A CHRISTMAS BLESSING
Wilda English, n.d.

God grant you
the light of Christmas,
which is faith;
the warmth of
Christmas,
which is purity;
the righteousness of
Christmas,
which is justice;
the belief in Christmas,
which is truth;
the all of Christmas,
which is Christ?.

Faith Formation in the Small Church

I, myself, am a member of a small New Hampshire church that also happens to be affiliated with both the United Church of Christ (UCC) and the United Methodist Church (UMC). One of the benefits of this dual affiliation is access to a wealth of resources available through both conferences.

The challenges and joys of belonging to a small church have no denominational boundaries and I encourage you to read some of the articles and explore some of the resources developed by the UMC Hinton Center.

The Hinton Center is a retreat facility and offers workshops that focus almost exclusively on rural and smaller membership churches. While some of these resources focus on UMC traditions, they could easily be adapted for use in your own congregations.

Click on the following link for an article specifically written about Christian Education in the Small Church:

Additional resources for all facets (music, stewardship, administration) of a small church can be found at: http://www.hintoncenter.org/resources/e-learning

Join Our Mailing List!

Resource Center
Visit the NH Conference Website
Recently Added files: Advent Christmas

"The Guide"
Called To Educational and Formational Ministries: A Guide for Local Churches, Educators, and Youth Workers

edUCCators epistle
Bi-weekly e-mailing from

General Faith Formation Resources for the Small Church

Christian Education in the Small Membership Church

Christian Education is part of the vital ministry of all churches, but especially of small membership churches. In a culture that places great value on numbers, small membership churches often mistakenly see themselves at a disadvantage. Small membership churches can create wonderful opportunities to form and disciple faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

In her book Karen B. Tye invites pastors and faith formation leaders to guide their small membership churches to develop an imaginative and holistic vision of Christian Education.

Catherine Sullivan wrote a comprehensive review of this book. (Note: Catherine is from the Orthodox church and the author writes from a mainline Protestant perspective. Catherine reviews concepts applicable to both faith traditions and shares her view of any contrasts.)
Christian Education in the Small Church
Based on the premise that Christian education is more than Sunday church school, the authors (Donald L. Griggs, Judy M. Walther, and Douglas A. Walrath) encourage a holistic perspective of education encompassing all age groups and all activities of the church.

More information on this book is available in a review written by Patty Meyers, D. Min., Ed. D.

Youth Resources for the Small Church

Help! I'm a Small Church Youth Worker!
Achieving Big-Time Success in a Non-Mega Ministry

Practical help for volunteer, part-time, and full-time youth workers in small churches. Eighty-five percent of the churches in America are classified as small. This book provides youth workers with processes and ideas that enable them to address their particular needs as part of small churches.

Save the Date - NEAUCE 2014

NEAUCE 43rd Annual Conference
May 6-8, 2014
Craigville Conference Center (Cape Cod)

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Chap Clark
Associate provost for strategic projects and professor and chair of the Youth, Family, and Culture Department in the School of Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary

Worship Leader: Rev. Mollie Landers
Associate Director of Outdoor Ministries
New Hampshire & Maine Conferences, UCC

Dr. Clark is a well-known practitioner, adolescent and family scholar, and author. Among his most recent publications are Hurt 2.0 and Sticky Faith, which he co-authored with Fuller's Kara Powell. Click Here to read his biography.
Events:
Homegrown Faith and Justice: Conversations on Faith Formation at Home
If you missed the live streamed event, you are invited to watch the video replay. To learn more click here.

Prepared to Serve
Saturday, February 22, 2014
"Fulfilling our Purpose, Serving the Greater Good"
Join us for a day of worship, fellowship, and enrichment.

The Word of God
"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances." Psalm 119:105-106 (NRSV)

Contact Info
Ann H. Desrochers
Specialist in Christian Education
adesrochers@nhcucc.org

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

Forward this email

This email was sent to jevans@nhcucc.org by adesrochers@nhcucc.org | Update Profile/Email Address | Instant removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy.