



Core Areas of Knowledge for Local Church Educators

with Bibliography

The AUCE Coordinating Committee has identified five core areas of knowledge as the basis and grounding for anyone who leads Christian education and faith formation in a local church. A Youth Ministry category has been added as well as a Digital Technology category. With assistance from Ken Ostermiller, former UCC Minister of Curriculum Development; Dr. Marian Plant, Professor of Religious and Ministry Studies at Defiance College; Karen Tye, retired professor of Christian Education at Eden Theological Seminary, Karen-Marie Yust, Associate Professor of Christian Education at Union Presbyterian Seminary; and the members of the UCC Lay Ministry Education Network, AUCE offers a bibliography here to supplement each of these areas.

❖ Digital Technology

Faith Formation 2020: Designing the Future of Faith Formation by John Roberto, Lifelong Faith Associates, 2010
Faith Formation 4.0: Introducing an Ecology of Faith in a Digital Age by Julie Anne Lytle, Morehouse Publishing, 2013
The Networked Nonprofit: Connecting with Social Media to Drive Change, Beth Kanter & Allison Fine, Jossey-Bass, 2010

❖ Basic Bible (Interpretation)

An Introduction to the Old Testament: The Canon and Christian Imagination by Walter Brueggemann, Westminster John Knox Press, 2003
New Oxford Annotated Bible, NRSV with the Apocrypha, Fourth Edition (articles in the back), Oxford University Press, 2010
The New Testament: A Student's Introduction by Stephen L. Harris, McGraw-Hill, 2011
Gospel Parallels by Burton Throckmorton, Thomas Nelson, 1992
Bible for Vital Congregations by Barbara J. Essex, The Pilgrim Press, 2008

❖ Christian Education Program Administration (Including coordinating volunteers)

Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Whole Church Together in Ministry, Community and Worship by Holly Catterton Allen and Christine Lawton Ross, IVP Academic, 2012
The Nuts & Bolts of Christian Education: Practical Wisdom for Teachers & Leaders by Delia Halverson, Abingdon Press, 2000
The New Breed: Understanding & Equipping the 21st Century Volunteer by Jonathan McKee & Thomas W. McKee, Group Publishing, 2008

❖ Curriculum/Resource Selection and Development

Christian Educator's Guide to Evaluating and Developing Curriculum by Nancy Ferguson, Judson Press, 2008
Teaching Today's Teachers To Teach by Donald L. Griggs, Abingdon Press, 2003
Postmodern Children's Ministry: Ministry to Children in the 21st Century by Ivy Beckwith, Zondervan, 2004
Formational Children's Ministry: Shaping Children Using Story, Ritual, and Relationship by Ivy Beckwith, Baker Books, 2010
Children's Ministry in the Way of Jesus by David M. Csinos and Ivy Beckwith, Baker Books, 2013
Growing in the Life of Faith: Education and Christian Practices by Craig Dykstra, Westminster John Knox Press, 2005
In the Midst of Chaos: Caring for Children as Spiritual Practice by Bonnie Miller-McLemore, Jossey-Bass, 2006
Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People by Dorothy Bass, ed., Jossey-Bass, 2010
Taught By God: Teaching and Spiritual Formation by Karen-Marie Yust and E. Byron Anderson, Chalice Press, 2006
The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why by Phyllis Tickle, Baker Books, 2012
Emergence Christianity: What It Is, Where It Is Going, and Why It Matters by Phyllis Tickle, Baker Books, 2012

❖ **Education 101 (Theory; Human & Faith Development; Models; Multiple Intelligences)**

- The Craft of Christian Teaching: Essentials for Becoming a Very Good Teacher* by Israel Galindo, Judson Press, 1998
Educating Congregations: The Future of Christian Education by Charles Foster, Abingdon Press, 1994
Basics of Christian Education by Karen Tye, Chalice Press, 2000
Faith Formation In Vital Congregations by Marian Plant, The Pilgrim Press, 2009
In Search of Wisdom: Faith Formation in the Black Church by Anne E. Streaty Wimberly and Evelyn Parker, Abingdon Press, 2003
Soul Stories, Revised Edition: African American Christian Education by Anne Wimberly, Abingdon Press, 2005
Nurturing Faith and Hope: Black Worship as a Model for Christian Education by Anne E. Streaty Wimberly, Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2010
Come Unto To Me: Rethinking the Sacraments for Children by Elizabeth Caldwell, The Pilgrim Press, 1996
Mapping Christian Education: Approaches to Congregational Learning by Jack Seymour, Abingdon Press, 1997
Will Our Children Have Faith? (Revised Edition) by John H. Westerhoff III, Morehouse Publishing, 2012
Fashion Me A People: Curriculum in the Church by Maria Harris, Westminster John Knox Press, 1989
The Teaching Ministry of Congregations by Richard Osmer, Westminster John Knox Press, 2005
Making A Home for Faith: Nurturing the Spiritual Life of Your Children by Elizabeth Caldwell, The Pilgrim Press, 2007
Real Kids, Real Faith: Practices for Nurturing Children's Spiritual Lives by Karen-Marie Yust, Jossey-Bass, 2004
Human Development and Faith: Life-Cycle Stages of Body, Mind, and Soul by Felicity Kelcourse, ed., Chalice Press, 2004
Theories of Development, 6th edition by William Crain, Pearson, 2010
Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning by James Fowler, HarperOne, 1995
The Handbook of Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence by Eugene Roehlkepartain, ed., SAGE Publications, Inc., 2005
Workshop Rotation: A Model for Sunday School by Melissa Armstrong-Hansche and Neil MacQueen, Geneva Press, 2000
Teaching Godly Play: How to Mentor the Spiritual Development of Children by Jerome W. Berryman, Morehouse Education Resources, 2009
Intelligence Reframed: Multiple Intelligences for the 21st Century by Howard Gardner, Basic Books, 2000

❖ **UCC Identity/ History/ Polity/ Theology**

- The Unofficial Handbook of the United Church of Christ* by Quinn G. Caldwell and Curtis J. Preston, The Pilgrim Press, 2011
The Shaping of the United Church of Christ by Louis H. Gunnemann, United Church Press, 1999
Confessing Our Faith: An Interpretation of the Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ by Roger L. Shinn, The Pilgrim Press, 1990
Theology and Identity: Traditions, Movements, and Polity in the United Church of Christ by Daniel L. Johnson and Charles Hambrick-Stowe, United Church Press, 2007
United Church of Christ History and Program from United Church of Christ Resources (www.ucc.org)
What's Theology Got To Do With It? -- Convictions, Vitality, and the Church by Anthony B. Robinson, The Alban Institute, 2005
Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ from United Church of Christ Resources (www.ucc.org)
The New Century Hymnal from United Church of Christ Resources (www.ucc.org)
Manual on the Ministry from United Church of Christ Resources (www.ucc.org)
Short Course in the History of the United Church of Christ (<http://www.ucc.org/about-us/short-course>)

Addendum

A youth ministry bibliography may be found at <http://www.ucc.org/education/bibliographies>

Other helpful bibliographies that are found on that site:

- ▶ Adults
- ▶ Youth Ministry
- ▶ Older Adults
- ▶ Ending Racism
- ▶ Disabilities Ministries
- ▶ Children and Communion

❖ **Youth Ministry**

many of the resources listed above, plus...

The Godbearing Life by Kenda Creasy Dean and Ron Foster, Upper Room, 2005

Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens by Don Richter & Dorothy Bass, Upper Room, 2002

Soul Tending: Life-Forming Practices for Older Youth and Young Adults by Kenda Creasy Dean, ed., Abingdon Press, 2002

Starting Right: Thinking Theologically About Youth Ministry by Kenda Creasy Dean et al., Zondervan Youth Specialties, 2001

Soul Shaper: Exploring Spirituality and Contemplative Practices in Youth Ministry by Tony Jones, Zondervan Youth Specialties, 2003

Balaam's Unofficial Handbook of the United Church of Christ by the Balaam's Courier Staff, United Church Press, 2008