REIMAGING FAITH FORMATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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THE “OLD” FAITH FORMING ECOSYSTEM

- Church
- Religious School or Sunday School
- Family
- Community
- Ethnic Traditions
BUILDING A NEW FAITH FORMING ECOSYSTEM

Intergenerational Faith Community

Online & Digitally-Enabled Faith Formation

Age Group/Generational Faith Formation

Missional Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation

Learning Ecosystem

Online Resources
(Videos, Best Practices, Commercial Products)

Self-paced Online

Virtual Classroom

Classroom

Moodle Learning

Events, Workshops, Webcasts, Webinars

Performance Support/Job Aids

Crowd/Social Learning
(Blogs, Forums, Open Content)
GROWTH IN FAITH

INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION

How to become intentionally intergenerational in church life & faith formation as the foundation for lifelong faith formation and discipleship?
The Preschool Inside a Nursing Home

For the elderly residents, interacting with the kids is a jolt back to the world of the living.
INTENTIONALLY INTERGENERATIONAL

Create IG Experiences at Church
Infuse IG Experiences & Relationships into Existing Ministries/Programs
Connect Generations in Church Life
INTENTIONALLY INTERGENERATIONAL

1. Intergenerational Worship
2. Intergenerational Learning
3. Intergenerational Prayer & Spiritual Formation
4. Intergenerational Social Events
   (arts festivals, music and concerts, drama)
5. Intergenerational Service & Mission Trips
6. Intergenerational Retreats & Camps
7. Intergenerational Mentoring
8. Intergenerational Leadership

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

How to equip, resource, and support families as the center of faith formation?

1. Transmitting faith from generation to generation
2. Nurturing family faith at home – faith practices
3. Building strong families – family assets
4. Equipping & supporting parents & grandparents – formation
RELIGIOUS TRANSMISSION

FAMILIES AT THE CENTER

Church Life & Ministries

Family
Faith Transmission
Faith Forming
Practices
Family Development
Parent Formation
FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

1. Through the day: meal times, car times, morning and bedtime, exits and entries, family sharing times
2. Through the year: church year seasons, rituals and celebrations
3. Through the lifecycle: milestones & rites of passage
4. Through key family moments – good times and hard times, times of joy and sorrow
5. Through life issues and life skills: parenting, decision-making, financial planning, communication, and more

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

1. Family and intergenerational learning programs, as well as parent-child/teen programs
2. Family faith formation around life-cycle milestones
3. Family teen service projects
4. At-home resources to develop family faith practices
5. Focus on parents—parent faith formation and parental training
6. A family faith formation website as an online leaning and resource center; Facebook (or other social media) as a connection and community
MISSIONAL FAITH FORMATION

Missional faith formation expands and extends the church’s presence through outreach, connection, relationship building, and engagement with people where they live—moving faith formation out into the community.

- Moving worship & faith formation into the community
- Opening programs to everyone
- Life skills: parenting, careers, training, mentoring
- Small group programs on a variety of topics
- Community-wide service
- Community events: arts, music, theater

MISSIONAL FAITH FORMATION

Missional faith formation provides pathways for people to consider or reconsider the Christian faith, to encounter Jesus and the Good News, and to live as disciples in a supportive faith community.
ONLINE & DIGITALLY ENABLED

HOLY TRINITY ADULTS

Holy Trinity Adult Faith Formation

ONLINE & DIGITALLY ENABLED

Fully Online Faith Formation

 Mostly Online with Regular Interaction in Gathered Sessions

 Online Faith Formation & Gathered Sessions (Flipped Classroom)

 Gathered Program with Online Components beyond the Program

 Gathered Program with Supportive Online Content
GATHERED USING ONLINE CONTENT

A gathered program using online content from websites, videos from YouTube or other video sites, and blogs and other social media. With an abundance of high quality digital content, this first option is the easiest way to bring the digital world into a gathered program.

GATHERED WITH ONLINE CONTENT

Connecting church programs or events with online content that extends and deepens the experience through learning, prayer, ritual, action, etc.

- Sunday worship & church year feasts and seasons
- Intergenerational & family programs
- Children, youth, and adult classes & programs
- Extended programs: mission trips, retreat experiences, and vacation Bible school, summer camp
GATHERED WITH ONLINE CONTENT

- **Church Event or Program**
- **At Home & Daily Life**

**GATHERED WITH ONLINE CONTENT**

- **TALK**
  - Conversation
  - Activities

- **SHARE**
  - Facebook
  - Video
  - Projects

- **LEARN**
  - Read
  - Listen
  - Watch

- **PRAY**
  - Devotions
  - Bible Reading
  - Daily Prayer

- **ACT**
  - Practices
  - Service
  - Projects
### EXAMPLE: SUNDAY WORSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Life</th>
<th>Daily &amp; Home Life</th>
<th>Online Life</th>
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| Experience of Worship in the Congregation  
  • Sunday worship and lectionary  
  • Church year feasts and seasons  
  • Church rituals: baptism, communion, funerals, etc. | Experience of Sunday worship, rituals, and church year seasons in daily life  
  • Reflecting on the sermon and readings at home  
  • Practices: Lectio, etc.  
  • Application to daily living | Online worship, church year, and lectionary resources on the church’s faith formation website  
  • Lectionary commentaries online  
  • Video reflections and commentary  
  • Online activities and projects |

### ONLINE AND GATHERED

Flip the classroom or program by creating a digital platform to provide the content that people would learn in the gathered setting in an online learning space using print, audio, video, and more. And then transform the gathered program using interactive activities, discussion, project-based learning, and practice and demonstration.

- Flip children’s programming: At home learning with parents (print, video, online); in-class application with activities, project-centered learning
- Flip confirmation programming
MOSTLY ONLINE

Utilizing the digital platform as the primary learning setting and providing opportunities for interaction in gathered settings.
- Parent webinar programs delivered to parents at home in four-month semesters: three webinars + a parent gathering
- Online learning resources for self-study or small group study, and gathering at the conclusion to share their insights.
- Online Bible study where groups can meet regularly in a physical setting or virtually on Skype or Google+ Hangout.
- Selected online courses and activities from colleges, seminaries, and religious organization for individualized learning with the option for a mentor or small group.

FULLY ONLINE

The rise of high quality and easily accessible online religious content—courses, activities, print and e-books, audio and video programs, and content-rich websites—has made designing online faith formation feasible.
- Online Bible and theology courses, video programs, webinars for individual study
- Online prayer & spirituality center where people can access daily prayer reflections and devotions, offer prayer intentions, pray for others, learn about spiritual practices, download prayer activities, etc.
- Online parent resource center
- Online retreat experience
St. Mark’s Daily Devotion

EXAMPLE: 40-DAY LENT CURRICULUM

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<th>Daily &amp; Home Life</th>
<th>Online Life</th>
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<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
<td>Fasting</td>
<td>Lenten learning resources</td>
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<td>Lenten Sunday</td>
<td>Praying</td>
<td>Lenten calendar</td>
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<td>liturgies</td>
<td>Service/Almsgiving</td>
<td>Daily Lenten prayer</td>
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<td>Stations of the</td>
<td>Lectionary</td>
<td>Weekly table prayer</td>
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<td>Cross</td>
<td>reflection</td>
<td>Video resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lenten prayer</td>
<td>Family activities</td>
<td>Online retreat experience</td>
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<td>Lenten retreat</td>
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<td>Lenten service</td>
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<td>Lenten soup</td>
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<td>suppers</td>
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FAITH FORMATION NETWORKS

A network of relationships, content, experiences, & resources.

- Offering a variety of content, methods, formats, and delivery systems (online & physical settings) to address the diverse life tasks and situations, needs and interests, and spiritual and faith journeys of people.
- Offering content and experiences that is responsive to the diverse religious and spiritual needs of people today—from the spiritually committed and engaged to the spiritual but not religious and the unaffiliated.
- Offering multiple environments to address people’s busy lives and providing more ways to participate: self-directed, mentored, at home, in small groups, in large groups, church-wide, in the community, and in the world.

1. Caring Relationships
2. Celebrating the Seasons
3. Celebrating Rituals & Milestones
4. Learning the Christian Tradition
5. Praying & Spiritual Formation
6. Reading the Bible
7. Serving, Working for Justice, & Caring for Creation
8. Worshipping God
9. Life Stage Issues
10. Missional
FAITH FORMATION PLAYLISTS

Playlists are thematic learning plans that integrate a variety of ways to learn, multiple learning environments, and online and physical spaces—from which people can create their own plan.

Example: Just for Parents

The "Just for Parents" programming offers a variety of ways for you to enhance and enrich your knowledge and skills:

1. "First Wednesdays" Webinar Series - without leaving your home!
2. Learn More About Your Children
3. Book Groups: The Secrets of Happy Families by Bruce Feiler
4. Online Video: "Parenting for the Long Haul"
Variety of Environments: Self-directed, mentored, at home, in small groups, in large groups, church-wide, in the community, and in the world.

Variety of Ways to Learn

Digitally-Enabled: Blending gathered community settings with online learning environments and utilizing the abundance of digital media and tools for learning and faith formation.