The week of Christmas is here and our days can quickly become filled with trying to find that perfect last minute gift, baking, putting those final decorating touches around our homes, and getting all those cards in the mail. In the midst of the hustle and bustle, let us not forget that Advent and Christmas are about celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. Make time to reflect and let Jesus into your heart!

Visit our Website

Featured Resources

Open Your Heart with Music

Earlier this month, Kelsey Kramer McGinnis shared "six fresh albums to accompany the season as you move through moments of joy, solemnity, excitement, solitude, and celebration" in an article for Christianity Today. Read her article and find links to the music at: https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/december-web-only/christian-christmas-music-2021-chris-tomlin-brian-fallon.html

If Jazz is more your style, check out Concord's First Church Jazz Sanctuary House Band Christmas offerings. They are playing a different Christmas song every morning from December 13-25, 2021. Visit their YouTube Channel to watch the videos.

Open Your Heart with Prayer

In case you missed it, this year the national setting invites the entire church to join them in a season of collective prayer during Advent. Each day during Advent they will post a prayer at noon Eastern on their social media platforms and website (12 noon Eastern, 11 AM Central, 10 AM Mountain, 9 AM Pacific, 7 AM Hawaii).

If you are so led, you are invited to pause for five minutes each day and pray a
prayer with them, or in any way the Spirit may lead, knowing many others in
the church will be praying with you.

Learn more >>

Your Input is Needed to Help Shape the Future of New Hampshire Association of United Church Educators (NHAUCE)

The Christian Formation Ministry would like to revitalize and reconvene NHAUCE, a support and advocacy group for faith formation leaders.

In the past NHAUCE met for the purpose of sharing ideas/resources, fellowship, and training. In order to learn what the Christian Formation Ministry of the New Hampshire Conference can do to support and serve the faith formation leaders in our Conference in the future, we invite you to share your thoughts by completing a brief survey >>

Events

UCC Youth Ambassadors Program

The Youth Ambassadors Program brings together emerging leaders in the United Church of Christ, who are in their freshman, sophomore or junior year of high school, to gain a deeper understanding of their faith, study alongside justice leaders, collaborate on one large yearly project that aligns with the mission and goals of the UCC, and regularly give voice to the wider church through appropriate news and social media challenges, and when possible, gather at a denomination-wide event for in person community building.

Contact Rev. Trayce Potter, Minister for Youth and Young Adult Engagement, for more information about this opportunity.

Deadline to apply: January 15, 2022

UCC Conference for Youth Ministers

On February 7-8th, the national setting will offer a virtual conference for 100 youth ministers and leaders to reimagine youth ministry, National Youth Event and other events for the future. Registration can be completed here: https://cvent.me/Vy8PPK

Additionally, we are asking anyone who has regular contact with youth in the United Church of Christ to complete a short survey to provide additional insight to the Faith INFO team and national setting. You may access the survey here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Youth_Min2022

Justice Leadership Program (JLP)

JLP was formed in 2012 and is a faith-based educational and networking
platform to help individuals and communities transform the world. JLP's theology is rooted in the Progressive Christian faith and is now ecumenical, having previously been a program of the PNW Conference of the UCC.

The **Jubilee program** exists to inform, equip, and inspire people to act for justice. The 6-month virtual program is for adults who want to increase their understanding of social justice, deepen their faith, and gain the skills and confidence to take meaningful action while building relationships of support with a community of their peers. The program begins in January 2022 and we are currently accepting applications.

A core component of the program is for individuals to engage with their faith community, enlivening and inspiring congregational mission and ministry through justice-focused projects.

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**Save the Date! New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE) 2022 Conference**

In 2022, NEAUCE will be resuming their in-person event for faith formation leaders and pastors at Pilgrim Pines Conference Center in Swanzey, NH. Engage your heart and mind for a REVIVAL!

You are invited to a unique experience presented by dynamic Artist, Author, and Spiritual Leader, [Bronwen Mayer Henry](#).

Rev. Renee Rouse will be the Worship Leader and Amizael Castro the musician.

The Conference includes workshops and afternoon activities, as well as time to relax, recharge, and reset for a flexible future in faith formation. Watch for registration to open in February.

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**Employment**

**Local Opportunities**

- The **Brookline Community Church** is looking for a **part-time Children's Ministry Coordinator** to provide overall leadership and welcome in the Christian Faith Formation of children, including guidance and resources for all aspects of the Children’s Ministry program. [Learn more >>]

- There is an opening for a **part-time Christian Education Director**, to be responsible for the development and coordination of faith formation for children, youth, and families in accordance with the mission and ministry of the **Stratham Community Church**, United Church of Christ. [Learn more >>]

- For **more local opportunities** visit the [Classifieds/Help Wanted](#) section of the NH Conference UCC website.

**National Opportunities**
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 the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* Philippians 4:7 (NRSV)