



Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

November 2013

Editor's Corner

Help Me Thanksgiving Day Prayer

O God,
when I have food,
help me to remember
the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember
the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember
those who
have no home at all;
When I am without
pain,
help me to remember
those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to destroy my
complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and be concerned
enough to help;
By word and deed,
those who cry out for
what we take for
granted.
Amen.

-Samuel F. Pugh

Vibrant Faith at Home

In early November I had the opportunity to participate in a Vibrant Faith at Home workshop. **Vibrant Faith at Home** is a service of **Vibrant Faith Ministries**, an organization that seeks to equip and empower families and individuals of all ages and stages to:

- **TALK** with each other about their faith
- **PRAY** together in ways that are comfortable and comforting
- **RITUALIZE** their important moments
- **REACH OUT** in service and support of others.

Their website is a great resource for simple, yet powerful faith-forming activities that are seasonally-based and FREE! As you, and the families in your congregations, prepare your hearts for the Advent and Christmas season I share some ideas for bringing faith into the midst of all the waiting, anticipation, and celebrations at home.

Advent Activities for Young Families

Countdown to Christmas

In this "at home" activity, follow a "scripture" calendar that encourages your family to get to know the Bible passages that talk about the promise of Jesus' birth and the events leading to Jesus' birth. More details are available at:

<http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/index.php/young-family/bible-story/460-countdown-to-christmas>

Family Tree

Have fun sharing about your family while learning about members of Jesus' family, and come away with a homemade craft that will serve as a decorative reminder.

More details are available at:

<http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/index.php/young-family/caring-conversation/451-family-tree>

Join Our Mailing List!

Advent Activity for Teens

Have your teens create an alternative advent calendar to benefit a charitable organization. [Click Here](#) to learn more.

Resource Center

Visit the
NH Conference Website

Recently Added files:

[Advent Christmas](#)

Advent Activity for Adults

Learn the Advent virtue of waiting for Christmas and how it's not just about doing nothing. Learn more about this activity entitled:

[Why Wait?](#)

"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 Jansohn at jansoha@ucc.org

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.

Online Advent Retreat for Young Adults (18-30)

How can you authentically live out your faith in your daily life? Vibrant Faith at Home is offering an online retreat experience for young adults called, **Illuminate Your Everyday Life**.

Beginning on Sunday, December 1 and concluding on Thursday, December 26th this four week retreat will help young adults reflect on how they can stay aware of the presence of God through challenges and discouragement.

[Click Here](#) for more information and details on how to register for this event.

Note: This is one of the few Vibrant Faith resources that does carry a nominal fee, of \$9.95, for the four week event.

Save the Date - NEAUCE 2014**NEAUCE 43rd Annual Conference****May 6-8, 2014****Craigville Conference Center (Cape Cod)****Keynote Speaker: Dr. Chap Clark**

Associate provost for strategic projects and professor and chair of the Youth, Family, and Culture Department in the School of Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary

Worship Leader: Rev. Mollie Landers

*Associate Director of Outdoor Ministries
New Hampshire & Maine Conferences, UCC*

Dr. Clark is a well-known practitioner, adolescent and family scholar, and author. Among his most recent publications are *Hurt 2.0* and *Sticky Faith*, which he co-authored with Fuller's Kara Powell.

[Click Here](#) to read his biography.

**November Events:****NH AUCE Meeting**

Wednesday, November 20, 10:00-11:30 am

Topic: Helping Families deal with Grief and Loss during the Holidays

Meetings are held at the NH Conference Center, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, NH

Homegrown Faith and Justice: Conversations on Faith Formation at Home

You are invited to join in a **live streamed event** on **Friday, Nov. 22 at 3:30 p.m. ET**

as panel of your colleagues explore and discuss the intersections of faith formation, justice advocacy, and the unique role of parents as the primary faith teachers of children in day-to-day life. For additional information on this event, visit: <http://www.ucc.org/justice/justice-for-children/homegrown-faith-and-justice-family-resource-and-panel-discussion.html>

The Word of God

"The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you-wonderful, joyous news for all people." Luke 2:10 (CEB)

Contact Info

Ann H. Desrochers
Specialist in Christian Education
adesrochers@nhcucc.org



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