



Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

May 2014

Memorial Day Prayer from May 27, 2012 shared by Delavan United Church of Christ WI

Gracious God, on this
Memorial Day weekend,
we remember and
give thanks
for those who have
given their lives
in the service of
our country.
When the need was
greatest,
they stepped forward and
did their duty
to defend the freedoms that
we enjoy,
and to win the same for
others.
O God, you yourself have
taught us
that no love is greater than
that
which gives itself for
another.
These honored dead gave
the most precious gift they
had,
life itself,
for loved ones and
neighbors,
for comrades and country -
and for us.
Help us to honor their
memory
by caring for the family
members
they left behind,
by ensuring that their
wounded comrades
are properly cared for,
by being watchful
caretakers of the freedoms
for which they
gave their lives,
and demanding that no
other young men and
women
follow them to a soldier's
grave
unless the reason is worthy
and the
cause is just.
Holy One, help us to
remember that freedom is
not free.
there are times when its

Reflections from NEAUCE 2014

The New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE) held its annual conference May 6-8 at the Craigville Retreat Center on Cape Cod. Over 100 UCC youth ministers, Christian Educators, clergy and lay leaders came together to participate in worship, workshops and fellowship.

Over the summer months I will be sharing highlights from the conference.

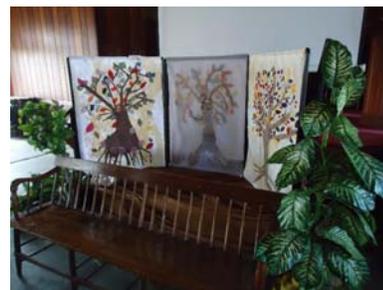
NEAUCE Highlight: "Rooted in Faith" Meditation Walk

I began the conference exploring the theme, "Rooted in Faith", by engaging in a meditation walk. I invite you to share the experience:

- imagine the light touch of a sea breeze, the smell of salt in the air and the sound of a trickling brook as you walk along a small sandy path leading to the beach
- imagine the sights that border the path - on one side is the flowing water of a small stream surrounded by new spring buds bursting with a bright green color; on the other side is a tall, weathered cedar fence
- every so often, posted on the fence, you find beautiful photos and words of inspiration. [Click here](#) to view the Meditation Walk materials.
- pause and reflect on what it is that keeps **you** rooted in faith.

NEAUCE Highlight 2: Recycling the Triptych

God of color-filled Creation,
We thank you for the deep roots of our faith formation drawing on your strength and the rich soil of your love. You sustain us in all the seasons of our lives - from the green sprouts of Spring through the white snows of winter. As we grow towards your light, may we always remember the roots that ground us. Help us to nurture and nourish the new buds and branches of our church families as they continue to grow in your love. From the shelter of your branches, guide us as we spread the seeds of your love. Amen.



NEAUCE 2014: Rooted in Faith

[The triptych and prayer were created at NEAUCE, May 8, 2013. Participants were invited to create a tree by glueing fabric on a paper

cost is, indeed, dear.
 Never let us forget those
 who paid
 so terrible a price
 to ensure that freedom
 would be our legacy.
 Though their names may
 fade with the passing of
 generations,
 may we never forget what
 they have done.
 Help us to be worthy of
 their sacrifice,
 O God, help us to be
 worthy. Amen

The
[Vibrant Faith @ Home](#)
 website has some
 ideas for Memorial Day
 weekend activities that can
 be done by families.

Check out:

[Memorial Day
 Remembrances](#)
 (for Young Families)

and

[Memorial Day Prayers](#)
 (for Teen Families)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Resource Center

Visit 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



**NEAUCE 2013:
 Vibrant Colors of Faith**

background. The background
 papers were created using
 coffee and coffee grounds,
 olive oil and orange pekoe
 tea.]

New Curriculum for Fall 2014: Shine

What is Shine?

Shine: Living in God's Light is a dynamic Sunday school curriculum that engages Christian communities in their life together.

Explore these FREE samples of the new Bible curriculum for kids age 3 through grade 8!

- [Early Childhood](#) (Ages 3-5)
- [Primary](#) (Grades K-3)
- [Middler](#) (Grades 3-6)
- [Junior Youth](#) (Grades 6-8)

To learn more or order these
 resources, visit:

[UCC Resources](#) or
<https://www.shinecurriculum.com>



There is still time to Register for Summer Camp



Horton Center, located atop Pine Mountain just outside of Gorham, NH is owned and operated by the New Hampshire Conference, UCC, and offers programs for children, teens, and adults.

[Click Here](#) for the complete Summer 2014 Schedule and registration information.

Training Opportunities

May 27 - July 1, 2014

Let's Ditch Sunday School

Led by Rev. Ivy Beckwith, UCC Minister and Team Leader Faith Formation Ministry

This online course will explore the philosophy behind and the components of a new kind of Children's Ministry. [Learn More >>](#)

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.

August 1 -3, 2014

Young Adult/Adult "OWL Facilitator" Training

Nashua, NH

The First Church of Nashua, NH will be hosting a Young Adult/Adult "OWL Facilitator" training event on August 1-3, 2014. Jane Detwiler and T. Michael Rock will be the trainers. Registration is now open. For more information and a registration form, [click here](#).



[Our Whole Lives \(OWL\)](#) is a series of programs for Human Sexuality Education. Written by professional sexuality educators, the programs provide accurate information for parents, teachers and pastors to use with children and young people to help them learn about sexuality in the affirming and supportive setting of our churches.

A complete (nationwide) [training schedule](#) is available on the www.ucc.org website.

Employment Opportunities

East Parish Congregational Church - East Derry Director of Christian Education

The congregation is looking for someone to oversee the Christian Education program, which includes church school classes for nursery through 12th grade students, and to reach out to young adults and help them find a niche. A detailed job description is posted on the [UCC Ministry Opportunities website](#).

Director of Christian Education - Hollis

A wonderful opportunity is available at the Congregational Church of Hollis for a Director of Christian Education.

The primary focus of this position is to provide leadership for the ministry of children and adults of the congregation. Our current programs are thriving and we are searching for someone who will help our Christian education programs continue to grow.

[Click here](#) for a detailed job description or visit the Hollis Congregational Church website, www.hollischurch.org.

The [Classified/Help Wanted Section](#) of the NHCUC website also publishes employment opportunities throughout the Conference.

Save the Date:

Confirmation Retreat 2014 "UCC: Is That For Me?"

Horton Center
October 3-4, 2014
[Learn More >>](#)

National Youth Event (NYE) 2016 - BELIEVE
 Walt Disney World's Coronado Springs Resort
 July 26-29, 2016
[Learn More >>](#)

The Word of God

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."
John 15:13 (NIV)

<p>Contact Info Ann H. Desrochers Specialist in Christian Education adesrochers@nhcucc.org</p>	
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