



Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

August 2018 News & Updates

In most of New Hampshire this week signifies the end of summer and the beginning of a new school year. As you finalize plans for your educational ministries this fall, I call your attention to Sunday, October 7, 2018, World Communion Sunday, and the opportunity to celebrate our global unity in Christ.

Below are a few resources and ideas that encourage all ages to learn more about our wider faith community.

Curriculum Resources

Ahlan Wa Sahlan! Welcome - Exploring the Holy Land

Ahlan wa Sahlan! Welcome is a 10-session children's curriculum designed to help children connect the stories in the Bible to real children who live in the middle east today. Learn more about this curriculum from Global Ministries at: https://www.globalministries.org/middle_east_initiative_curriculum.

R.E.A.D.Y Youth Curriculum

The [R.E.A.D.Y! \(Revolutionary, Engaged, and Driven Youth\) curriculum](#) is a wellspring of information and resources to equip youth with the tools to continually evaluate who they are, their world, and God's mission.

- Challenging stereotypes, and prejudices
- Recognizing God in all religious traditions
- Discovering differences and similarities to people in different cultures
- Realizing God's mission requires a constantly evolving worldview

Embracing Interfaith Cooperation | Eboo Patel on coming Together to Change the World

In this five session study, designed for adult and young-adult small groups, you will join interfaith commentator Eboo Patel as he explores what it means to be "literate" about other faiths, how interfaith cooperation works and why, the skills needed for interfaith cooperation and the significant role that our institutions, including colleges and faith communities, can play in this process.

[Learn more >>](#)

Worship Resources

Global Ministries

World Communion Sunday offers congregations a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. [Global Ministries](#) offers a variety of resources for celebrating this day with communion breads, hymns, prayers, art, and litanies from different cultures.

(Note: the website resources are still relevant, but have not been updated for the current year, they still refer to October 1, 2017)

Building Faith - A ministry of Virginia Theological Seminary

The buildfaith.org website provides some prayers for opening our hearts to acceptance and love of ourselves and our neighbors worldwide.

- [And the Table Will Be Wide - A Blessing for World Communion Sunday](#) by Jan L. Richardson
- [A Prayer for World Communion Sunday](#) by Safiyah Fosua

Upcoming Events

Confirmation Roundtable - Tuesday, September 11, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Calling all faith formation leaders to gather at the Conference office (140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, NH 03275) for a brainstorming session on the topic of confirmation. This will be an opportunity to exchange ideas and best practices or just a chance to meet your peers and ask questions. Together we can help each other revitalize and re-energize the Confirmation programs in our congregations. Please contact Ann Desrochers, adesrochers@nhcucc.org or 603-715-9526, with any questions.

“UCC: Is That for Me?”

Confirmation Retreat

September 28 to 30, 2018

Horton Center

Pine Mountain, Gorham, NH

**Gather for Music, Worship, Discussion,
Good Food, Games and a
Low Ropes Course Challenge as we
explore what it means to be part of the
United Church of Christ (UCC).**

**Sponsored by the Christian Formation Ministry
New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ**

What does the United Church of Christ have to do with my life and my church? Do my beliefs and dreams fit with the UCC? What does the phrase "God is still speaking" mean anyway? Come join us for a weekend retreat so that we can talk about questions like these! Youth from New England Confirmation classes will gather for worship, music, discussion, good food and games. [Download the retreat brochure](#) to learn more or register at: <http://www.hortoncenter.org/camps/confirmation-retreat/>.



Join [The Confirmation Project](#) in Princeton this October where they will be sharing their research, celebrating a book launch, and working with those who attend to faithfully think through confirmation and equivalent ministries. [Click here](#) for up-to-date information on registration for this event.

Quick Links

- The [Association of United Church Educators](#) (AUCE). 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.
 - "[The Guide](#)" Called to Educational and Formational Ministries: A Guide for Local Churches, Educators, and Youth Workers
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Employment Opportunities

Local: Visit the [Classifieds/Help Wanted](#) section of the NH 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

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!"
Psalm 133:1 (NRSV)

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