



Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

February 2016 News & Updates

The Lenten season invites us to reflect upon our relationship with God and others. We are asked to pause and see how God is at work in our daily lives. We are asked to pause in the midst of a tech-savvy world that has us connected 24x7. How do we live as people of faith in this digital age?

In her article, [The Art of Digital Ministry: The Good, the Bad, and the Uncertain](#), Carolyn L. Gordon of Fuller Seminary suggests it is by "creatively and effectively using these media to continue the work of Christ and the church in the world."

This issue of the newsletter shares resources for digitally enabled faith formation to complement our face-to-face programming.

Featured Resources



Extravagance UCC is a spiritual adventure in being "community" and exploring faith in a virtual environment.

Some of their current events include:

- ["Transforming the Word"](#), a virtual Bible Study. Each Sunday at 9:00 p.m. (EST) they gather (via videoconferencing) for thoughtful and serious reflection on the scriptures. They are currently sharing a journey of Lent to the cross of Good Friday and the resurrection of Easter Sunday.
- [Building Community Through Digital Ministry](#). On March 3 (via video chat) they will offer a short experience of online worship followed by some simple tips on how to integrate digital strategies into your Lent and Easter ministries.

For more information check them out:     
or at their website: <http://www.extravaganceucc.org/>

The Digital Cathedral

Rapid cultural and technological changes through the last two decades have changed the context for ministry. The development of digital social media and advances in affordable, mobile technologies have dramatically changed the way most people interact with others, communicate, organize, and participate in communities. In his book, [The Digital Cathedral: Networked Ministry in a Wireless World](#), [Rev. Keith Anderson](#) provides both practical and theological perspectives on using media appropriately and pastorally.



THE
DiGiTAL
CATHEDRAL
Networked Ministry in a Wireless World

KEITH ANDERSON
Foreword by Elisabeth Dreyer

12 Top Digital Ministry Experts You Should Know

One of the best ways to grow in your skill as a digital disciple is to learn from others who are using innovative, creative, and tech-savvy methods in their ministry. Learn more in Tim Gossett's [article on abundant.com](#).

There's an App for That!

Looking for more ways to bring God's Word into daily life, [YouVersion](#) has a free Bible App(TM) for both [adults](#) and [kids](#).

To learn more about integrating digital strategies into your lifelong Faith Formation programming visit: <http://www.reimaginefaithformation.com/>.

Upcoming Events



45th Annual New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE) Conference

"Formed to Tend and Care"

May 3-5, 2016 - Pilgrim Pines, Swanzey, NH

Join Christian Educators, Youth Leaders, Clergy, and Lay Leaders for a three day gathering filled with worship, fellowship, music, workshops, fun and relaxation. Come hear keynote speaker [Dr. Maria Dixon Hall](#), author of "[The View from Dixon Hall](#)", a highly rated blog on the Progressive Christian Channel of Patheos.com. Learn more by visiting the [online registration site](#) or

downloading the [event brochure](#).

Important Note: New Hampshire Scholarship funds are available to attend NEAUCE. [Click here](#) to apply for a scholarship. Application deadline is March 18, 2016.



National Youth Event (NYE) 2016 - Believe

July 26-30, 2016 - Buena Vista, Florida

NH teens (age 13-18) are invited to join UCC and Disciples youth, from across the country and around the world, for an event centered on faith, fellowship, leadership, service, social justice and fun. Don't miss out on a chance to be a part of this inspiring four-day

experience.

[Learn More >>](#)

Employment Opportunities

Local (New Hampshire):

- **Lyme Congregational Church** is looking for a **Part Time Christian Educator** to organize and teach Sunday School and to mentor and encourage lay teachers. Email [Rev. Amy Hayden](#) for more information.
- The **Congregational Church of Hollis** is currently searching for an [Interim Christian Education Coordinator](#).
- Find additional information and other career opportunities posted on the [New Hampshire Conference UCC website](#).

National: Willing to relocate? The [UCC Ministry Opportunities webpage](#) is a great source for Christian Education and Faith Formation openings nationwide.

The Word of God

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

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