

Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

May 2013

Editor's Corner

Memorial Day Prayer shared from an e-note by Pastor Asher & Debbie United Methodist Resources www.pastorasher.wordpress.com

Loving and Gracious God, Thank you for the men and women who protect us and preserve your gifts of life, country, and freedom at home and abroad, even at the sacrifice of their own lives. They and their families are the true heroes among us. Today we remember all those who have laid down their lives so that we can continue to enjoy the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Let your perpetual light shine upon them, and grant them eternal rest. Send out your angels to protect all who serve our country, and keep us free from injustice and harm.

We pray this in the name of the Father who understood and forgave us, in the name of Jesus who redeemed us, and in the name of the Holy Spirit who transforms our lives and makes us new everyday. Amen.

Join Our Mailing List!

Resource Center

Viisit the NH Conference Website

"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 UCC's Publishing, Identity, and Communication Ministry Team. To subscribe, contact Aimee Jannsohn at jannsoha@ucc.org

This month (and over the summer) I will be sharing lessons learned at the New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE) Conference held May 7-9, 2013.

21 Century Faith Formation Models

John Roberto, NEAUCE 2013 keynote speaker and president of LifeLong Faith Associates (www.lifelongfaith.com) opened the conference by reminding us, "We are living in a historical moment with transformations in religion, technology, generations, culture & society." He spent the next two and half days equipping us with ideas and resources to build new models of Faith Formation designed for the 21 century.

Roberto believes it is time to re-imagine where, when, and how faith formation and learning take place.

- Technology transformations make it possible to provide Faith Formation for everyone, anytime, anywhere (24 x7 x 365).
- It is now possible to customize and personalize faith formation around the life tasks and issues, interests, religious and spiritual needs, and busy lives of people.
- It is now possible to engage people in a wide diversity of programs, activities, and resources that incorporate a variety of ways to learn.
- It is now possible to connect people to each other in physical places and virtual (on-line) spaces.

Faith Forming Activities: Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere

Free Faith Formation Resources for Busy Families

In his vision of 21st century Faith Formation John Roberto sees the role of the leader in faith formation as shifting from providing religious content and programming to **curating** religious content and experiences for all ages.



As a curator are you looking for resources to equip the families in your congregation with FUN, FREE and FANTASTIC ways to make faith part of their everyday activities?

Check out VibrantFaith@Home (www.vibrantfaithathome.org), an interactive online resource where you can find all of the tips and tools you need to build a stronger, more faith-focused family, including:

- * Family Activities
- * Parenting Advice

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Quick Links

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

AUCE: A membership organization, of and for lay and ordained, paid and volunteer educators and youth workers, which provides advocacy and support for church education and educators in the United Church of Christ.

Congratulations



The Rev. Hal Harrison received this year's Founders Award from the Association of United Church Educators at the May 15th meeting of the New Hampshire Associaton of United Church Educators (NH AUCE). Friends and colleagues from all over New England were in attendance to celebrate and recognize Hal, whose lifelong ministry has been in the advocacy of Christian education and faith formation. Hal's ministry has touched so many lives and will continue to shine brightly for generations through all those he has mentored.

- * Blogs
- * Devotions
- * Four Keys
- * Articles and Resources
- * How-to Videos
- * Libraries
- * Interactive Forums
- * Bible Basics

Confirmation Retreat - Save the Date - October 4-5, 2013

A group of NHCUCC Christian educators and pastors is working toward a **Confirmation Retreat**, **to be held the weekend of October 4-5**, **2013**. The focus of this retreat will be "UCC Identity."

Save the date and please contact Ann Desrochers, NHCUCC Specialist in Christian Education, to reserve a spot for your Confirmands and/or for additional information. **Thank you!** Email: adesrochers@nhcucc.org

Employment Opportunities

UCC National Setting - Minister and Team Leader, Faith Formation

The Minister and Team Leader of the Faith Formation Ministry Team will lead efforts to ensure that every UCC person is well-equipped to be growing in faith, theologically conversant, biblically literate, and active in the global mission of the church. This is accomplished by developing resources, events, partnerships and networks that will strengthen faith formation opportunities in local churches, Conferences, and other settings of the church.

The application deadline for this full time position is July 5, 2013. <u>Click here</u> for a complete job description and information on how to submit an application.

Peterborough, NH - Church School Coordinator

Union Congregational Church UCC, Peterborough, NH is seeking a Church School Coordinator. Duties include: Developing, planning and implementing a Sunday School curriculum in coordination with the Christian Education committee, teaching Sunday School, training and scheduling teaching assistants.

For more information, contact Ellen Smith (603) 547-3434.

Events - May 29, 2013 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Confirmation Roundtable

Sponsored by the Commission for Congregational Life (CCL) and the NH Association of United Church Educators (NH AUCE)

Topic: Sharing Best Practices between Confirmation and New Member Classes NH Conference Center, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, NH

The Word of God

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with

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unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (NRSV)

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