



Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

October 2018 News & Updates

Given recent events throughout our country, and throughout the world, this month's newsletter shares resources to help parents, faith leaders, and congregations have caring conversations about difficult topics.

Conversations with Children and Youth

Having authentic conversations is hard and there is no simple formula that will work for everyone.

The following articles offer practical suggestions for your consideration in discussing recent events in Pittsburgh.

- [How to talk to your kids about the mass shooting in Pittsburgh](#)
Article by Traci Certo, founder and publisher of [nextpittsburgh.com](#), with advice from D. Debi Gilboa, a family physician at the Squirrel Hill Health Center.
- [Talking to Children About Events in Pittsburgh and Anti-Semitism](#)
Article from Give an Hour™, a national nonprofit 501(c)(3), founded in September 2005 by Dr. Barbara Van Dahlen, a licensed clinical psychologist. At Give an Hour they believe that within our communities we have the resources to address many of the challenges that face society - challenges that often result in emotional pain and suffering.
- [Resource Round-Up: How to Talk to Kids About Pittsburgh](#)
Article from JewishBoston which includes a list of resources for talking about Anti-Semitism and terrorism.

The resources listed here offer more general recommendations for helping our youth cope during difficult times.

- [How to Help Kids Feel Safe After a Tragedy](#)
from PBS Parents
- [Children and Tragic Events](#)
thoughts from Fred Rogers
- [Explaining the News to Our Kids](#)
from Common Sense Media
- [Helping Children and Adolescents Cope with Violence and Disasters](#)
National Institute of Mental Health

Conversations with Adults

The following articles provide "conversation starters" on the role of our faith communities during these tragic times.

- [UCC Leaders Reach Out with Love as They Condemn Attack on Jewish Community in Pittsburgh](#)
- The United Methodist Church shares resources for [Responding to Violence](#)
- [How Should Churches Respond to Mass Shootings?](#)

An interview with former FEMA Chief W. Craig Fugate in light of the Tree of Life Synagogue Tragedy, published on Christianity Today.

Upcoming Events

Call for Youth/Young Adult Writers to Contribute to a 2019 Lenten Devotion

The youth and young adult ministries of the national UCC setting is being revamped and there are several projects that are in the works. One of those projects is to offer a 2019 Lenten devotion which will be available for download early next year. They are seeking a total of 46 writers between the ages of 12 and 30 (give or take a year or two).

If you are or know of a youth or young adult who might be interested in contributing, please pass their contact information along to Ann Desrochers, adesrochers@nhcucc.org and it will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

Re-Imagining Theological Education for the Adult Learner: A Webinar with Rev. Lou Kavar, Ph.D.

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 3:00 pm ET

Cost: \$10

The focus of the Webinar will be on adult educational theory and the Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers in the United Church of Christ. This event will be useful for conference staff, deans, directors, and faculty involved with regional theological education programs, as well as members of Committees on Ministry and others using the Marks to assess learning or develop programs.

Register Here:

<https://reimaginingtheologicaleducationfortheadultlearner.eventbrite.com>

The event is sponsored by The Regional Theological Education Consortium of the United Church of Christ and The BTS Center.

Faith Formation Summit - Saturday, December 1, 2018

Edwards House, Framingham, MA

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20

You are invited to join faith formation leaders from southern New England United Church of Christ churches for a day of learning, conversation, and a sharing of ideas that will help us to move our thinking forward into an enhanced understanding of faith formation for the 21st Century.

Learn more about this event, and how to register, in Debbie Gline Allen's blog:

<https://www.macucc.org/blogdetail/it-is-time-for-a-faith-formation-summit-12245766>

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

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is

love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

Ann Desrochers | Christian Education Resource Consultant | New Hampshire Conference
UCC adesrochers@nhcucc.org

New Hampshire Conference UCC, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, NH 03275-3711

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