsohn at [jannsoha@ucc.org](mailto:jannsoha@ucc.org)

### Quick Links

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

### Reminder

Next Event is our New Hampshire AUCE meeting TODAY - Wednesday November 14, 2012 10:00 AM  
 Topic: Mini Resource Fair

### Keynote Speaker: John Roberto

John Roberto is president of [LifelongFaith Associates](#), editor of the journal Lifelong Faith, and coordinator for the [Faith Formation 2020 Initiative](#). John also works on the Vibrant Faith Ministries team as project coordinator of the [Faith Formation Learning Exchange](#).

His latest publications include Faith Formation 2020: Designing the Future of Faith, The Spirit and Culture of Youth Ministry (co-authored), Living Well: Christian Practices for Everyday Life, Becoming a Church of Lifelong Learners, and four volumes of intergenerational learning programs in the People of Faith series.

### Music-Worship Leader: Rev. Adele Crawford

Adele comes to ministry after a 15 year career as a professional singer. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), she is a Yale Divinity School graduate who also graduated magna cum laude with a master's degree in music from the University of Michigan.

She has traveled the world, performing at churches, Carnegie Hall, and the Metropolitan Opera. She currently serves as Pastor of Valley Presbyterian Church, Brookfield CT, and has previously served as an interim Christian education director, an acting associate minister and as Interim Dean of Chapel at Yale Divinity School.

### UCC National Guest: Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi

Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi, minister for Christian Faith Formation Research on the UCC Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Ministry Team, has spent the past 15 months heading up the effort to assess faith formation and UCC educational life; discover best practices; and plan the course for the future.

Both an [Executive Summary](#) and a [complete report](#) of her findings are available on the [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) website.

### Resource Spotlight: Faith Formation for Students with Disabilities



**Rhythms of Grace** is an innovative program resource designed to meet the spiritual needs of children and families living with autism-spectrum disorders. The curriculum was developed by the co-founders of an organization bearing the same name. The whole Rhythms of Grace curriculum consists of a 3-year syllabus of distinct scripture-based session plans and the background and support material needed to establish and conduct a successful program

To learn more about the non-profit organization and/or to order materials, visit <http://rhythms-of-grace.org>

**A Special Grace** is a ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, currently based at Church of the Epiphany in Walpole, MA. They offer Sensory-Friendly worship and advocacy for families on the Autism Spectrum. Their website, <http://www.aspecialgrace.com>, provides a wealth of information and free downloadable materials.

### Events - November 2012

Mini Resource Fair  
 NHAUCE Meeting

### Save the Date

December 5, 2012 Confirmation Roundtable  
 December 14, 2012 NHAUCE Advent "Retreat"

10:00-11:30 AM

November 14, 2012

NH Conference Center

January 16, 2013

February 23, 2013

May 7-9, 2012

NHAUCE Meeting, Topic: Retreats

Prepared to Serve

NEAUCE Conference on Cape Cod

For a complete listing of Events (and more details) visit the Christian Education & Formation On-Line Resource Center at the [nhcucc.org](http://nhcucc.org) website.

### The Word of God

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful."

John 15:1-2 (NIV).

### Contact Info

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