



## Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

November 2015

### At-A-Glance The 30 Resources I am Thankful for:

1. Phyllis Tickle
2. Marcus Borg
3. Experience!
4. Buildfaith.org
5. Center for the Ministry of Teaching
6. LifelongFaith.com
7. John Roberto
8. Seasonsofadultfaith.com
9. 21stcenturyfaithformation
10. Intergenerationalfaith.com
11. Ministrymatters.com
12. Patheos.com
13. Christianitytoday.org
14. Faith-forward.net
15. David Csinos
16. UCC National Staff
17. Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi
18. Rev. Dr. Ivy Beckwith
19. Rev. Waltrina Middleton
20. 2012 Report: Foundations, Findings and Futures
21. CARD
22. Children's Ministry in the Way of Jesus
23. Formational Children's Ministry
24. NYE 2016
25. Rev. John C. Dorhauer
26. AUCE
27. AUCE BOD
28. NEAUCE
29. NHCUCC Christian Formation Ministry and Mission Groups

and

30. You, my colleagues that share a passion for faith formation and serve to

During the month of November many of my Facebook friends are participating in the [30-day Thankfulness Challenge](#). In that spirit, I devote this issue of the newsletter to sharing 30 Christian Formation resources that I am grateful for.

### People: In Remembrance

In 2015 we lost two thought leaders who have inspired and transformed the way we approach Christian Formation in the 21st century. I am thankful to [Phyllis Tickle](#) for suggesting we need to reclaim the past to create a stronger future. Her beliefs on how to preserve our core message while accommodating cultural shifts and technology advances will continue to blossom in the lives of



those she has touched, in person and through her written word. I am thankful to [Marcus Borg](#) for his biblical and Jesus scholarship and for his progressive materials in support of adult Christian Formation and Education, especially the [Experience! curriculum series](#).

### Blogs and Websites

I am thankful for the following websites and blogs and the leadership that makes them possible.

**Building Faith:** <http://www.buildfaith.org/>

A resource website run by the [Center for the Ministry of Teaching](#) at Virginia Theological Seminary. It provides practical tools, features, reviews, and articles on Christian formation for children, youth, and adults of all ages.

**Lifelong Faith Associates:** <http://www.lifelongfaith.com/>

This website is service of LifelongFaith Associates - committed to helping congregations develop faith formation for all ages, stages and generations. Founder and president, [John Roberto](#) is known for his work in the theory and practice of Generations of Faith-an intergenerational, lifelong approach to faith formation. The organization also curates several topic specific online resources, including: [Seasons of Adult Faith Formation](#), [21<sup>st</sup> Century Faith Formation](#), and [Intergenerational Faith Formation](#).

**Ministry Matters:** <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>

Ministry Matters™ offers practical and immediate inspiration for preachers, teachers, and worship leaders. With thousands of original articles and blogs, unique book reviews, and weekly worship and preaching aids.

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## Resource Center

[Click Here](#)  
to visit the  
**New Hampshire  
Conference  
Online  
Faith Formation  
Resource Center**

## Save the Date:

**45th Annual Conference  
NEAUCE 2016  
Pilgrim Pines  
Swansey, NH  
May 3-5, 2016**

**National Youth Event  
(NYE) 2016 - BELIEVE  
Walt Disney World's  
Coronado Springs Resort  
July 26-30, 2016**

Visit the recently updated  
National Youth Event  
website to learn more:  
<http://nye.uccpages.org/>

**Patheos:** <http://www.patheos.com/>

Founded in 2008, Patheos.com is a website to engage in the global dialogue about religion and spirituality and to explore and experience the world's beliefs. Patheos provides credible and balanced information about religion.

**Christianity Today:** <http://www.christianitytoday.org/>

Since 1956, Christianity Today has challenged the church with real-world content that is timely, compelling, insightful, balanced-and biblical. Initially published as a magazine, it is now a leading nonprofit media ministry with 6 print publications, several digital-only publications, and practical web and mobile resources.

**Faith Forward:** <http://faith-forward.net/>

Faith Forward is a non-profit organization, founded by [Davis Csinos](#), dedicated to bringing together children's and youth ministry leaders for collaboration, resourcing, and inspiration toward innovative theology and practice. You can follow their work and learn about their events on this website.

## Support and Advocacy

I am thankful for the **United Church of Christ National Staff** and their work in support of Faith Formation and Education. In particular I lift up **Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi**, **Rev. Dr. Ivy Beckwith** and **Rev. Waltrina Middleton**.



I am grateful to Kristina for her research and [2012 report](#) articulating a vision for the future of Christian faith formation in the UCC as well as her continued contributions through [The Center for Analytics, Research and Data](#).

As the UCC Faith Formation Team Leader, Ivy's work is grounded in her belief that spiritual formation is a process of loving God and living in the way of Jesus. I am most appreciative of her books: [Formational Children's Ministry](#) and [Children's Ministry in the Way of Jesus](#), co-authored by David Csinos.



I am energized and inspired by Waltrina and her enthusiastic work on behalf of our youth. I am most grateful for the [2016 National Youth Event](#) and her leadership contributions.

Likewise, I give thanks to the **Rev. John C. Dorhauer** and his team upon learning that NYE is now housed in the UCC Office of the General Minister and President. NYE event planning will use the same organizational model as General Synod - an appropriate move, according to UCC national officers, because NYE draws as many or more registrants

as Synod, with tremendous importance in the life of the church.

**Note: if you know of Youth who are interested in being part of a NH Youth Delegation going to NYE 2016 please contact [Ann Desrochers](#) as soon as possible. We plan to publish transportation costs the second week of December.**

**Keep up-to-date at:**

<http://www.nhcucc.org/ConferenceMinistries/NationalYouthEvent>.

I am thankful for the **Association of United Church Educators (AUCE)** and the [AUCE leadership team](#). AUCE is a membership organization, of and for lay and ordained, paid and volunteer pastors, educators, and youth workers, which has been providing advocacy and support for church education and educators in the United Church of Christ since 1971. Learn more about the national organization at: <http://www.auce.org>.



On a more local level, I am truly grateful for the **New England region coordinating committee** and the conference (**NEAUCE**) held each May. In 2016 we will gather at a new venue, Pilgrim Pines Camp and Conference Center, located on a beautiful lake in Swanzey, New Hampshire.

During the three-day event we will explore the theme "Formed to Tend and Care" by providing opportunities for those engaged in Christian formation ministries to refresh, renew, and grow in faith and knowledge.

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And last, but certainly not least....I am honored to work with all my **colleagues** in the **New Hampshire Conference** and to have the guidance and support of those who serve (both past and present) on the **Christian Formation Ministry and Mission Groups**.



## Employment Opportunities

Visit the [Classified/Help Wanted Section](#) of the NHCUC website or the the UCC (National) Ministry Opportunities webpage for more employment opportunities in the area of [Christian Education and Formation](#).

## The Word of God

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy."  
Psalm 126:3 (NIV)

## Contact Info



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**NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE**  
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