



Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

October 2015

The Divine Shepherd A Psalm of David

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in
green pastures;
he leads me beside still
waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
You prepare a table
before me
in the presence of my
enemies;
you anoint my head with
oil;
my cup overflows.

Psalm 23:1-6 (NRSV)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Resource Center

Resource guides to assist
in starting a dialogue on
tough topics

[Tips for Talking With
Your Loved Ones About
the End of Life](#)
from the Huffington Post

[Aging with Dignity](#)

[A Guide for Conversing
with Your Congregation
About Gun Violence](#)
Produced by
[Faiths United to
Prevent Gun Violence](#)

[Sacred Conversations
on Race: Immerse
Yourself](#)

Whether you are talking to a child about a disaster they just saw on the news; to teens about drug and alcohol addiction; to your adult children about death and dying; or to your congregation about gun violence in our country, it is difficult to know where to start. This month's newsletter shares resources to help parents, faith leaders, and congregations with some of those difficult conversations.

Caring conversations with Children and Youth

Having authentic conversations is hard and there is no simple formula that will work for everyone. The articles and books below offer practical suggestions for your consideration.

- [Talking with Children about Hard Topics](#)
from Building Faith
- [Children and Tragic Events](#)
thoughts from Fred Rogers
- [How to Help Kids Feel Safe After Tragedy](#)
from PBS Parents
- [Explaining the News to Our Kids](#)
from Common Sense Media
- [Helping Children and Adolescents Cope with Violence and Disasters](#), from the National Institute of Mental Health
- [Sex and Faith: Talking with Your Child from Birth to Adolescence](#), by Kate Ott
- [How to Talk to Your Teen about Marijuana](#)
from www.drugfree.org

Caring Conversations with the Wider Community

The Conversation Sabbath: Dozens of Clergy Hope to Get People Talking About Death

For a 10-day period beginning **Nov. 6** more than 30 Christian, Jewish and Buddhist communities in Boston and a handful more across the country will observe the Conversation Sabbath.

[Learn more >>](#)



Gun Violence Sabbath Weekend: December 10-14, 2015

An opportunity to remember those who have lost their lives to gunfire, pray for those whose lives have been forever changed because of the loss of a loved

one, and to educate one another on proven strategies to reduce gun violence.

[Learn more >>](#)

Sacred Conversation on Race is a church-wide initiative for United

from the
United Church of Christ

Other Resources for
Educators and Faith
Formation Leaders

"The Guide"

[Called To Educational
and Formational
Ministries: A Guide for
Local Churches,
Educators, and Youth
Workers](#)

edUCCators epistle

Bi-weekly e-mailing from
the UCC's Publishing,
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Communication Ministry
Team. To subscribe,
contact Aimee Jannsohn
at jannsoha@ucc.org

Quick Links

The Association of
United Church Educators
(AUCE)
has recently updated their
national website.

Check it out!
www.auce-ucc.org

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.

Church of Christ congregations, as we seek to confront the sin of racism in our desire to see the Church live and be as one. [Learn more >>](#)

Training Opportunities



Vibrant Faith: Do What Matters

[Do What Matters!](#) is a two-day training experience for congregational leaders. This interactive training experience seeks to help leaders imagine and implement effective faith formation practices for today and for future generations. Anchored in recent research, propelled by the urgent need for change, yet tempered by decades of leadership in the field, Vibrant Faith trainers will guide participants toward:

- understanding the profound cultural changes affecting faith development processes today.
- exploring the process of faith transmission from generation to generation through the extended family and church systems.
- experiencing and developing innovative ministry approaches that apply the essential faith-forming processes to people of all ages.
- developing a practical plan for the future of faith formation with all ages in your congregation.

This event to be held at the following time, date, and locations in New England:

- November 3-4, 2015, [Acton, MA](#)
- November 5 -6, 2015, [West Hartford, CT](#)

Employment Opportunities

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

Save the Date:

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/>

Look for New Hampshire specific NYE event participation plans this fall.



Believe! United Church of Christ National Youth Event (NYE) 2016

The Word of God

"The Lord is good, a stronghold in a day of trouble; he protects those who take refuge in him" Nahum 1:7 (NRSV)

Contact Info

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