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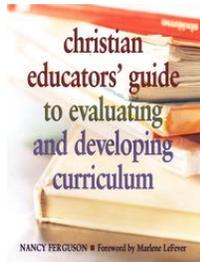
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[How to Select Curriculum Resources for Congregations of the United Church of Christ](#)  
(Published in 2008)



### Christian Educator's Guide to Evaluating and Developing Curriculum

Author: Nancy Ferguson

Publisher: Judson Press, 2008

Learn More/Order: [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com) , [www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com) ,  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

Product Description from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). "A practical handbook for pastors, lay leaders, and Christian education committees who need help choosing a curriculum that suits their church's beliefs, practices, and membership. For some congregations, no preprinted materials will do--and this guide offers the tools you need to write your own curriculum. Includes a step-by-step process for evaluation of existing materials and creation of new resources!."

About the author, from [www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com). Nancy Ferguson is a retired church professional with forty years experience in churches and camps. She is the former day camp director at Camp Hanover in Richmond Virginia and the project manager and editor of *New Earth: Christian Resources for the Outdoors*, an ecumenical curriculum for summer camps. Nancy is the author of eight books including *Teaching Younger Children (Ages 7-10) About God's Creation*, *The Retreat Leader's Manual* with Kevin Witt, *Retreats for Renewal: Five Intergenerational Retreats*, and *Training Staff to Be Spiritual Leaders*.

Ferguson holds an MDiv, a MA in Christian Education and a Ed.S. from Union Presbyterian Seminary (formerly Union Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian School of Christian Education)

## UCC Resources:



### Faith Practices

Age Level: Multi-age & Intergenerational, Adult (35+), Young Adult (18-35), Older Youth (15-19), Youth (11-15), Older Children (7-11), Younger Children (3-7)  
Learn More/Order: <http://www.ucc.org/faith-practices>

*Faith Practices* is an online resource that's transforming congregations into communities that worship together, learn together, and serve together. Faith Practices encompass every setting in your congregation (Christian Education, Workshop Rotation, UCC Identity & History, Living Practices in Daily Life).

**Update July 2015: Faith Practices is no longer for sale, however, there are still plenty of links/activities accessible in Faith Practices. [Click Here](#) to access the entire Faith Practices resource - 24/7, 365. Plus it will never expire and you can download or print whenever you want.**

Giving and Receiving Hospitality  
Giving Testimony and Witness  
Playing and Living Joyfully  
Discovering Gifts of Ministry

Keeping Sabbath  
Living Stewardship  
Encountering Scripture  
Honoring the Body

Working for Justice  
Experiencing Beauty  
Praying and Making Ritual  
Blessing and Letting Go

A Scripture Index for *Faith Practices* is available at:

[http://www.nhcucc.org/Documents/Christian\\_Education/scripture\\_index\\_FP.pdf](http://www.nhcucc.org/Documents/Christian_Education/scripture_index_FP.pdf)



The publishers of Gather 'Round have released a new curriculum: **Shine: Living in God's Light!** Shine continues many of the features that people loved about Gather 'Round, including faithful retelling of Bible stories, thoughtful reflection, creative activities, and an emphasis on discipleship, peace, service, and community. Shine has additional new features, incorporating some of the latest understandings of best practice in pedagogy. Both Gather 'Round and Shine are committed to nurturing children, youth, and their families in becoming faithful followers of Jesus: people who know and love God, interpret God's word, belong to God's gathered community, and share God's good news.



### **Shine: Living in God's Light**

*A project of MennoMedia and Brethren Press*

Age Level: Glow & Becoming God's People for MultiAge (K-Grade 6)

Learn More: <https://shinecurriculum.com/>

Order via UCC Resources:

<http://www.uccresources.com/collections/shine-living-in-gods-light-curriculum>

**Shine Fall 2015** introduces children to many important stories of the Old Testament. Each fall quarter brings another set of stories in chronological sequence. These are the stories of faith that Jesus knew, and it's an important way to build biblical literacy.

\*Resources listed in this section have been successfully utilized and recommended by local church(es) in the New Hampshire Conference United Church of Christ.



### Our Whole Lives

Age Level: Pre-school (3-4)  
Kindergarten – Grade 1  
Grades 4-6  
Grades 7-9  
Grades 10-12  
Young Adults  
Adults

Learn More/Order: <http://www.ucc.org/justice/sexuality-education/our-whole-lives.html>

*Our Whole Lives* is a series of programs for Human **Sexuality Education**. Written by professional sexuality educators, the programs provide accurate information for parents, teachers and pastors to use with children and young people to help them learn about sexuality in the affirming and supportive setting of our churches.

A complete (nationwide) training schedule for *Our Whole Lives* is available at:  
<http://www.ucc.org/justice/sexuality-education/training-schedule.html>

### **Other Curricula Resources\*:**



#### Seasons of the Spirit

**Seasons ENCORE:** Age Level (Sunday school) Resources: Multi-age (5-12)  
**Seasons FUSION:** Worship resources for engaging all ages in Faith Formation  
Methodology: Lectionary Based, Designed for groups of 12-15 learners  
Publisher: Wood Lake Publishing, Inc.

Learn More/Order: <http://www.seasonsonline.ca>

*Seasons of the Spirit* is **one inclusive program for the whole congregation**. *Seasons of the Spirit* supports faith communities and families in their life together by

- exploring meaning and mystery in the Bible
- being grounded in thoughtful theology
- empowering children, youth, and adults to be transformed in Christ
- inspiring and equipping leaders
- nurturing the imaginative spirit
- offering resources for all ages
- integrating worship, learning, and serving ministries

\*Resources listed in this section have been successfully utilized and recommended by local church(es) in the New Hampshire Conference United Church of Christ.