Christian Education & Formation Newsletter

New Hampshire Conference - United Church of Christ

July 2013

Editor's Corner

I'm Losing It

It's a cliche. But it's true. I am stressed out...burning out. I am not eating right. I am not sleeping well. I am working hard, but I feel like I am spinning my wheels. I can list the things I should be doing differently, but I can't make myself do them.

Merciful God, I lift myself to you wholly just as I am.

Rekindle my love of teaching, Empower me to take better care of the body you have given me. Guide me to make better use of the gifts you have given me. Give me strength to do what I can do, and courage to leave the rest to you.

Merciful God, hear my prayer. Amen.

from
Give Me Strength
Personal Prayers for School Teachers
Sharon Harris-Ewing

This month we continue our focus on the role of Technology in 21st Century Faith Formation. At the 2013 New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE) Conference our keynote speaker and workshop leaders encouraged us to enrich and extend our ministry using digital media.

NHCUCC Confirmation Retreat - October 4-5, 2013

UCC: Is That for Me?

Calling all Confirmands to join us the first weekend in October!

Confirmation Retreat:
7:00 p.m. Fri. Oct. 4 - 4:30 p.m. Sat. Oct. 5
At the Wanakee United Methodist Conference Center, Meredith NH

What does the United Church of Christ have to do with my life and my church? Do my beliefs and dreams fit with the UCC? What does the phrase “God is still speaking” mean anyway?

Come join us for an overnight retreat so that we can talk about questions like these! Youth from NH Confirmation classes will gather for worship, music, discussion, good food and games. This is a great opportunity to meet other youth and Confirmation leaders.

Per person cost of $60.00 includes all snacks, overnight accommodations, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, all program materials, and a low ropes course team building activity!

Group registration forms will be available in early August and due back no later than September 20, 2013.

Make your plans now, so you don't miss out on this great opportunity for your Confirmands to share a faith experience with the wider church community.

For additional information please contact Ann Desrochers, NHCUCC Specialist in Christian Education. Thank you!
Email: adesrochers@nhcucc.org

Digital Ministry Resources

Do you continue to struggle with the idea of incorporating Facebook,
Twitter, YouTube and Blogs into your ministry?

Check out Click2Save. Elizabeth Drescher and Keith Anderson authored this practical resource providing "how to" guidance on effectively using social media in the day-to-day context of ministry.

Or you might like Elizabeth's other book, Tweet If You Heart Jesus: Practicing Church in the Digital Reformation. (available at Amazon.com)

You can also see digital ministry "in action" right here in New Hampshire. Many of your colleagues are already using these tools.

You can connect with any number of our conference churches and Youth Groups via Facebook. The First Congregational Church of Webster is no exception, click below to:

Like us on Facebook

When visiting the website for the First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH you are invited to:

Follow us on twitter

The Congregational Church in Exeter, NH shares live action views of the renovations to their sanctuary and special church music via YouTube.

View our videos on YouTube

Ever wonder what the New Hampshire Delegates were doing at General Synod?

Visit our blog

Northeast Training Opportunities

Our Whole Lives Training
August 4-6, 2013
Best Western Plus Executive Court Inn
Manchester, NH

We have received an invitation to an upcoming, and local, opportunity to attend the Our Whole Lives (OWL) facilitator training for grades K-1 and 4-6. This event, which is hosted by the Northern New England District of the UUA. Details can be found here: OWL Training

Godly Play® Training
September 26 - 28, 2013
All Saint's Episcopal Church, Belmont, MA

On the same weekend in the same location both new and experienced teachers will have an opportunity to participate in a hands-on training event where you can practice and improve teaching skills and leave spiritually renewed.

**CORE Training**
Jenn Sanborn + Linda Clapp, Godly Play Foundation Trainers
[Registration Brochure](#)

**LEVEL II CORE Training**
The Rev. Cheryl Minor, Ph.D. + Nancy St. John
Godly Play Foundation Trainers
[Registration Brochure](#)

FREE Workshop for Faith Formation Leaders

**St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Parish, Acton, MA**

Designed to give leaders strategies and tools to empower families to grow in faith at home, this half-day workshop is:
- **Aligned** with recent research on family assets and strengths.
- **Anchored** in decades of experience in family ministry.
- **Built** on the practical resources of Vibrant Faith @ Home.

**Topics Include: Using Digital Media to Connect at Home.**
[Events Details and Registration Information at Eventbrite](#)

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**Events**

Enjoy your Summer - NH AUCE Meetings will Resume in the Fall
Wednesday, September 18, 10:00-11:30 am
**Topic: Fundraising**
NH Conference Center, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, NH

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**The Word of God**

"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." Romans 12:3-5 (NRSV)

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**Contact Info**
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