



*Reimagine Faith Formation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*  
Faith Formation Strategies  
John Roberto

## PART 2. INTERGENERATIONAL

*Throughout Scripture there is a pervasive sense that all generations were typically present when faith communities gathered for worship, for celebration, for feasting, for praise, for encouragement, for reading of Scripture, in times of danger, and for support and service. . . . To experience authentic Christian community and reap the unique blessings of intergenerationality, the generations must be together regularly and often—infants to octogenarians.*

(Allen and Ross, 84)

## Intergenerational Faith Formation



**Utilize** intergenerational events in the faith community  
**Connect** the generations through all events and programs  
**Infuse** multiple generations into age group programs  
**Create** new intergenerational programs & experiences  
*(learning, service, community life)*

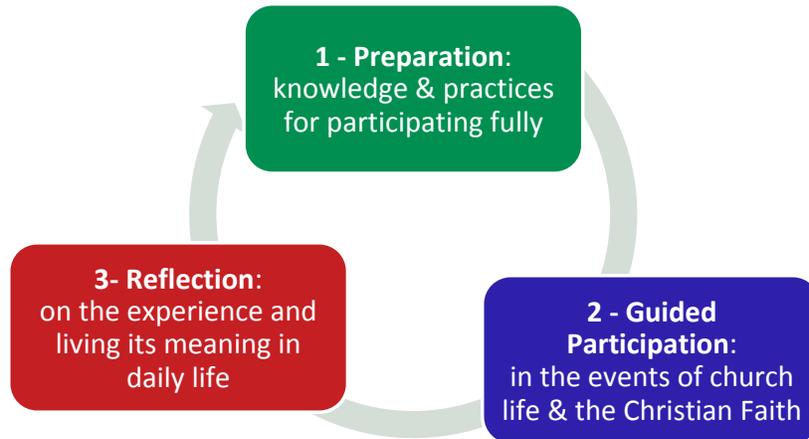
## Intergenerational Approaches

- ✦ **Utilizing** the intergenerational events and experiences of church life (community life events, worship and the lectionary, seasons of the year, service and mission projects, prayer and spiritual formation) as a primary “content” in faith formation.
- ✦ **Infusing** intergenerational experiences and relationships into existing programs and activities.
- ✦ **Connecting** the generations through new intergenerational programs and experiences that bring together all of the generations for learning, celebrating, praying, reading the Bible, serving and working for justice, and worshipping.

## Become Intentionally Intergenerational



## Utilizing Events



## Intergenerational & Age-Specific

### Worship

1. Learn about worship and how to worship
2. Experience Sunday worship with the faith community
3. Live the Sunday worship experience at home and in daily life

### Bible

1. Learn about the Bible and how to read it, interpret it, and apply it
2. Experience the Bible at Sunday worship and at home
3. Develop their own practice of Bible study and reading.

## Intergenerational & Age-Specific

### Christian Tradition

1. Learn about Jesus and the Christian tradition
2. Experience the life of Jesus and the tradition through participation in the lectionary and church year feasts and seasons
3. Live the Christian faith today at home and in daily life

### Service & Justice

1. Learn about the justice issues of our day and the biblical and church teachings on justice, service, and care for creation
2. Experience acts of justice and service with the faith community—locally and globally
3. Engage in the practices of serving those in need, caring for creation, and working for justice

## Connecting Generations

1. Incorporate intergenerational dialogues into programming
2. Develop mentoring relationships
3. Involve the community in praying for each generation,
4. Organize social and recreational activities that build intergenerational relationships
5. “Intergenerationalize” age-group programming
6. Integrate intergenerational programming into an age-group program plan and calendar
7. Offer service projects and mission trips for all ages
8. Offer simple, one-time intergenerational experiences: arts, music/concerts, drama, social events, service projects, sports, educational experiences

## Infusing Intergenerationality

*Infusing* intergenerational experiences and relationships into existing programs and activities, such as bringing mature adults into children and youth programs for interviews, storytelling, and mentoring; and transforming age-group programs (vacation Bible school, service projects) into intergenerational experiences.

- ◆ Worship
- ◆ Service projects and mission trips
- ◆ Age group learning programs
- ◆ Social / community program
- ◆ Sacramental preparation

## Creating Intergenerational Programs

1. Intergenerational Service
  - Intergenerational Mission Trips
  - Churchwide Service Day
  - Intergenerational Monthly Project
  - Intergenerational Service Nights
  - Intergenerational Service Projects
2. Intergenerational Learning
  - Weekly or Bi-Weekly
  - Monthly
  - Seasonal
  - Small Group & Large Group

## Intergenerational Learning

Meal and Community Building

Part 1. Gathering and Prayer

Part 2. All Ages Learning Experience

Part 3. In-Depth Learning Experience

Option 1. Whole Group (together)

Option 2. Age Group (parallel)

Option 3. Activity Center

Part 4. Sharing Learning Experiences and  
Home Application

Part 5. Closing Prayer

## Intergenerational Learning



*Engaging all ages and generations together in informing and forming disciples of all ages in Christian identity.*

- Intergenerational Learning
- Weekly, Bi-Weekly, and Monthly Models
- Small Group & Large Group Models

Content:  
Thematic  
Holy Infant Catholic  
Parish, Durham, NC



**Navigating Life with GPS –  
God's Proven System**

*Gatherings for 2009-2010*

**Rules of the Road – God's Commandments**  
 Wednesday September 9 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Thursday September 10 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Friday September 11 ..... 5:45-8:30pm

**Respect and Protect All Life**  
 Wednesday October 14 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Thursday October 15 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Friday October 16 ..... 5:45-8:30pm

**Give Way with Mercy and Forgiveness**  
 Wednesday November 18 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Thursday November 19 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Friday November 20 ..... 5:45-8:30pm

**Stay on the Straight and Narrow Path of Fidelity**  
 Wednesday February 3 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Thursday February 4 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Friday February 5 ..... 5:45-8:30pm

**Navigating with Integrity and Honesty**  
 Wednesday March 10 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Thursday March 11 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Friday March 12 ..... 5:45-8:30pm

**Be a Good Steward of All God's Gifts**  
 Wednesday April 14 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Thursday April 15 ..... 5:45-8:30pm  
 Friday April 16 ..... 5:45-8:30pm

*Wednesday & Friday Gatherings are for all ages.  
Thursday Gatherings are for adults & teens.*

**HI-life Gatherings...**

**O**ur sixth year of whole community catechesis focuses on Living a Moral Life. Our theme is *Navigating Life with GPS – God's Proven System*. Christian moral life can be summed up as the recognition of the awesome gift of God's loving presence in our lives and our continuing effort to respond to that love. During this year we will explore the guidelines that God has given us to live lives of love and faithfulness, including the ten commandments and the beatitudes. We encourage parishioners of all ages to participate in our HI-life Gatherings – our intergenerational learning assemblies that are the foundation of our lifelong faith formation process. Our monthly Gatherings are a time of fellowship, faith formation, and fun.

❖ **Sharing a Simple Meal Together**  
No cooking - just come and enjoy

At a typical Gathering you are welcomed by greeters in the Hospitality Room and escorted to a table in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a meal with fellow parishioners of all ages. At your table there might be a single adult, a family of four, a retired person, or an empty-nest couple. There will be a couple of questions on the table to focus our table talk.

❖ **Whole Group Opening Experience**  
Introduction of the topic to be experienced by all ages

After the meal, everyone moves to the church for an opening prayer and an activity to set the tone for the evening, such as a story or video segment. Each household receives a HI-life Home Kit and learns to use it throughout the evening.

❖ **Exploring the Topic through Age-Specific Learning Activities**  
Learning about the same topic according to one's age or stage in life

Then the group divides into smaller groups for age-specific learning activities. A typical evening might have adults staying in the church for a speaker and group discussion, young adults in Meeting Room 6, JYM youth in Meeting Room 3, TYM youth in the Hospitality Room, and parents with young children (approximately ages 5-11) together in the Fellowship Hall. There are lead catechists for each group to teach and guide the learning activities of the evening and trained facilitators to assist the parents and children at each table.

❖ **Whole Group Sharing Experience**  
Closing of the Gathering for all ages

To conclude our evening, everyone reunites in the church to share what has been learned, to pray together, and to be sent forth to continue learning at home in preparation for the church event or season which is the focus of the month.



## Content: Liturgy & Lectionary

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Acton, MA

1. September: Stewardship - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Luke 16: 19-31)
2. October: Pray Always - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Luke 18: 1-8)
3. November: Last Things and Heaven - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Luke 21: 5-19)
4. December: Mary - Immaculate Conception (Luke 1: 26-38)
5. January: The Baptism of the Lord (Matthew 13-17)
6. February: You are the Salt of the Earth - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matthew 5: 13-16)
7. March: The Temptation of Jesus - First Sunday of Lent (Matthew 4: 1-11)
8. April: Palm Sunday (Matthew 26: 14-27)

## Content: Christian Practices

- |                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Caring for the Body | 8. Keeping Sabbath             |
| 2. Celebrating Life    | 9. Managing Household Life     |
| 3. Discernment         | 10. Participating in Community |
| 4. Dying Well          | 11. Praying                    |
| 5. Eating Well         | 12. Reading the Bible          |
| 6. Forgiving           | 13. Transforming the World.    |
| 7. Hospitality         |                                |

## Elements of LOGOS

In local churches, LOGOS teams build intergenerational relationships between young people and caring, Christian adults of all ages through a four-part weekly format:

**ACTS 2:42 [NRSV]**  
**They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers.**

**Bible Study:** A time for each grade, or a combination of grades, to study the Bible as the model for Christ-centered living. Churches can use non-denominational curricula developed by GenOn for LOGOS (either "Faith for Life" or our high school Bible studies) or something of their own choosing.

**Family Time:** The shared meal is a time to gather regular "table families" of various ages who eat together each week for the entire program year. Kitchen teams prepare dinners that are served family style—with table settings and serving dishes—practicing the art of serving one another.

**Worship Skills:** Choir, drama, bells, or other arts are rehearsed at LOGOS and then presented regularly in corporate worship. Each church decides the best fit with its own liturgy and worship style.

**Recreation:** All have great fun in a cooperative atmosphere, often drawing on the hobbies and interests of adults in the congregation willing to share their passions on a one-time basis or longer.

## Elements of LOGOS

1. Bible Study
2. Family Time
3. Worship Skills
4. Recreation

GenOn Ministries  
[www.genonministries.org](http://www.genonministries.org)

# www.messychurch.org.uk

## Intergenerational Learning



- A flexible, relaxed arrival time with drinks and snacks
- Creative exploration of a Bible story/ theme through creative experiences for people of different learning styles and of all ages. Children and adults are not separated and are encouraged to explore the story/ theme together
- A short but explicit time of worship with story, music and prayers that builds on the creative exploration.
- A generous welcome and hospitality is expressed through a delicious home-cooked, sit-down meal with others

## Intergenerational Learning

### Meal and Community Building

Part 1. Gathering and Prayer

Part 2. All Ages Learning Experience

Part 3. In-Depth Learning Experience

Option 1. Whole Group (together)

Option 2. Age Group (parallel)

Option 3. Activity Center

Part 4. Sharing Learning Experiences and

Home Application

Part 5. Closing Prayer

## Whole Group Format

The Whole Group Format provides. . .

- Learning activities for everyone using small groups or table groups
- Intergenerational learning activities and age-appropriate learning activities for families with children, teens, young adults, and adults
- Lead facilitator or team guides the entire group through the learning program—giving presentations and leading activities

## Age Group Format

The Age Group Format provides parallel, age-appropriate learning activities on the same theme for...

1. young children (4 and 5 year olds)
2. families with children (grades 1-5)
3. adolescents (middle school and high school)
4. young adults
5. adults

## Learning Center Format

The Learning Activity Center Format provides. . .

- Learning stations or centers with structured learning activities on a common theme
- Age-specific or intergenerational
- Facilitated by leaders

## Example: Called to Pray

1. Gathering and Opening Prayer
2. All Ages Learning: I'm Ready God, Where Are You? (Drama)
3. In-Depth Learning: Paths of Prayer
  - Activity 1: Creating a Space for Prayer
  - Activity 2: Praying with Scripture
  - Activity 3: Praying with the Psalms
  - Activity 4: Intercessory Prayer
  - Activity 5: The Jesus Prayer
4. Part 4. Sharing Learning Experiences and Home Application
5. Part 5. Closing Prayer

## Example: Identity of Christ

1. Gathering and Opening Prayer
2. All Ages Learning: Gospel Portraits of Jesus (multimedia experience)
3. Age-Appropriate Learning: Exploring the Gospel Portraits of Jesus Christ
  - Families with Children Learning Plan
  - Adolescent Learning Plan
  - Adult Learning Plan
4. Part 4. Sharing Learning Experiences and Home Application
5. Part 5. Closing Prayer

## Example: Jesus Son of God

What is Jesus saying/doing?

What is Jesus teaching us about the qualities of God?

### **Activity Centers**

1. Jesus is Born (Infancy Narratives)
2. Jesus Is God 's Beloved Son (Baptism and Transfiguration)
3. Jesus Teaches Parables of the Kingdom of God
4. Jesus Heals People
5. Jesus Forgives Sin
6. Jesus Raises People from the Dead
7. Jesus Feeds People

## Example: Jesus Son of God

### Methods for Exploring Gospel Stories

- ✓ Presenting the Gospel story: proclamation, reading, media
- ✓ Dramatic presentations & role plays
- ✓ Creative art activities
- ✓ Storytelling & Scripture imagination activities
- ✓ Music
- ✓ Prayer and ritual
- ✓ Group discussion & family conversations

## Example: Jesus Son of God

1. Jesus is Born: Creative Activity & Discussion
2. Jesus Is God's Beloved Son (Baptism and Transfiguration): Ritual/Prayer Activity
3. Jesus Teaches Parables of the Kingdom of God: Rewriting Parables for Today; Creative Art Activity
4. Jesus Heals People: Role Play/Dramatic Reading, Praying for the Sick
5. Jesus Forgives Sin: Drama and Reflection Activity
6. Jesus Raises People from the Dead: Dramatic Re-enactment; Creative Activity
7. Jesus Feeds People: Imagination Activity and Prayer Activity

## Examples of IG Learning

1. As the faith formation curriculum for the whole community
2. In Lectionary-based catechesis
3. In sacramental preparation
4. In Vacation Bible School
5. In parent-child and parent-teen programs
6. In milestone celebrations
7. In intergenerational service projects
8. In liturgical season celebrations
9. In a retreat experience or parish mission

## Application

1. How can you *utilize* the intergenerational events and experiences of church life as a primary “content” in faith formation?
2. How can you *infuse* intergenerational experiences and relationships into existing programs and activities?
3. How can you *connect* the generations through new intergenerational programs and experiences?

## PART 3. FAMILY

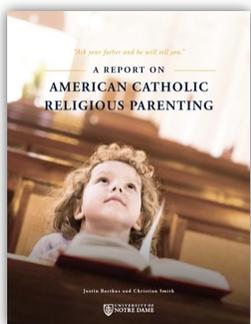
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### Forming Faith: Family



- ✦ Primary Influence on transmission of religious faith and practice: Parents & Family
- ✦ Day-to-day religious practices of the family and the ways parents model their faith and share it in conversation, collaboration, and exposure to outside religious opportunities
- ✦ Secondary Influence: The Congregation and Significant Adults

## Family Religious Transmission



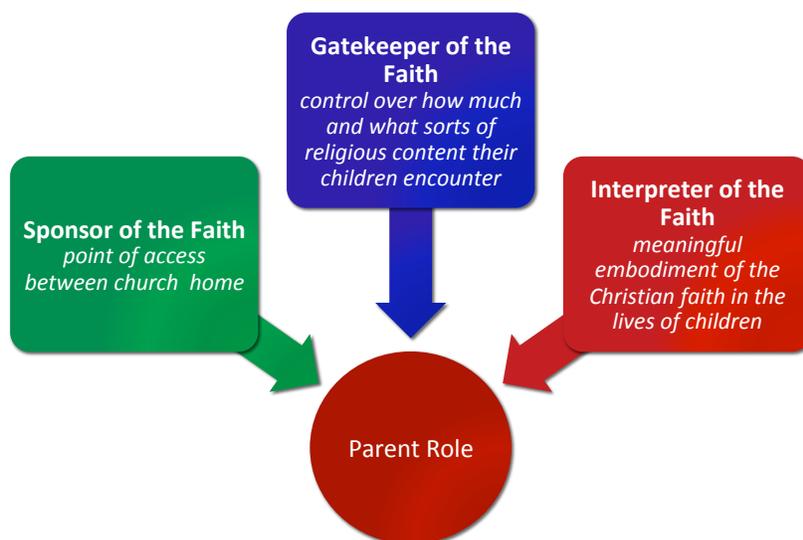
*The primary mechanisms by which Catholic identity becomes rooted in children's lives are not Catholic schooling or sacramental preparation, but rather the day-to-day religious practices of the family and the ways parents model their faith and share it in conversation, collaboration, and exposure to outside religious opportunities.*

(Burtkus and Smith)

## Family Religious Transmission

- ✦ Parents by the power of their personality, practices, and way of being, model and generate the culture of the household (both explicitly and implicitly).
- ✦ Parents produce, induce, and interpret the household's experiences of Christian faith.
- ✦ Parents are one influence among others - they are nevertheless the dominant influence which orders and shapes the way children experience other influences, i.e. they constellate children's experiences of various cultural currents, including religion.

## Parental Influence



*One of the most basic suggestions of our findings is that young adults arrive at a sense of their fundamental identity and worldview not by weighing all possible intellectual arguments for and against a proposed way of life, but rather by roughly adopting the worldview of those mentors who left the deepest impression upon them—and who loved them and cared for them the most. It should come as no surprise, then, that the emergence of the new generation of dedicated young Catholics will rise and fall with the choices of their parents.*  
(*American Catholic Religious Parenting*, Burtkus and Smith)

## Practices that Make a Difference

1. Reading the Bible as a family and encouraging young people to read the Bible regularly
2. Praying together as a family and encouraging young people to pray personally
3. Serving people in need as a family and supporting service activities by young people
4. Participating regularly in Sunday worship as a family
5. Being involved in a faith community and serving in church as a family and as young people
6. Eating together as a family
7. Celebrating rituals and holidays at home
8. Having family conversations
9. Talking about faith, religious issues, and questions and doubts
10. Ritualizing important family moments and milestone experiences
11. Celebrating holidays and church year seasons at home
12. Providing moral instruction

## Parent Practices

1. Parents participated in mission trips as a family as their kids were growing up.
2. Parents participated in service projects with their kids as they were growing up.
3. Parents frequently shared Christ with unbelievers as their kids were growing up.
4. Parents personally read the Bible several times a week or more as their kids were growing up.
5. Parents encouraged their teen to serve in the church.
6. Parents typically asked for forgiveness when they messed up as their children were growing up.
7. Parents encouraged their children's own unique talents and interests as they grew up.
8. Parents attended churches that emphasized what the Bible says as their kids were growing up.
9. Parents taught their children to tithe as their kids were growing up.

## Fundamental Shift

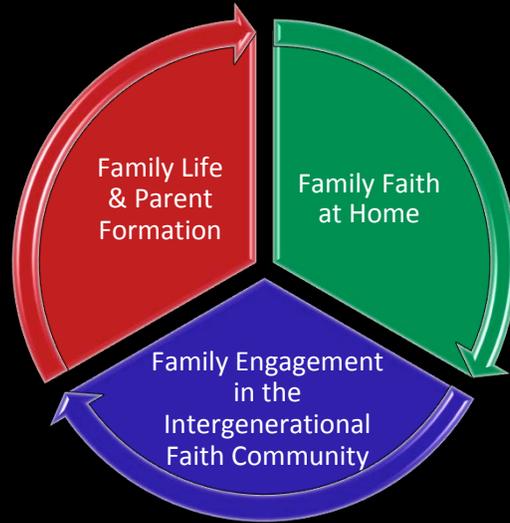
*What if we fashioned faith formation  
around the family?*



## What do we believe?

- \* *God is actively present in family life.*
- \* *Parents and the family are the most important religious influence on religious transmission.*
- \* *Faith is formed through the day-to-day religious practices of the family and the ways parents model their faith and share it.*
- \* *Faith is formed when there is a substantial investment of thought, time, and intimacy by parents in faith transmission.*
- \* *Faith is formed in relationships – at home and in the intergenerational faith community.*
- \* *Faith is formed in developmentally-appropriate ways over time.*

## Family Faith Formation Strategies

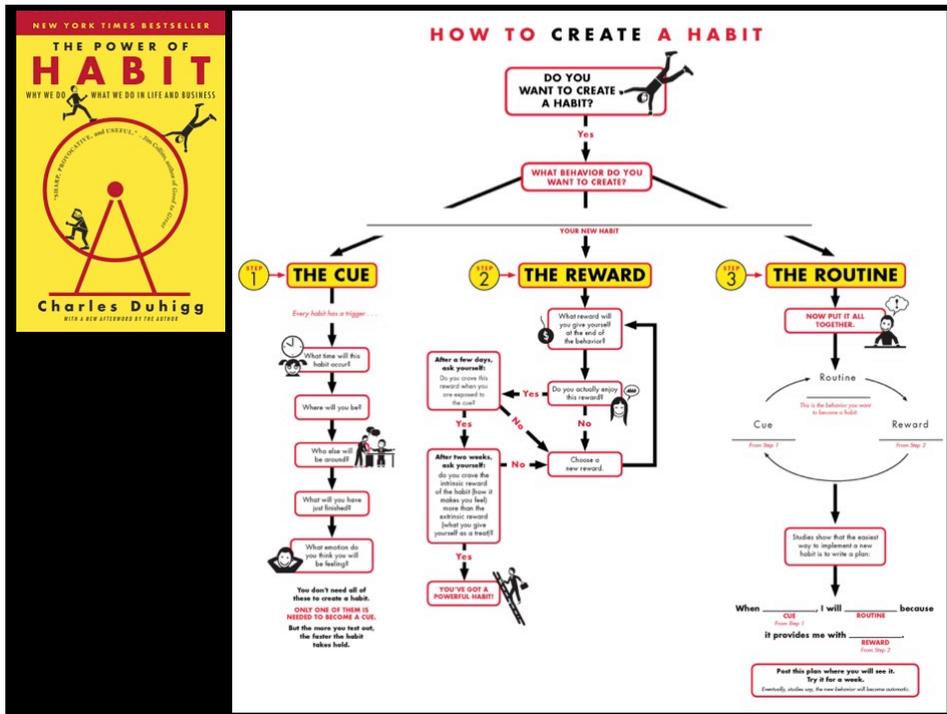


## Family Faith Formation Strategies

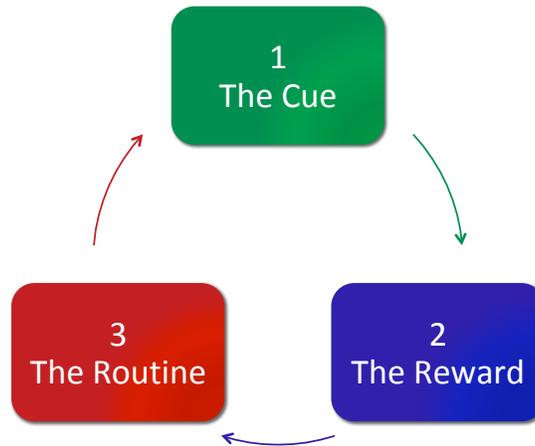


1. Faith Practices @ Home
2. Milestones
3. Seasonal Events
4. Bible through the Year
5. Family & Intergenerational Programming
6. Parents & Grandparents as Faith Formers

# Family Formation Plan Age Appropriate Programming



## How to Create a Habit



When (cue), I will (routine) because it provides me with (reward).

## Family Faith Formation @ Home & Church



1. Seasons of the year
2. Rituals and milestones
3. Learning the tradition
4. Prayer and spiritual formation
5. Reading the Bible
6. Service, justice, care for creation



## Discovering God in Everyday Life

**FAITH**  
5  
Every night in every home

**SHARE**  
highs and lows

**READ**  
a Bible verse or story

**TALK**  
about how the Bible  
reading might relate to  
your highs and lows

**PRAY**  
for one another's highs  
and lows

**BLESS**  
one another

[www.faith5.org](http://www.faith5.org)







### Examen for Children

1. Quiet the children before bedtime.
2. Ask them what made them happy over the past day.
3. Ask them what made them sad over the past day.
4. Ask them what they look forward to tomorrow.
5. Remind them to thank God for what made them happy, ask for God's help when they are sad, and pray for God's presence in the coming day.

## Milestones



- ✦ Birth / Baptism
- ✦ Baptism anniversaries
- ✦ First prayers
- ✦ First Bible stories
- ✦ Starting school year
- ✦ Receiving a first Bible
- ✦ First Communion
- ✦ Confirmation
- ✦ Graduation
  
- ✦ Adult Milestones

## Forming Faith through Milestones

1. a ritual celebration or a blessing marking the milestone with the whole church community
2. a home ritual celebration or blessing marking the milestone
3. a learning program, often for the whole family or intergenerational, that prepares the individual and the whole family for the milestone and for faith practice at home
4. a tangible, visible reminder or symbol of the occasion being marked
5. resources to support continuing faith growth and practice after the milestone



## 40-Day Lent Curriculum

Church →	Daily & Home	← Online
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ash Wednesday</li> <li>• Lenten Sunday liturgies</li> <li>• Stations of the Cross</li> <li>• Lenten prayer</li> <li>• Lenten retreat</li> <li>• Lenten service</li> <li>• Lenten soup suppers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fasting</li> <li>• Praying</li> <li>• Service/ Almsgiving</li> <li>• Lectionary reflection</li> <li>• Family Lenten activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lenten learning resources</li> <li>• Lenten calendar</li> <li>• Daily Lenten prayer</li> <li>• Weekly table prayer</li> <li>• Video resources</li> <li>• Online retreat experience</li> </ul>

## Earth Day

Community	Church	Home
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community cleanup</li> <li>• Planting a community garden</li> <li>• All ages workshop on caring for creation</li> <li>• Story time at the library on environmental awareness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecumenical prayer service</li> <li>• Intergenerational program on theology of caring for creation</li> <li>• Church audit</li> <li>• Global project for whole community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling activities</li> <li>• Planting a family garden</li> <li>• Meal time creation prayer</li> <li>• Daily Bible verses for April</li> <li>• Children's activities</li> <li>• Storybooks and videos</li> <li>• Home audit</li> </ul>

## Family Worship



## Family Learning



# Family Camp



Join us for an intergenerational "Adventure Anchored in Christ." This special camp provides grandparents and grandkids with adventure-filled days to pray and play together. Life-long memory-making adventures can be expected!

Grandparents and grandkids entering 1st – 4th grades will stay in the comfortable, adult-friendly accommodations of the Christian Center, but spend their days at Pelican Lake. Feel free to bring your motorhome if you prefer.

## 2018 FAMILY CAMPS



Imagine a powerful Bible camp experience for all ages – from infants to seniors, and everyone in-between, not just a camp for kids. We've been doing this for almost 80 years! This year we have seven camps to choose from, each one will fill you and your family with an authentic joy and peace that comes only from experiencing the gospel at camp.

We gather together as a community, families and staff from around the nation and even world. Come play, study, and grow in this beautiful, Spirit filled place. Click on camp week # to find out more information and to register.

Tentative Schedule – subject to change. Note: ALL of our 2018 Family Camps will include elements of the "FAMILY BLAST" model we introduced last summer!

**Family Mini-Camp #1**  
 June 21-24 – **Family Blast Sampler**  
**The Abundant Life**  
 With Ryan Bralley, Jonathan & Jana Swenson, Dan Baker.  
 Special outdoor concert with Peder Eide on Friday Night

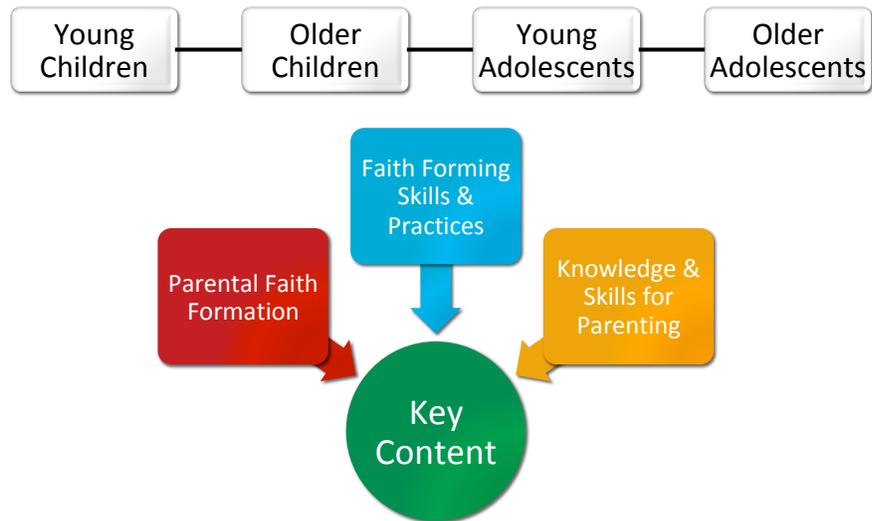
**Family Camp #2**  
 June 30- July 6 – **Family Blast**  
**Ephesians: Wake Up Week! + Youth Musical**  
 with Nate Hoff, Dave Wollan  
 Special Musical for Youth/Children

**Family Camp #3**  
 July 7-13  
**The Mission of God in the Old Testament**  
 with Beth Einess-Hanson, Carl Billings, & Jillian Jones

# Family Service



## Parent Faith Formation @ Home & Church



## Faith Forming Practices

1. Reading the Bible as a family and encouraging young people to read the Bible regularly
2. Praying together as a family and encouraging young people to pray personally
3. Serving people in need as a family and supporting service activities by young people
4. Participating regularly in Sunday worship as a family
5. Being involved in a faith community and serving in church as a family and as young people
6. Eating together as a family
7. Celebrating rituals and holidays at home
8. Having family conversations
9. Talking about faith, religious issues, and questions and doubts
10. Ritualizing important family moments and milestone experiences
11. Celebrating holidays and church year seasons at home
12. Providing moral instruction

## Parenting & Family Life Practices

1. Expressing care to young people by listening to them, being dependable, encouraging them, and make them feel known and valued
2. Challenging young people by expecting them to do their best and live up to their potential
3. Providing support for my young people by encouraging their efforts and achievements and guiding them to learn and grow
4. Treating young people with respect, hearing their voice, and including them in decisions that affect them
5. Inspiring young people to see possibilities for their future, expose them to new experiences and places, and connect them to people who can help them grow
6. Demonstrating a warm and affirming parenting approach
7. Creating a warm, caring supportive family environment.
8. Practicing effective communication skills
9. Managing “screen time” and social media use
10. Learning effective discipline practices
11. Creating a warm, caring supportive family

## Parent Programming

1. Parent website
2. Parent programs: Progression of parent workshops, webinars, or courses for each life stage
3. Laboratory experiences
4. Parent mentors
5. Life cycle or affinity groups for parents
6. Have parents practice new skills with their own children during program sessions.
7. Design programs that engage parents in the learning experience.
8. Use a variety of environments and methods to engage all parents, anytime and anywhere.
9. Use online platforms and digitally enabled strategies.
10. Give parents a plan.

## Application

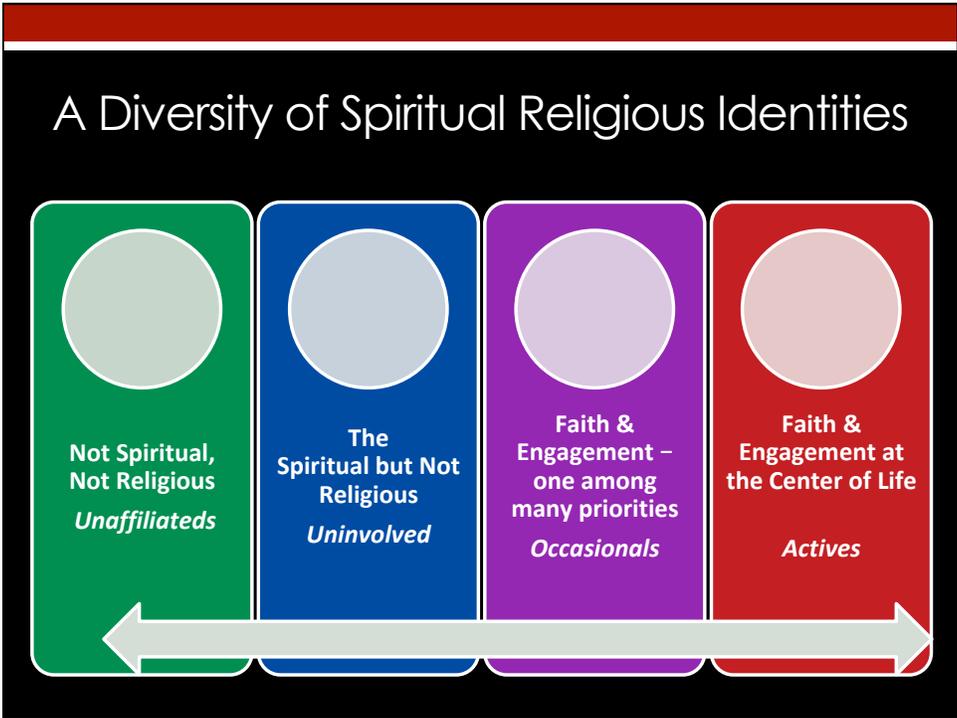
Develop ideas for improving the your congregation's response to families and parents using the ideas contained in the five strategies. Build on your current strengths and identify new initiatives that you want to implement. Review the strategies before you begin.

1. Nurturing Family Faith Practices
2. Celebrating Milestones
3. Celebrating the Seasons of the Year
4. Reading the Bible through the Year
5. Equipping Parents and Grandparents as Faith Formers

## Family Formation Plan *Age Appropriate Programming*



# PART 4. MISSIONAL



## Missional Faith Formation



Expand and extend the church's presence through **outreach**, **connection**, **relationship building**, and **engagement** with people where they live—moving faith formation out into the community.

## Outreach: Expand the Campus

Move off-campus, out into people's lives

- Café, homes, community centers
- Faith formation on the go: online faith formation
- Life-centered, life-issues, life-transitions faith formation
- Community events with a spiritual theme: arts, concerts, film festivals, etc.





## Family Center Wesley Playhouse UK

## Lifetree Cafe

A gathering space in the community, offers hospitality, builds relationships, hosts spiritual conversations, provides programs and activities, and nourishes the spiritual life of people.

## PLANT A LIFETREE CAFE

What if you could create a comfortable place and time for people to gather weekly to explore life and faith?

What if it looked and felt like the kind of place you typically meet a friend for food and drink and fun? What if the atmosphere encouraged conversations, questions, and personal stories? What if the conversations about life somehow led to an ah-ha of God's real presence and his genuine love?

Those questions led to the creation of Lifetree Café. Now each week people gather in cozy venues to explore life and faith. The hour-long Lifetree Café experiences feature real stories of real people, guided conversation, time to build relationships with new and old friends, laughter, fun, spiritual insights, and opportunities to serve.

Lifetree Café offers a casual physical environment, warm hospitality, a safe place for questions and doubts, and an encouraging atmosphere for participants to share their own stories.

Lifetree stories dig into the big and little stuff that shapes our lives. Family. Friends. Fears. Busyness. Balance. Money. Materialism. Health.

"I felt welcomed the minute I walked in the door...and my opinions we're welcomed too. Thank you Lifetree Café."

"I found myself sharing things I've never shared with anyone before."

"My wife and I like to come here as a date night out."



# God on Tap

GOD ON TAP

[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [BLOGS](#) [LOCATIONS](#) [CONNECT](#) [BREWING FOR THE GREATER GOOD](#) [SEARCH](#)



GOD ON TAP

HOME ABOUT BLOG LOCATIONS CONNECT BREWING FOR THE GREATER GOOD

## GOD ON TAP BLOG

*We post news and updates about God on Tap and discussion topics for upcoming gatherings. Feel free to leave a comment and sign up to receive new posts by email!*

### DISCUSSING CREATIVITY AT GOD ON TAP TOMORROW NIGHT!

*Join us for God on Tap tomorrow night, July 26th at 7:30pm at Forest & Main Brewing Company in Ambler. Our topic: creativity.*



When the universe seems to be sending you signals, its best to pay attention.

Lately, I've been hearing a lot about creativity—how it works, what fuels it, what inspires it, and what prevents it.

From a podcast reminding its listeners of the importance of boredom for creativity, to reading authors like Stephen King and Anne Lamott describe their writing process, to Elizabeth Gilbert's TED talk about your elusive creative genius, to a conversation just this past week with my friend like Jim Kast-Kest about how he creates great projects like his Thirty Seconds or Less videos. (He describes his creative process as something akin to throwing spaghetti against a wall and seeing what happens.)

Creativity. Its a common thing. We create all kinds of art, theatre, music, school lesson plans, woodworking, gardens, beer, designing, writing, business plans, you name it. We may not have created ourselves, and yet we do create and craft and shape our lives as we tend to our relationships, work, and callings.

GET NEW BLOG POSTS BY EMAIL

Email Address

SUBSCRIBE

#### RECENT BLOG POSTS

Discussing Creativity at God on Tap Tomorrow Night!  
READ MORE

God on Tap Tomorrow Night: Mapping our Spiritual Landscapes  
READ MORE

God on Tap Tonight: What do we mean by Religious Freedom anyway?  
READ MORE

SAINT LYDIA'S

About Worship Co-work Events Learn Support Visit FAQ



## Welcome.

St. Lydia's is a church where life is lived out around the table

A progressive, GLBTQ-affirming congregation in the Gowanus neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York, we are working together to dispel isolation, reconnect neighbors, and subvert the status quo.

You are welcome here.

**The Step Right Up Campaign: we're almost there!**

Like what we're up to?  
**SUPPORT ST. LYDIA'S**

#STLITTLE

Friends of St. Lydia's  
email address  **Subscribe**

Congregants  
email address  **Subscribe**

f i t r

St. Lydia's, 304 Bond Street, Brooklyn, New York, ©2015 St. Lydia's

# The Slate Project

THE SLATE PROJECT

HOME ABOUT CONNECT BLOG COMMUNITY



## CHURCH WITH A CLEAN SLATE

**WHAT'S NEW**

The Slate Project is a new kind of Christian community that gathers both on-line and face-to-face in Baltimore, Maryland.

We are a movement to change the church from inside the inside out.

We are committed to following the way of Jesus together, into our local and digital neighborhoods and discerning in community how to be the church in the 21st century.

### Connect with The Slate Project on-line and face-to-face:

**Mondays** What: [#BreakingBread](#) (Dinner Church)  
Where: 4 E University Pkwy Bmore, MD 212  
When: 6 PM EST

**Wednesday** What: [#SlateReads](#) (Live Tweet Chat- Book Discussion)  
Where: Twitter-- use the digital bookmark #SlateReads  
When: 8 PM EST

**Thursdays** What: [#SlateSpeak](#) (Live Tweet Chat- new topic each week)  
Where: Twitter-- use the digital bookmark #SlateSpeak  
When: 9 PM EST



**#SlateSpeak**  
The way to connect with the new kind of Christian community happens Thursday night, 9pm-11pm on Twitter. Follow #SlateSpeak. Join the conversation.

**THAT MOMENT WHEN**  
it dawns on you christian community can happen ONLINE (O)

**#SlateSpeak 101**

- #SlateSpeak, a progressive Christian forum where faith and everyday life meet in an explosion of awesome conversation.
- You can follow the #SlateSpeak conversation using [twitterfollows.tumblr.com](#) or [twitterback.com](#) to enhance your experience.
- We do not automatically agree with everything that we read. #SlateSpeak is a safe space for unique & challenging.
- We do not shame or blame each other here. We make respect each other's experiences and hold space for each other's truth.
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- If you have a question, feel free to ask it! We are a friendly bunch.

**Victoria**  
@vihappes

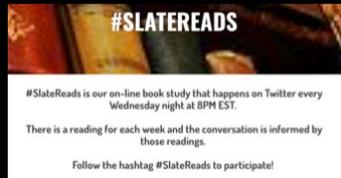
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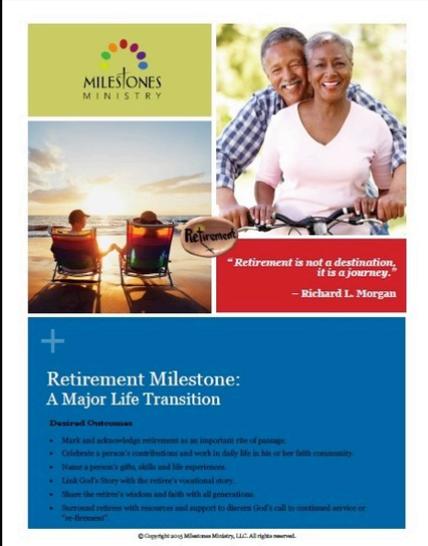
Follow the hashtag [#SlateReads](#) to participate!

## Pathways to Discipleship

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.

## Entry Points

- ✦ Marriage
- ✦ Baptism
- ✦ Sacraments and Milestone Rituals
- ✦ Christmas, Easter, Ash Wednesday
- ✦ Vacation Bible School / Camp Programs

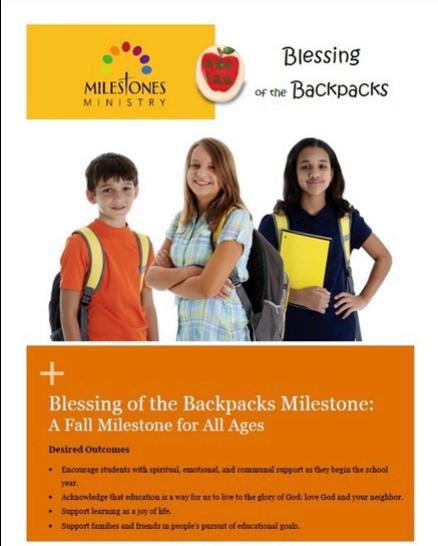


**Retirement Milestone:  
A Major Life Transition**

**Desired Outcomes**

- Mark and acknowledge retirement as an important rite of passage.
- Celebrate a person's contributions and work to daily life in his or her faith community.
- Share a person's gifts, skills and life experiences.
- Link God's Story with the retiree's vocational story.
- Share the retiree's wisdom and faith with all generations.
- Nurture relations with resources and support to discern God's call to continued service or "re-retirement."

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**Blessing  
of the Backpacks**

**Blessing of the Backpacks Milestone:  
A Fall Milestone for All Ages**

**Desired Outcomes**

- Encourage students with spiritual, emotional, and communal support as they begin the school year.
- Acknowledge that education is a way for us to live to the glory of God, love God and your neighbor.
- Support learning as a joy of life.
- Support families and friends in people's pursuit of educational goals.

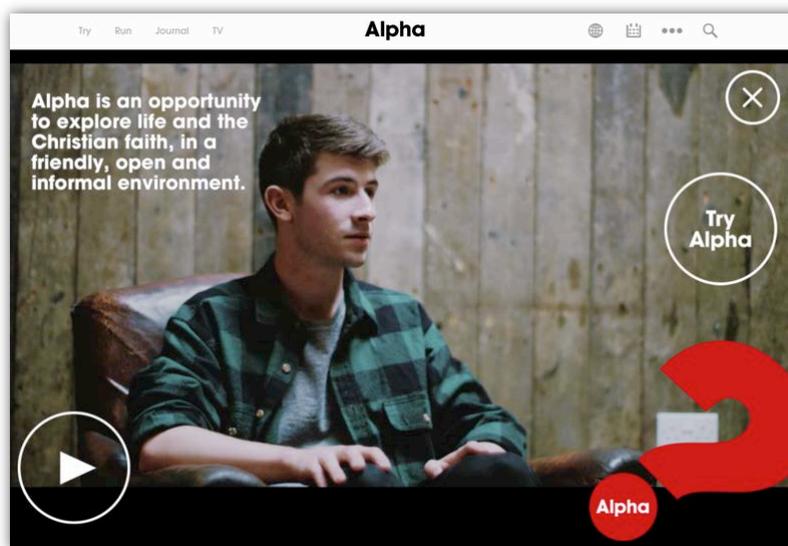
© Copyright 2013 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

## Messy Church



- A flexible, relaxed arrival time with drinks and snacks
- Creative exploration of a Bible story/ theme through creative experiences for people of different learning styles and of all ages. Children and adults are not separated and are encouraged to explore the story/ theme together
- A short but explicit time of worship with story, music and prayers that builds on the creative exploration.
- A generous welcome and hospitality is expressed through a delicious home-cooked, sit-down meal with others

## Pathway: Alpha Course



## Alpha: Pathways to Christian Faith

Introduction Dinner: Is there more to life than this?

Week 1: Who is Jesus?

Week 2: Why did Jesus die?

Week 3: How can we have faith?

Week 4: Why and how do I pray?

Week 5: Why and how should I read the Bible?

Week 6: How does God guide us?

Week 7: How can I resist evil?

Week 8: Why & how should we tell others?

Week 9: Does God heal today?

Week 10: What about the Church?

Weekend: Who is the Holy Spirit?

## Pathway: Our Lady of Soledad Parish

### *Mini-Retreat 101: "Catholics Alive!"*

- "What does it mean to be a follower of Christ?"

### *Mini-Retreat 201: "Alive and Growing Spiritually!"*

- Maturing in the Catholic faith

### *Mini-Retreat 301: "Alive and Gifted!"*

- Discerning how to serve God in ministry

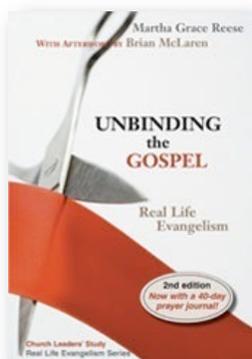
### *Mini-Retreat 401: "Alive in the World!"*

- Living as witnesses for Christ, as contagious Catholic Christians

### *Mini-Retreat 501: "Alive to Praise God!"*

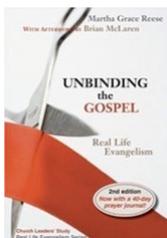
- Catholic worship and the sacraments

## Unbinding the Gospel



1. Step 1. Prepare church leaders
2. Step 2: 40-day preparation for community members (study, prayer, worship, small groups)
3. Step 3: Invitation to one person & four-week small group experience with "taste & see" church experiences

## 1-1 Community Evangelism

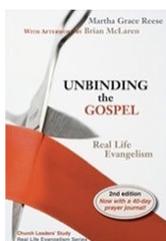


Step One. Church Leader's Study: *Unbinding the Gospel*

Step Two: All-Church Saturation Study: *Unbinding Your Heart: 40 Days of Prayer & Faith Sharing.*

- six-week, church-wide, small group E-event!
- pray each day's scripture and prayer exercise and work with a prayer partner
- study a chapter of the book with their small group
- worship with sermons, music, and prayers centered on the week's chapter

## 1-1 Community Evangelism

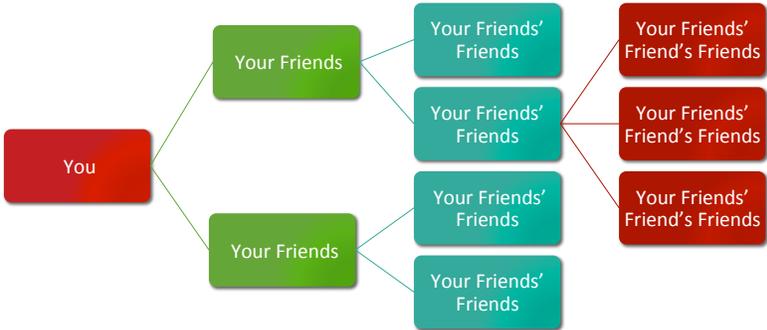
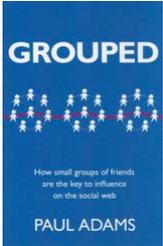


Step Three: An Experiment in Prayer and Community: *Unbinding Your Soul.*

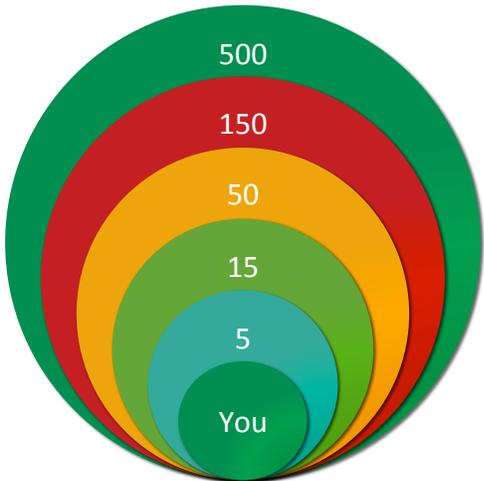
- a no-obligation experience of substantial spiritual discussion, prayer and community for people who aren't connected with a church
- church members invite their friends into a four-week small group experience with short study chapters, an individual prayer journal, prayer partner activities, and group exercises.

# Social Networks

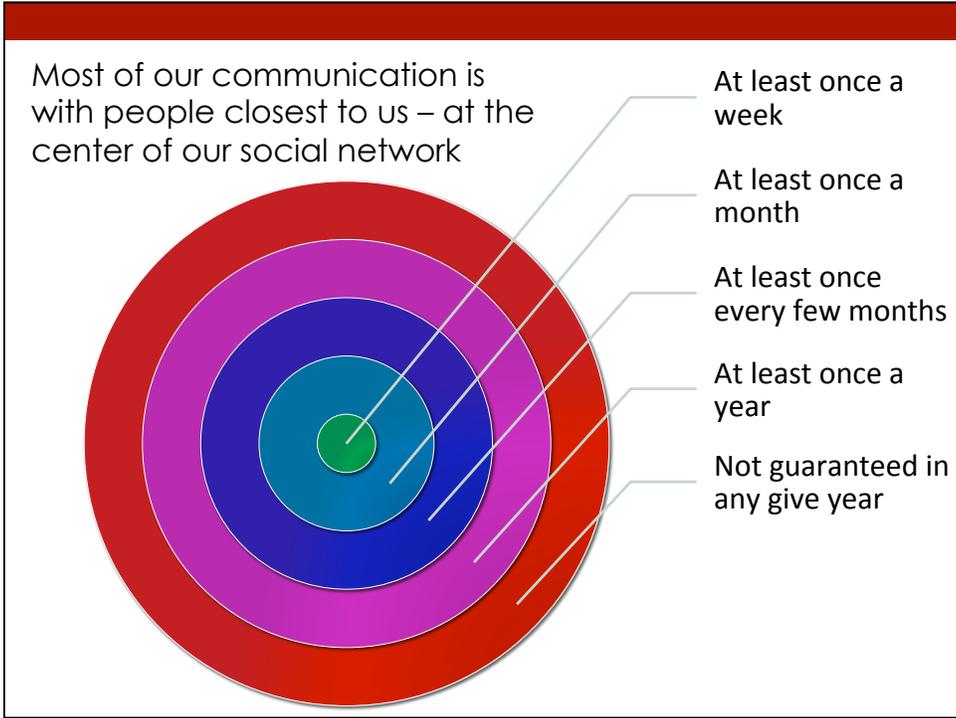
Our social network is made up of all the people we're connected to, all the people they are connected to, all the people they are connected to, and so on.



Our social networks tend to have clear boundaries, from people we care a lot about (in the center) to people we loosely know (on the periphery).



- 500 – Weak Ties (you know but don't feel close to)
- 150 – Stable Social Relationships (know each of these people and which of them know each other)
- 50 – Communicate Group (aware of what's going on in their lives)
- 12-15 – Sympathy Group
- 5 – Inner Circle (advice, emotional support, times of trouble)



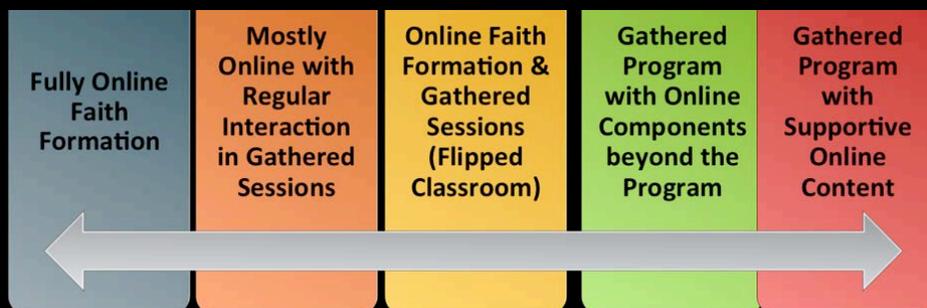
## PART 5. DIGITAL

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## Digital Faith Formation Strategies



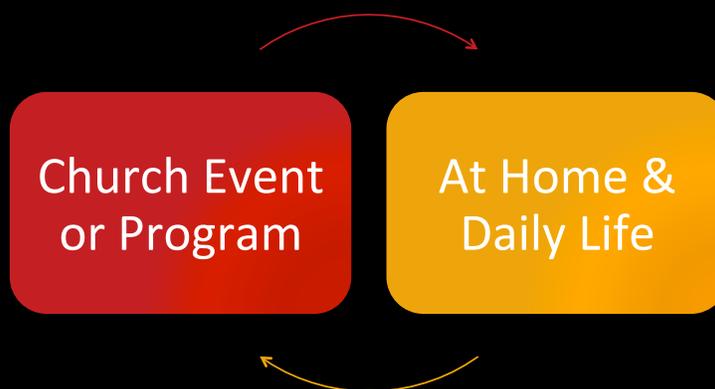
## Digitally Enabled & Digitally Connected Faith Formation



## Digital Methods for Faith Formation

1. Extend a church event or program
2. Design one event or program, offer it in multiple platforms
3. Prepare for and follow-up an an event or experience
4. Flip a gathered program
5. Integrate online and gathered
6. Create online only experiences
7. Use webinars, Facebook live, podcasts, etc. to deliver programming directly to people

## Extend the Event



# Sunday Worship

- Learning
- Praying
- Reading the Bible: Daily Readings
- Living



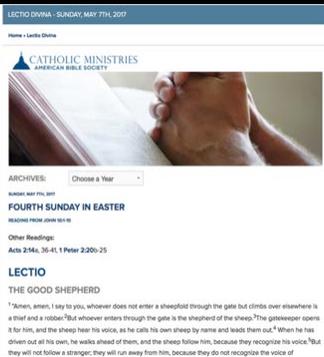
**The Sunday Website**  
of Saint Louis University

Español

3rd Sunday of Easter A  
April 30, 2017

General Intercessions for Sunday  
Share this Web Site!  
Search for other Sunday  
Email Us!  
liturgy@slu.edu

[Praying Toward Sunday](#)  
[Spirituality of the Readings](#)  
[Get to Know the Readings](#)  
[Music of Sunday's Mass](#)  
[General Intercessions](#)



LECTIO DIVINA - SUNDAY, MAY 7TH, 2017

Home | Lenten Devotions

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES**  
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

ARCHIVES: Choose a Year

SUNDAY, MAY 7TH, 2017

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTER**

Other Readings:  
Acts 2:14, 36-41, 1 Peter 2:20-25

**LECTIO**

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

"Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize his voice."



AN AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE PRODUCTION

**OPENING THE WORD**

4th Sunday of Easter  
The Good Shepherd

▶ PLAY



The Five Loaves

Reflection resources for parishes, faith sharing groups and individuals.

May 7, 2017  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

What do you think is the Good Shepherd's voice? Pray in the spirit that practice that allows us to listen with the heart. In the loud sounds of everyday life, in difficult times, essential listening requires silence.

Timothy D. Smith's program song, Give Me Ears to Listen, provides a moment for reflection.

Subscribe to Between Sundays First!

[Events from The Five Loaves](#) | 
 [The Five Practices of Christian Discipleship](#) | 
 [Weekly Video for Your Website](#) | 
 [In Site™](#)

# Tri-Saints Lutheran Hardy, NE

"HEROD IS ABOUT TO SEARCH FOR THE CHILD, TO DESTROY HIM."

Image created on Canva. Photo "pyramids" by mikloot on flickr.com CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

**The Sunday after Epiphany (transferred): January 14, 2018**

This is the LAST week of #jesusbirthatox. We will celebrate Baptism of Our Lord next Sunday, January 21, 2018.

**Focus Verse**

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." (Matthew 2:13 NRSV)

Dig Deeper Devotions: #jesusbirthatox

[Annual Meeting Questions](#) | 
 [For Families](#) | 
 [For Youth](#) | 
 [For Adults](#)

See and Hear the Word

WILLING BABES? THAT'S NOT A CHRISTMAS STORY!

YES! HEROD'S THE DATE OF THE BIRTHDAY - ONLY HE'LL BE THE PERFECT ISRAELITE.



www.adulttime.com

GOD CAN BRING THE SONS OF SALVATION EVEN OUT OF THE EVIL ACTIONS OF TYRANTS.



WHY - I BET HEROD DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING!



MATTIE W. 2-15-18  
C. HENNINGSEN 2018

005 - Escape to Egypt

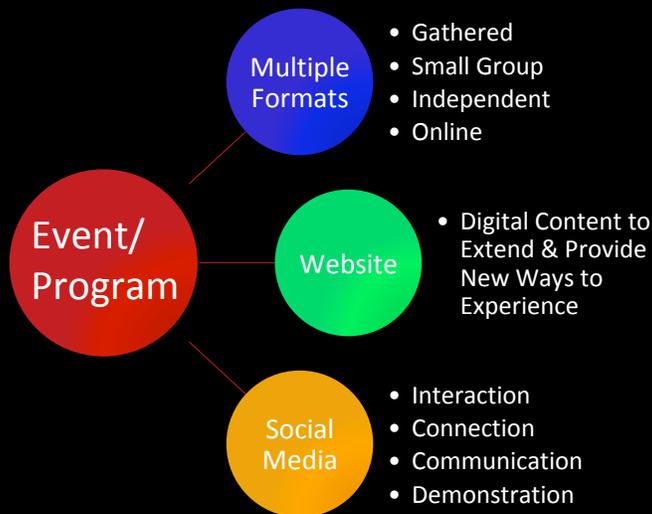


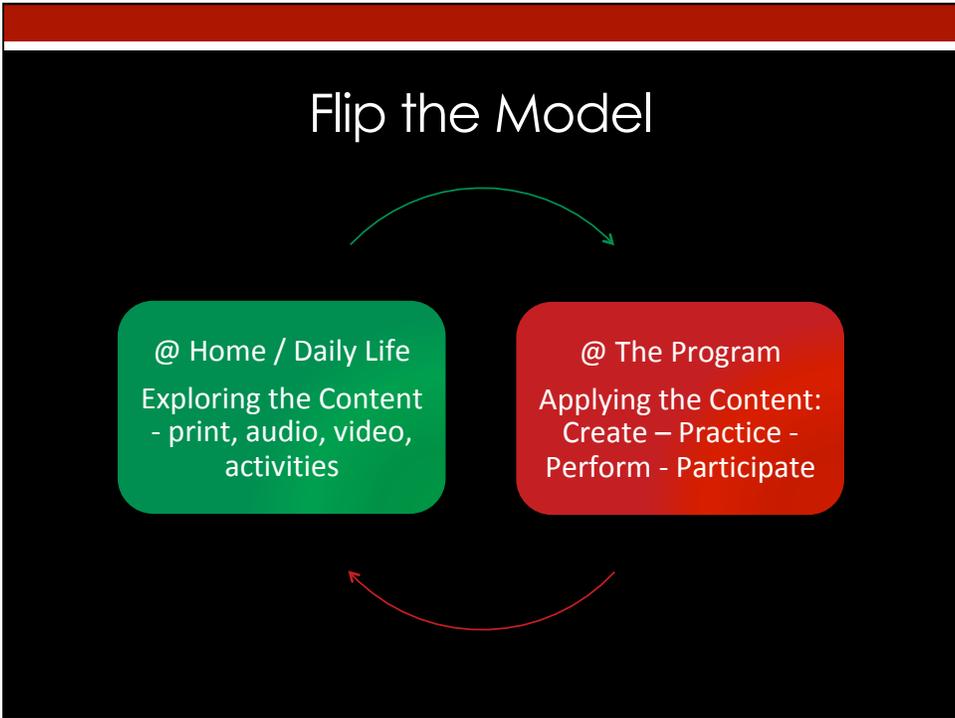
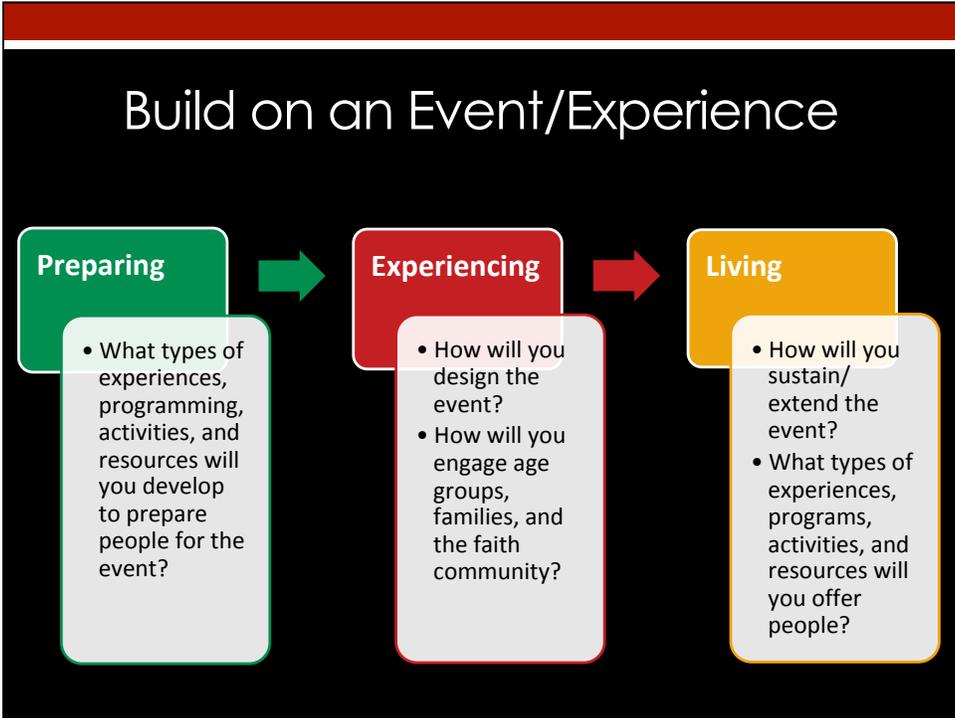
12 - Moses in the



Find links to more Christian Education resources for all ages here:

## One Event/ Program, Multiple Formats





Our Confirmation preparation program has two components: Once a month in-person classes and an online study. The online study is a place for students to develop their faith weekly by completing multi-media lessons which include videos, reading, Saint reflections, multiple-choice questions and online small group discussions. Each small group has their own online space to discuss faith topics, ask questions, and pray for one another. By having both in person classes and an online study we hope to help families learn more about their faith while respecting the many demands for their time.

# Confirmation

**LEARNING**  
login

**PROGRAM**  
requirements

**SERVICE**  
projects

**Confirmation 1**  
Calendar of Dates

**Confirmation 2**  
Calendar of Dates

**Insights**  
Calendar of Events

**Program Requirements**

- 1) PARTICIPATE IN WEEKLY ONLINE LEARNING
  - Complete weekly online lesson
  - Participate in online small group discussions
- 2) ATTEND MONTHLY SUNDAY SESSIONS
  - Sessions begin at 4:00 p.m. and end after the 5:30 p.m. Mass
  - 1 Absence allowed
- 3) SERVICE PROJECTS
  - Participate in 2 service projects per year (Service project opportunities will be available online you would like to participate in)
  - Write one reflection per project completed online
- 4) ATTEND "INSIGHT" (YOUTH GROUP) MEETINGS
  - Attend 2 Insight Youth Ministry Meetings, more is encouraged!
  - Insight takes place Wednesday nights from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in Knight Hall (please reference or
- 5) ATTEND A CONFIRMATION RETREAT EACH YEAR
  - Confirmation I - One-day retreat with parent or proxy (September 28, 2013)
  - Confirmation II – Overnight-weekend retreat (February 14-16 2014 or March 7-9, 2014)
  - \*\*\* Registration for Confirmation II Retreat will begin online January 6, 2014

**video catechism**

CREED SACRAMENTS MORALITY **PRAYER**

**PRAYER**

The Catechism is broken into four sections. It starts with the Creed, which is the backbone, the skeleton of the deposit of faith. Then we have the Sacraments, the nervous system, the way that we experience God. Add to that Morality, the muscles we need to be strong enough to live a holy life. But it all comes together in Prayer, the life blood we need to have a relationship with God.

Put them all together, and we have a living person Jesus Christ, the image of the invisible God and the goal of all catechesis. The more we know about Him, the more we're able to love Him and be like Him.

**Beginning of Holiness**  
June 2016 - Beginning of Holiness  
Blessed Mother Teresa's insights on prayer and how it connects us with God are put to simple but beautiful graphics that will inspire.  
Click here to download wmv video  
Click here to download mov video

**The Green Rubber Band**  
July 2016 - The Green Rubber Band  
Lesley tells the story of her total surrender to God for the most unusual reason at the most unsuspecting time.  
Click here to download wmv video  
Click here to download mov video

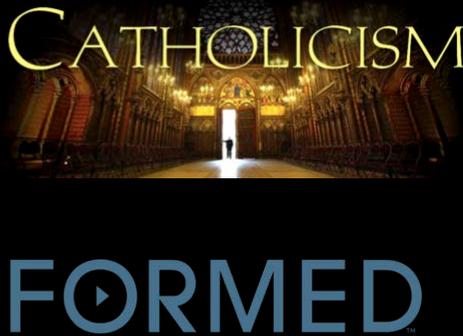
**Prayer**  
August 2016 - Prayer  
Betsy from the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia talk about prayer.  
Click here to download wmv video  
Click here to download mov video

**Adan in the Desert - Episode 1**  
**Adan in the Desert - Episode 2**  
**Adan in the Desert - Episode 3**

Christian Initiation & New Member Formation

**Intro to The Basics of Christianity**  
by Pastor Bill Crabtree of Silverdale Lutheran Church

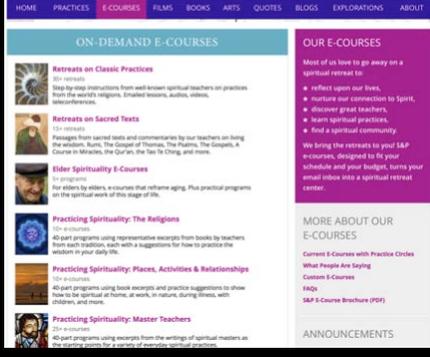
# Flip Christian Initiation







# Flip the Model




# Integrate Online and Gathered

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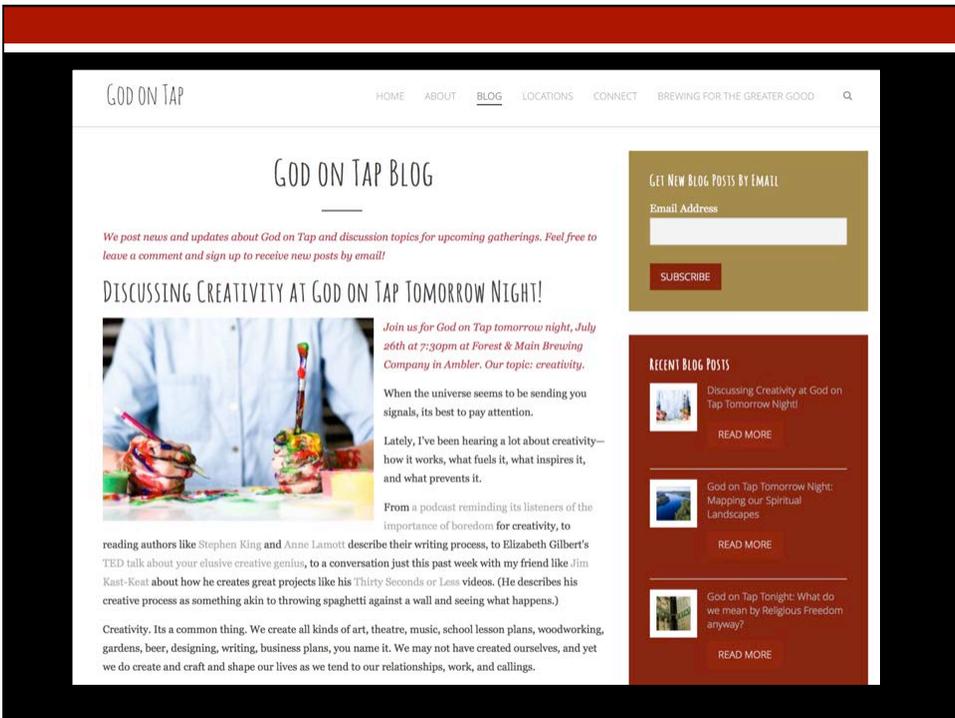


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# Advent or Lent Online "Curriculum"



**Welcome to Advent**

**LIKE THE ADVENT WREATH**  
(to count down the days)

**Advent Activities**

**Advent Wreath:** Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of advent. Usually, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and growth works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass. Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead. [Go to Sharing of Advent Wreaths.](#)

**Advent Candles:** Decorate a set of Advent candles for your family to use during this season of hope, peace, love, and joy. [Go to Vibrant Faith at Home.](#)

**Alternative Advent:** Kids create an alternative advent calendar to benefit a charitable organization in their town. Instead of just opening boxes on an Advent calendar or making Santa from one slot to the next, use Advent as a time to collect donations or goods for a local charitable organization. [Go to Vibrant Faith at Home.](#)

**Jesse Tree:** The Jesse Tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse Tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse Tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse Tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history. [Go to Jesse Tree online.](#)

**Advent Daily Devotional**

[2017\\_advent\\_devotional.pdf](#)  
Download File

**Family Advent Calendar (English & Spanish)**

[advent-calendar-2017-family-bilingual.pdf](#)  
Download File

**Children's Advent Calendar**

[advent-children-calendar.pdf](#)  
Download File

[advent-children-calendar-spanish.pdf](#)  
Download File

**Best Advent Ever - Daily Reflections:** Starting December 3, the first Sunday of Advent, you'll receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Matthew Kelly and Dr. Allen Hunt, practical tips to incorporate into your everyday life, and personal stories from Dynamic Catholic team members. [Go to Best Advent Ever.](#)

**Sacred Advent Daily Reflections:** Embrace the Advent season as a sacred space from the ease of your e-mail inbox. Sacred Advent is a daily e-mail prayer break during a busy season. Each day invites you to a step-by-step progression of praying with a Scripture reading and related points of reflection. The messages also include suggestions for further exploration of Advent themes through additional online articles and prayers. [Go to Sacred Advent.](#)

# Online 40-Day Lent Curriculum

Church →	Daily & Home	← Online
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ash Wednesday</li> <li>• Lenten Sunday liturgies</li> <li>• Stations of the Cross</li> <li>• Lenten prayer</li> <li>• Lenten retreat</li> <li>• Lenten service</li> <li>• Lenten soup suppers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fasting</li> <li>• Praying</li> <li>• Service/ Almsgiving</li> <li>• Lectionary reflection</li> <li>• Family Lenten activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lenten learning resources</li> <li>• Lenten calendar</li> <li>• Daily Lenten prayer</li> <li>• Weekly table prayer</li> <li>• Video resources</li> <li>• Online retreat experience</li> </ul>



# Webinar Live Presentation

Upper Dublin  
Lutheran  
Church



## Teens and Digital Media: Our First Facebook Live Event!

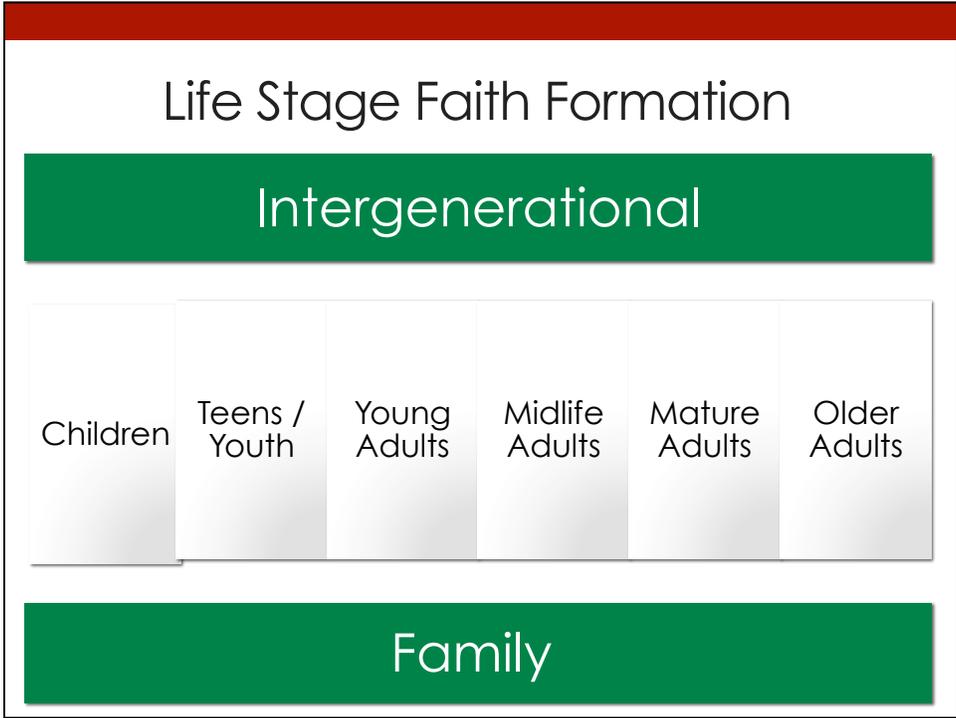
Join us for our first Facebook Live event from the comfort of home or while you're out and about on your smartphone as Pastor Keith is joined by Bethany Stolle, who will present on what parents need to know about teens and digital media. Tune into the [UDLC Facebook page](#) at 8pm Eastern Time on November 6th to watch and share your ideas and questions. This is open to everyone. Please forward this email or share our [Facebook event](#) with a friend! - Keith

### Program Description

The mall. Public parks. Friends' houses. The lunch room. The physical spaces that were central to socialization, extracurricular learning, and identity formation for many of us have increasingly shifted to digital spaces. And there are implications for parents, teachers, ministry leaders and anyone else who works with young people. This workshop will explore digital media trends among kids and teens, the diversity of experiences when it comes to youth and social media, how adolescents are working out their identities through "networked publics," and considerations for faith formation with a tech-connected generation.

## PART 6. LIFELONG

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## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning

1. Blended Learning
2. Micro-Learning
3. Immersive Learning Environments
4. Multiple Ways of Learning
5. Multisensory Learning
6. Project-Based Learning
7. Collaborative Learning
8. Visual Learning
9. Practice-Oriented Learning
10. Storytelling

## Virtual Learning Academy



VLACS provides full time and part time online virtual learning opportunities for both Middle & High School students. Our new online Adult Education program will be available in 2016.

Choose Your Path



### Middle School & High School

VLACS is an online virtual public middle and high school offering students the opportunity to learn at their own pace, full or part time.



### Adult Education

Learn something for fun, develop new tech skills, learn a second language, and more at VLACS Adult Ed. Now accepting enrollments!

## Summit Schools

### Summit's PERSONALIZED SCHOOLS

A personalized school is designed to meet the needs of **each & every individual student**.

At Summit, we focus on four key elements of college and career readiness, and empower students to drive their learning and own their success.



## Styles of Learning: Builders

- lecture and expert presentations
- activities that take into account their age-related abilities to hear, see, and move
- connect their experience to the topic
- structure and predictability (no surprises); low-risk learning environment
- independent skill practice time
- still like printed resources and books for study

## Styles of Learning: Boomers

- group interactions and discussions
- storytelling
- chances to try new skills independently
- stable, risk-free environment but want to interact with others
- experiential, practical, and fun activities that allow for team exercises
- use technology as means for learning
- blend of people who prefer printed books and those who learn online

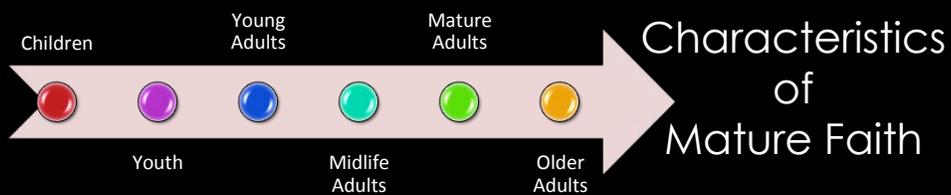
## Styles of Learning: Gen Xers

- learn by doing
- experiential with lots of direct experience activities
- shorter, episodic learning experiences
- visual learning (images, videos)
- practical and relevant (What will I do with this learning?)
- discretion to complete tasks their own way
- prefer independent self-directed learning, including individual projects
- use technology where possible, including online learning, video, etc.
- will turn to digital resources over the printed resources

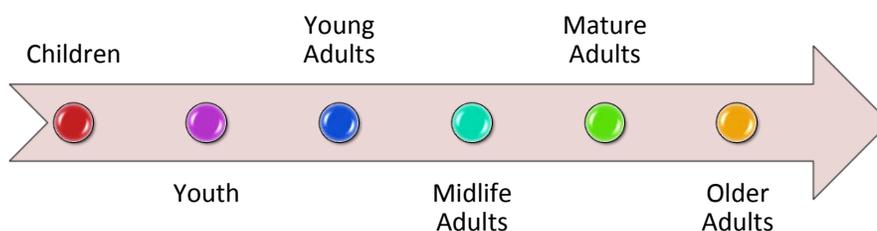
## Styles of Learning: Millennials

- microlearning and episodic learning experiences
- lots of activity-based group work
- fast-moving, interactive activities
- visual learning (images, videos)
- technology enabled learning using their own devices for learning
- collaborative learning environments with peer interaction
- entertainment and learning at the same time

## Maturing in Faith: *Toward What Ends Are We Working*



## Focus on Maturing in Faith: *Toward What Ends Are We Working*



*What Do We Need to Do at Each Stage  
of Life to Promote Faith Maturing*

## Maturing in Faith

- ✦ Focusing on the essential characteristics of lifelong growth in Christian faith and discipleship
- ✦ Incorporating knowing and believing, relating and belonging, practicing and living.
- ✦ Addressing each characteristic in developmentally-appropriate ways at each stage of life

## Characteristics

1. Developing and sustaining a personal relationship and commitment to Jesus Christ
2. Living as a disciple of Jesus Christ and making the Christian faith a way of life
3. Reading and studying the Bible—its message, meaning, and application to life today
4. Learning the Christian story and foundational teachings of the Christian faith (Trinity, Jesus, creed, morality and ethics) and integrating its meaning into ones life
5. Praying—together and by ourselves, and seeking spiritual growth through spiritual disciplines

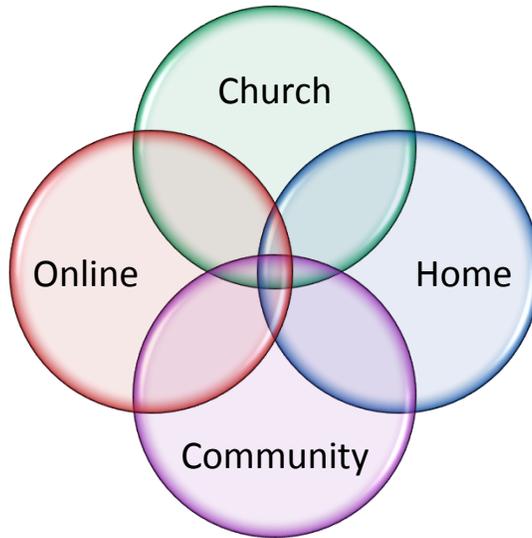
## Characteristics

6. Living with moral integrity guided by Christian ethics and values
7. Living the Christian mission in the world—serving those in need, caring for God’s creation, and acting and advocating for justice and peace.
8. Worshipping God with the community at Sunday worship, ritual celebrations, and the seasons of the church year
9. Being actively engaged in the life, ministries, and activities of the faith community
10. Practicing faith in Jesus Christ by using one’s gifts and talents within the Christian community and in the world

## Developing a Faith Formation Plan

Faith Maturing Characteristic	Children	Youth	Young Adults	Adults	Family
	Intergenerational	Intergenerational	Intergenerational	Intergenerational	Intergenerational
1.					
	Family	Family	Family	Family	Family
2.					
	Age Group				
3.					

## Environments of Faith Formation



## Intergenerational Strategies

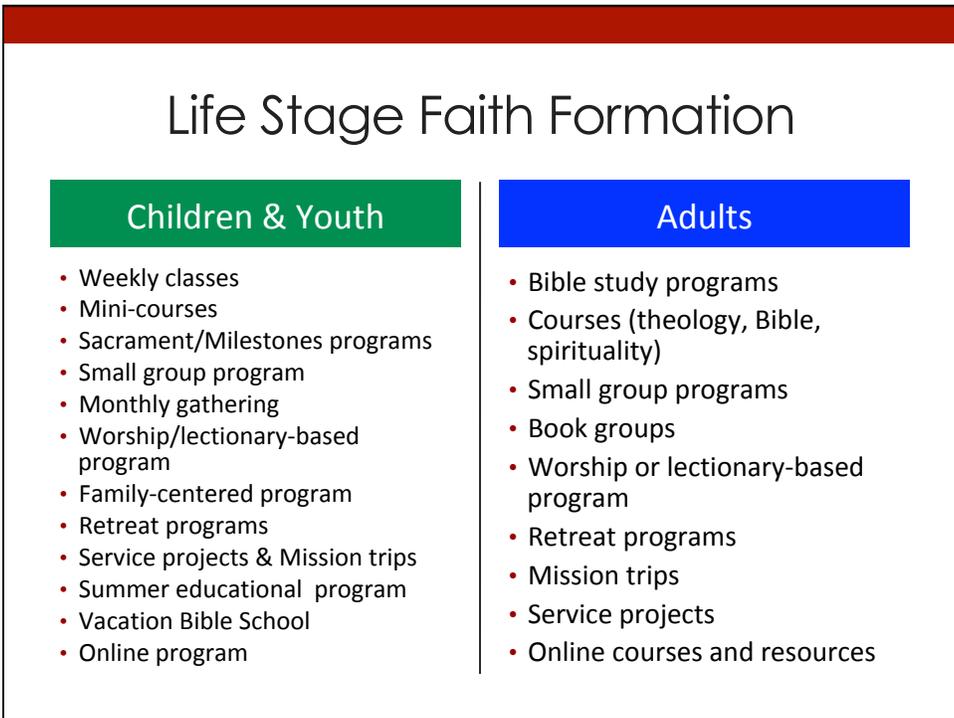
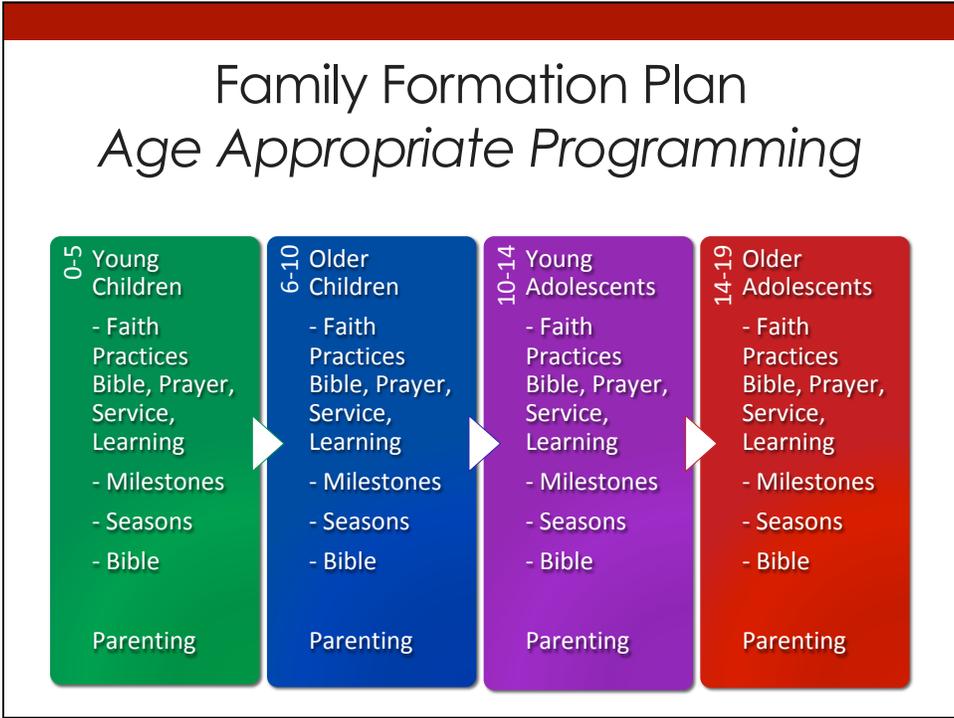
1. Faith formation program for the whole community
2. Lectionary-based program
3. Sacramental preparation
4. Milestone rituals and celebrations
5. Vacation Bible School
6. Family, parent-child, parent-teen programs
7. Service projects & mission trips
8. Liturgical season celebrations/festivals
9. Retreat experience or renewal experience

## Family Strategies



1. Faith Practices @ Home
2. Milestones
3. Seasonal Events
4. Bible through the Year
5. Family & Intergenerational Programming
6. Parents & Grandparents as Faith Formers

Digital Platform



## Personalizing Faith Formation



## Two Ways to Approach Personalizing

### **Approach One: Personalize the Pathway for People**

- ✦ Develop pathways of faith maturing
- ✦ Develop playlists of content and experiences tailored to the pathways
- ✦ Upload playlists to a digital platform

### **Approach Two: Personalize the Offerings**

- ✦ Offer a variety of content, experiences, and activities tailored to different spiritual-religious identities and the life stage needs of people
  - Getting Started ---- Growing ---- Going Deeper*
- ✦ Format the content tailored to different spiritual-religious identities
- ✦ Develop a digital platform with content to address the needs

## Pathways of Faith Growth



### A Pathways Model

- **A Pathway is a process** for helping people discern where they are in their faith journey and to chart a path for faith growth—to get from where they are to a closer relationship with Jesus and a deeper practice of the Christian faith.
- **A Pathway is life-centered**, reaching into every area of a person's life.
- **A Pathway is holistic** incorporating the whole person: head, heart, and hands.
- **A Pathway focuses on faith maturing.**

Connecting with God		Planting	Nurturing	Shaping	Sharing
Personal Spiritual Practices	I am learning about daily devotions and praying to find those that I want to practice. I read the Bible from time to time.	I am practicing some spiritual devotions occasionally, including reading from the Bible. I am learning about STER (Scripture, Tradition, Experience, Reason).	I am using spiritual devotions regularly. I also use other resources to understand the Bible at times. I use STER to make decisions.	I am revising my spiritual practices. I can share with others how I connect with God through spiritual practices.	
In Community	I attend worship at least once a month. I say the Lord's Prayer during worship, grace before meals and prayers in the morning and/or at bedtime.	I attend worship on Sunday mornings at least twice a month. I participate in Central Connect Groups (faith formation opportunities).	I participate in worship every week unless sick or out of town. I share Biblical and/or Christian stories with my family/friends.	I provide worship leadership and/or other service on Sundays. I help organize Central Connect Groups (faith formation opportunities).	
Connecting with Others					
Individually	I aim to accept others, including those whose color, status, etc. are different from mine.	I go out of my way to be hospitable to members and guests in our church.	I listen and try to help others with their spiritual questions, joys, and concerns. I share my faith through personal testimony/story.	I invite others to worship and church events. I share my faith with others through invitation and witness.	
In Community	I attend seasonal events or special events. I am learning about ministry opportunities.	I participate in a Central Connect Group for fellowship or faith formation. I attend or serve at events.	I provide leadership for special events. I am open to being trained in church leadership.	I am a leader in a Central Connect Group. I am open to training others for leadership in church administration, education, etc.	

Changing Our World with Christ's Love		Planting	Nurturing	Shaping	Sharing
Generosity of Time, Talents, and/or Financial Gifts (TTFC)	I like to hear how my church meets the needs in the community. I like to hear stories from others about how they have been changed by either giving or receiving. I contribute with some Sunday offerings, at Christmas and Easter.	I like to hear how my church meets the needs in the community. I like to hear stories from others about how they have been changed by either giving or receiving.	I commit to share my TTFC regularly. I help a neighbor or a charity with my TTFC occasionally. I share my TTFC regularly.	I make an annual commitment and give in proportion to my income. I share my TTFC regularly. I am a member of a church committee or team.	I make an annual commitment and give in proportion to my income at a time (10%) and beyond. I share my TTFC regularly. I am inviting others to be a member of a church committee or team.
In Community (Evangelism, Mission Trips, Service Projects, Social Action)	I learn from the church about caring for others in the community. I help in the community in the fields of arts, academics, athletics, politics, charity, etc. I am learning how to apply Christian ethics and faith to local and political issues.	I learn from the church about caring for others in the community. I help in the community in the fields of arts, academics, athletics, politics, charity, etc. I am learning how to apply Christian ethics and faith to local and political issues.	I participate in community service through church ministries occasionally. I am learning how to apply Christian ethics and faith to local and political issues.	I participate in community service beyond church ministries regularly. I invite others to try a variety of serving opportunities outside the church. I assist the church to advocate for peace and justice for all.	I participate in ongoing service beyond the walls of the church. I recruit and equip leaders for ministries and missions. I participate in a community peace and justice group.

**Faith Growth Pathway**

Central United Methodist Church  
Waterford, MI

For more information, please contact:  
Rev. Kathy Pittenger  
Pastor of Lifelong Faith Formation  
kpittenger@waterfordcumc.org  
248.681.0040

Discovering God		Planting	Nurturing	Shaping	Sharing
Attending Worship	Attend Worship Occasionally Read Bible Stories or books	Attend Worship at least once a month Serve as a Greeter Read Bible Stories regularly	Attend Worship regularly Serve as an Usher Read a child friendly devotional regularly	Participate in Worship Serve as a Liturgist/Acolyte Create a Bible reading plan Share your faith story	
Farming Disciples	Pray at mealtimes Learn about different kinds of faith practices Learn about Generosity	Pray at mealtimes and bedtime Try different kinds of faith practices Stewardship	Create prayer rituals (blessings, "Faith5") Engage in conversations about God and faith Practice Generosity of Time, Talents, Financial Gifts	Integrate prayer into daily routines Integrate faith concepts and actions into everyday life Share a story about your faith practice/generosity	
Learning Christian Traditions	Introduce Basic Faith Words (appropriate to development)	Learn about Foundational Faith Concepts (appropriate to development)	Learn about John Wesley and our Methodist Heritage (appropriate to development)	Participate in a children's small group experience	
Seasonal Events and Milestones	Milestones Attend Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	Milestones Participate in a seasonal event	Milestones Participate in a seasonal devotion or study	Milestones Integrate seasonal themes in everyday life	

Caring Relationships		Planting	Nurturing	Shaping	Sharing
Observe youth/adults who have meaning and purpose Learn about the needs of others	Mimic youth/adults who have meaning and purpose Pray for the needs of others	Worship alongside youth/adults who have meaning and purpose Help a neighbor or friend	Share story of meaning and purpose Invite a friend or neighbor to church or a church event		
In Service and Mission	Learn about the needs of others in our community, nation, and world	Donate money or items for a service/mission project Give of your time or talents	Participate in a one-day service project Participate in a short-term family mission experience	Learn about and ready/serve others in a service/mission project that you are passionate about Invite others to participate in service/mission projects Share your experiences	

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## spiritual assessment

### knowing God

1. I understand the essential beliefs of the Christian faith, and feel confident that I could explain them to a non-religious friend.
2. I have a good knowledge of the Bible, including its major events and themes, and I know how to read it for maximum understanding.
3. If someone were to ask me, "What do United Methodists believe?" I feel confident in my ability to answer them.
4. I understand basic Christian ethics, and I know how to draw upon my faith to come to conclusions about important moral and ethical issues.
5. I have a good understanding of God's will for human beings, and I know how to discern his will for my life in particular.

### loving God

1. I know how to use the power of God to transform lives and I'm open and responsive to whatever that may lead in my life.
2. I lay aside my own desires and sense of importance and submit to God's will for my life.
3. As a means of growing in Christ, I prayerfully practice various spiritual disciplines in my life.
4. I am experiencing "the fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22) in my life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
5. I have a group of friends who grow in faith together and challenge each other to grow deeper in Christ.

### serving God

1. I invest time in building my relationships with God and with others.
2. I know my God-given spiritual gifts, and am actively serving Christ by using those gifts.
3. I give back to Christ by giving to the church and to others in proportion to my income, with at least 10% as my goal.
4. I spend time serving in God's world by helping meet critical needs and showing what it means to follow Jesus Christ.
5. I am actively nurturing the spiritual lives of others, sharing my faith story, offering spiritual encouragement and leading others to Christ.

### Knowing God

We can never fully understand God (if we could, we wouldn't have much of a God). But the mysteries and questions are not obstacles to growth – they are an invitation to continually journey deeper in our understanding of God and the Kingdom to which he invites us. As we increase our understanding of the God we worship and serve, which is what the word "theology" means, we increase our capacity to live the life God designed us to live. Calendar items and volunteer opportunities marked with the knowing designation will lead you to a deeper understanding of the mysteries of the kingdom.

### Loving God

What we think and what we do are expressions of who we are. Trying hard to change ourselves is a losing proposition – but when we're traveling with God and letting God work in our lives, we find that transformation becomes a beautiful reality! When you see a calendar item or volunteer opportunity marked with the loving designation, it means that participation will draw you into a deeper level of love for God and neighbor.

### Serving God

The Christian life is about more than correct thoughts and a loving attitude. It's about living our calling to be salt and light in the world. This means doing the work of the kingdom. Calendar items and volunteer opportunities marked with the serving designation will help you get your hands dirty for the kingdom. These include mission opportunities, volunteering and much more.

**Take the next step today.**  
 Visit [www.coc.org/hotsteps](http://www.coc.org/hotsteps) or the Connection Point in the NorthWest to view a detailed listing of classes and service opportunities and to register.

The United Methodist Church of the  
**Resurrection**

### Knowing God: Becoming Theologically Informed

- 1. I have a growing understanding of the essential beliefs of the Christian faith, and I feel confident that I could explain my understanding of them with a non-religious friend.**
  - Level 1**  
We encourage the Bible comes as a growing journey. Read the Bible regularly to explore the Christian faith. Use the Bible to understand the world around you. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Many Christians find it helpful to read the Bible. Buy a United Methodist hymnal. Buy a United Methodist hymnal.
  - Level 3**  
Write your own prayer or praise to God. Write your own prayer or praise to God.
- 2. I have a growing knowledge of the Bible, including its major events and themes. I know how to read it for maximum understanding.**
  - Level 1**  
Commit to reading your Bible each day, using the GPS (Gospel Power Study) guide. Click here to download the GPS each week, or to sign up for e-mail delivery of the study readings.
  - Level 2**  
Purchase a good study Bible, such as the NIV Study Bible or the ESV Study Bible. Learn how to use the Bible, and begin by studying the book of Mark for yourself.
  - Level 3**  
Talk with your small group or team to discuss your study. Study, using commentaries and other resources. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 3. If someone were to ask me, "What do United Methodists believe?" I feel confident in my ability to give an informed answer.**
  - Level 1**  
Learn and understand the doctrine and vision of The Church of the Resurrection. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Study the doctrine of the Resurrection. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Share the doctrine of the Resurrection with others. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 4. I have a growing understanding of basic Christian ethics, and I am continually developing an ability to draw upon my faith to come to conclusions about important moral and ethical issues.**
  - Level 1**  
Each day you face ethical decisions. Before you act, ask yourself (and pray) about the answers. "What course of action will best increase my love for God and neighbor?"
  - Level 2**  
Read the Bible. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
What are the differences between charity and grace? (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 5. I have a growing understanding of God's will for human beings, and I know how to discern his will for my life in particular.**
  - Level 1**  
Choose one decision, or one prayer, or one offering, and pray that God will lead you to the best choice for your life.
  - Level 2**  
Write a prayer or offering, and pray that God will lead you to the best choice for your life.
  - Level 3**  
Prayerfully ask God for his will for your life. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)

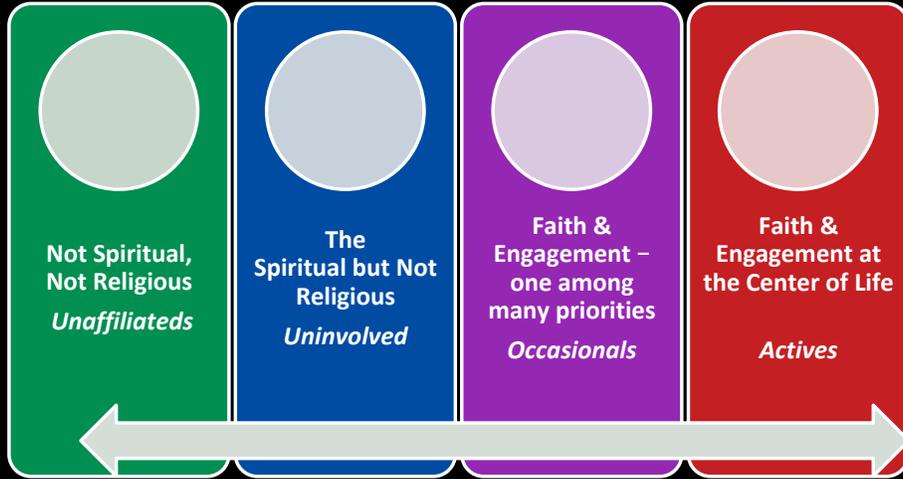
### Loving God: Becoming Spiritually Transformed

- 1. I know God has the power to transform lives and I'm open and responsive to whatever that may lead in my life.**
  - Level 1**  
Intentionally spend five minutes daily thinking about good things. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Set a plan to do your best to love the Lord with all your heart, mind, and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Mentor the next generation. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 2. I have a growing ability to lay aside my own desires and sense of importance and submit to God's will for my life.**
  - Level 1**  
Examine your life and identify things you do or say to make yourself the center of attention. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Fast from TV or another time-consuming habit for one week. Reflect on how this habit affects you. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Each day pray the Prayer of Surrender. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 3. As a means of growing in Christ, I regularly practice various spiritual disciplines (e.g. worship, prayer, Bible study) in my life.**
  - Level 1**  
Pray "I thank you, Father, for all that you have done for me." (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Choose one spiritual discipline to practice. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Use the Bible to understand the world around you. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 4. I have a deepening experience of "the fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22) in my life—of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**
  - Level 1**  
Remember Galatians 5:22. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Ask yourself, "What does God want me to do?" (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Ask yourself, "What does God want me to do?" (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 5. I have a group of friends with whom I meet regularly in order to grow in faith together and by challenge each other to grow deeper in Christ.**
  - Level 1**  
Remember your life makes two hours a week available to Christ. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
The discipline of prayer is essential. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
The discipline of prayer is essential. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)

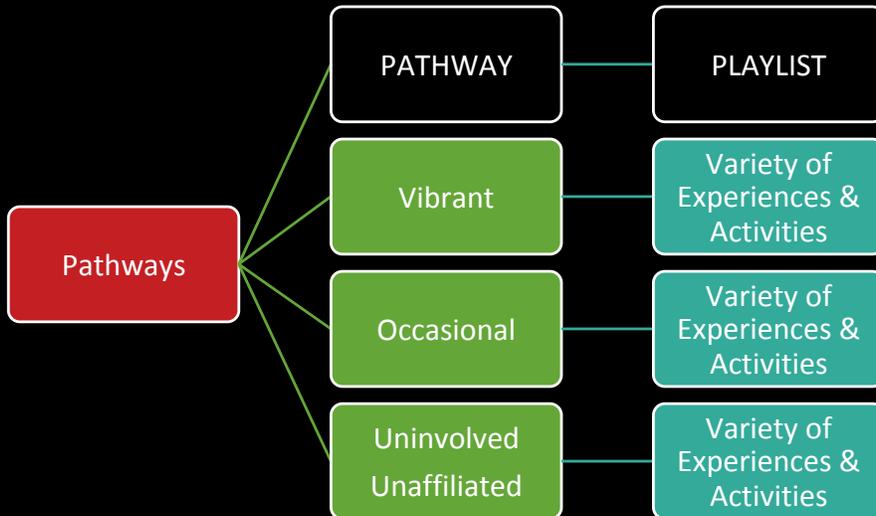
### Serving God: Serving God daily in the World

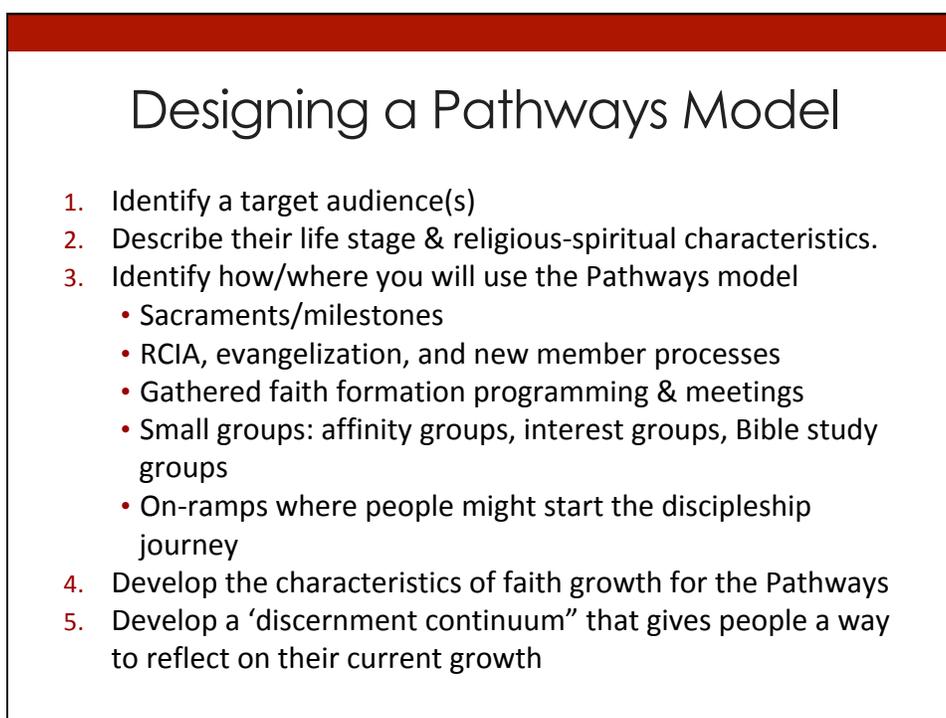
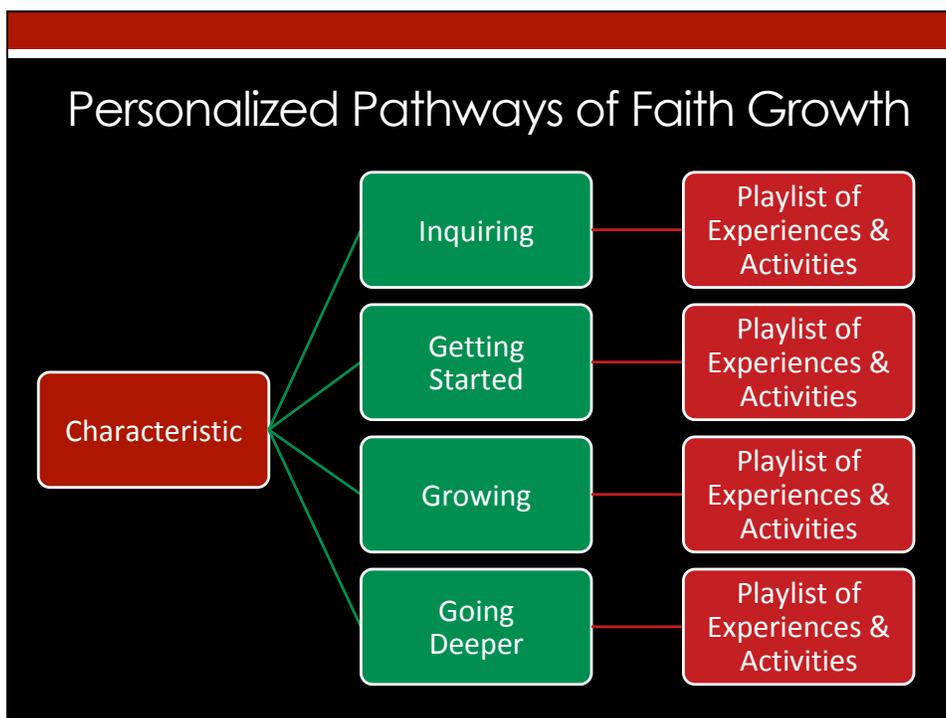
- 1. I actively serve in God's world by helping meet critical needs through acts of joy and mercy, choosing in actions what it means to follow Jesus Christ.**
  - Level 1**  
Volunteer inside and outside the walls of the church choosing opportunities like FaithWalks, Mission Bible Camp, or a mission team.
  - Level 2**  
Commitment gives volunteer service inside and outside the walls of the church, e.g. a regularly scheduled volunteer or ongoing involvement in a ministry or mission partner.
  - Level 3**  
As God leads you, serve of joy and purpose justice in the world. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 2. I am actively nurturing the spiritual lives of others by sharing my faith story, offering spiritual encouragement and leading others to Christ.**
  - Level 1**  
Invite a friend, a family member or a neighbor to attend church with you. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Keep a prayer journal with you. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Practice serving others. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 3. I have discovered my God-given spiritual gifts, and regularly take steps to develop those gifts and to actively serve Christ by using them.**
  - Level 1**  
Identify what things (and/or volunteer work) you really love doing. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Learn what your God-given spiritual gifts are, and connect to one or more ministries that will benefit from those gifts. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Focus on how God intends your gifts to be used. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 4. I give back to Christ by giving to the church and to others in proportion to my income, with at least 10% as my goal.**
  - Level 1**  
Begin planning your financial giving as a proportion of your income. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Increase your giving by one or two percent of your income. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Make things you love to do a part of your giving. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
- 5. I invest time in building my relationships with God and with others, and I increasingly manage my time according to God's priorities.**
  - Level 1**  
Set aside at least two hours a month specifically for serving God. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 2**  
Identify your non-productive activities you spend time on. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)
  - Level 3**  
Review your entire calendar. (Use the Bible to understand the world around you.)

## Targeting the Needs of Each Group



## Personalized Pathways of Faith Growth





## Designing Steps 1 & 2 Target Audience & Description

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
|                | <b>Sample Themes – Mature Adults</b>   |
| • Surveys      | 1. Dealing with retirement   |
| • Focus Groups | 2. Making life plans, finances, health   |
| • Interviews   | 3. Becoming a grandparent  |
| • Research     | 4. Making a difference in the community and world                                      |
| • Reviews      | 5. Incorporating family changes and transitions  |
|                | 6. New ways of living and relating as a married couple                                 |
|                | 7. Caring for aging parents  |
|                | 8. Taking time to read the Bible and learn more about my faith                         |
|                | 9. Growing spiritually and exploring spirituality for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of life |
|                | 10. Connecting with people my age; talking about things that matter to us              |
|                | 11. Dealing with loss  |

## Designing Step 3 - How & Where

Identify how/where you will use the Pathways model

1. Sacraments/milestones: Marriage, Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, beginning church faith formation, etc.
2. RCIA, evangelization, and new member processes
3. Gathered faith formation events and programming
4. Parenting meetings
5. Small groups: affinity groups, interest groups, Bible study groups,
6. On-ramps where people in your church might start the discipleship journey

## Designing Step 4 – Characteristics

Develop the characteristics of faith growth you want to use in your Pathways model. For example:

1. Option 1. Use characteristics of faith growth specific to the life stage (such as family faith practices) or the content of the event (such as preparing for confirmation)
2. Option 2. Use characteristics of maturing faith

## Key Characteristics of Maturing Faith

1. Developing and sustaining a personal relationship and commitment to Jesus Christ
2. Living as a disciple of Jesus Christ and making the Christian faith a way of life
3. Reading and studying the Bible—its message, meaning, and application to life today
4. Learning the Christian story and foundational teachings of the Christian faith and integrating its meaning into one's life
5. Praying—together and by ourselves, and seeking spiritual growth through spiritual disciplines
6. Living with moral integrity guided by Christian ethics and values
7. Living the Christian mission in the world—serving those in need, caring for God's creation, and acting and advocating for justice and peace.
8. Worshipping God with the community at Sunday worship, ritual celebrations, and the seasons of the church year
9. Being actively engaged in the life, ministries, and activities of the faith community
10. Practicing faith in Jesus Christ by using one's gifts and talents within the Christian community and in the world

### Adult Faith Growth Pathway

We believe that growth in our relationship with God and in following Jesus (discipleship) is a lifelong process. We are constantly trying to grow deeper in our relationship with God and in living the Christian way of life each day. Our church is committed to helping you grow wherever you may be in your faith journey. We are committed to helping you live the Christian way of life everyday.

To help you discover areas for growth and to help us serve you better, please take a few minutes to complete the Adult Faith Growth Pathway. It will help you identify strengths and areas of growth in your own life. Use these statements to assess where you are honestly and prayerfully. Rate "How true each statement is for you" using the rating scale: 1 = Rarely true of me, 2 = Sometimes true of me, 3 = Occasionally true of me, 4 = Almost always true of me, 5 = Always true of me.

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. I am growing in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 2. My faith shapes how I think and act each and every day.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 3. I make the Christian faith a way of life by integrating my beliefs into the conversation, decisions, and actions of daily life.                                   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 4. I am aware of God present and active in my own life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 5. I have a real sense that God is guiding me.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 6. I seek spiritual growth by actively pursuing questions of faith, learning what it means to believe in God, and what it's like to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 7. I devote time to reading and studying the Bible.  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 8. I use the Bible to discover how I should think and act.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 9. I pray to God and take quiet time to reflect and listen to God.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 10. I am growing spiritually through spiritual practices such as contemplation, <i>lectio divina</i> , praying Scripture, daily Examen (reflection), and meditation. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 11. I can articulate the fundamental teachings of the Christian faith.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 12. I am growing in my understanding of the Christian faith—beliefs, traditions, and practices.  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 13. I exercise moral responsibility by applying Christian ethics, virtues, and values to making moral decisions.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 14. My faith helps me know right from wrong.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 15. I live a life of service by caring for others and reaching out those in need.  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 16. I am involved in ways to promote social justice and address injustice in the world.  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 17. I am involved in actions to care for creation.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 18. I share the Good News of Jesus through my words and actions.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 19. I participate actively and regularly in the worship life of the church community.  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 20. I participate in the life, ministries, and leadership of the church community.   | 1 2 3 4 5 |

#### Ways I Can Grow

- Areas Where I Need to "Get Started" (look at the numbers 1 and 2)
- Areas Where I Need to "Grow" (look at the numbers 2 and 3)
- Areas Where I Want to "Go Deeper" (look at the numbers 4 and 5)

## Designing Step 5 – Discernment

Develop a 'discernment continuum" that gives people a way to reflect on their current growth

Inquiring--Getting Started--Making Progress--Going Deeper

"How true each statement is for you?"

- 1 = Rarely true of me
- 2 = Sometimes true of me,
- 3 = Occasionally true of me
- 4 = Almost always true of me
- 5 = Always true of me.

## Approach #2. Personalize the Offerings



### The Seasons of Adult Faith Formation

*A Network of Adult Faith Formation Experiences, Programs, Activities, & Resources*

## Personalize the Offerings

### *Playlists for Reading & Studying the Bible*

#### Getting Started

- Participate in the “Welcome to the Bible” program at church
- Watch the video programs on how to read the Bible
- Watch the video program with an overview of the Old Testament and New Testament
- Use the Guide to select a Study Bible and find the Bible online
- Participate in the 30-Day Bible Experience: Reading one Gospel (Matthew, Mark, or Luke)

#### Growing

- Develop a daily plan for reading the Bible
- Participate in the lectio divina reflection group after Sunday worship
- Learn how to pray with the Bible
- Join a Bible study group (church, home, coffee shop, online)

#### Going Deeper

- Read the Bible in 365 days
- Develop a personal Bible study plan
- Take an online course: Hebrew Scriptures, Gospels, Letters of Paul
- Study and pray the Psalms as a spiritual practice

## Personalize the Offerings

### *Playlist: Bible for Families with Children*

#### **Getting Started**

- Participate in the Bible workshop for parents that is offered twice a year
- Watch the “Reading the Bible with Children” video and/or listen to the podcast on website
- Begin the practice of a weekly Bible story reading and/or video viewing
- Use the online Guide to select and purchase a recommended children’s Bible, and an adult study Bible for parents
- Engage the children in the summer vacation Bible school program

#### **Growing**

- Continue the weekly Bible story or video practice
- Practice the FAITH5 each day: Share the highs and lows of the day every night; read a key Bible verse or story every night; talk about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows; pray for one another’s highs and lows aloud every night; bless one another before turning out the lights of the day.

- Participate in the family scripture reflection after Sunday worship each week
- Learn how to pray with the Bible by watching the video online and using the prayer activities online
- Participate in the church wide “30-Day Bible Experience” of reading one gospel at home.
- Engage the children in the summer vacation Bible school program

#### **Going Deeper**

- Continue the FAITH5 daily practice
- Join an adult Bible study group offered by the church
- Engage the whole family in a 365 day “read the whole Bible” experience using the resources on the family website
- Develop a personal Bible study plan using the resources on the family website
- Participate in the family scripture reflection after Sunday worship each week
- Engage the children in the summer vacation Bible school program

## Playlists for Faith Formation



## Faith Formation Playlists

A faith formation playlist is a curated group of digital (online, video, audio, print) and gathered (church, home, small groups, etc.) faith forming experiences and resources that are tailored to the specific faith growth needs of people around a particular characteristic of faith maturing or theme/topic.

Playlists are developed for each “stage” on the discernment continuum, such as Inquiring, Getting Started, Growing, Going Deeper.

Each playlist provides a variety of ways for people to learn and grow in faith.

## Curating Playlists

- ✦ Books
- ✦ Audio / Podcasts
- ✦ Video and movies
- ✦ Apps and digital programming
- ✦ Website content and activities
- ✦ Courses, programs, workshops at church and online
- ✦ Church life, ministries, and events
- ✦ Small groups at church, home, community settings
- ✦ Art, drama, music
- ✦ Service and action projects, mission trips
- ✦ Retreats
- ✦ Field trips
- ✦ Mentoring

## Faith Formation Playlists

**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



## Playlists of Content & Experiences

If you were to use a Playlist approach to develop the faith of families with young children....

1. *Getting Started Families* (little faith experience)
  2. *Growing Families* (somewhat connected to faith community)
  3. *Going Deeper Families* (involved and practicing)
- How would you engage the parents?
  - How would you engage the children and whole family?

## Playlists of Content & Experiences

If you were to use a Playlist approach for first communion...

1. *Getting Started Children* (little to no faith forming experiences)
  2. *Growing Children* (some faith forming experiences)
  3. *Going Deeper Children* (involved and practicing)
- What would faith formation look like with these three “types” of children?
  - What would parent and family faith formation look like?

## Playlists of Content & Experiences

If you were to use a Playlist approach for confirmation...

1. *Getting Started Adolescents* (little to no faith forming experiences since childhood)
  2. *Growing Adolescents* (some faith forming experiences in childhood)
  3. *Going Deeper Adolescents* (involved and practicing)
- What would faith formation look like with these three “types” of adolescents?
  - What would parent and family faith formation look like?

# What is Edmodo?

Edmodo is a classroom website that is completely controlled by the teacher...

Google Classroom

Physical Education  
Theresa Teacher  
UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS  
No assignments

Design 101  
Intro course  
0 students  
UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS  
No assignments

Art History  
Period 1  
5 students  
UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS  
No assignments

Intro to World  
Period 3  
1 student  
UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS  
No assignments

Poetry for Physicists  
1 student  
UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS  
No assignments

Astronomy  
Introduction to Astronomy  
4 students  
UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS  
No assignments

Algebra 2  
Period 2  
Zach Yeckel  
Upcoming assignments  
Watch the introduction to Algebra and its question...  
Linear Equations and Inequalities Worksheet  
Physical Education  
Period 4  
Autumn Tu  
Upcoming assignments  
Weekly Run

Balancing Equations Worksheet  
Assignment posted Dec 13  
Complete your version of the attached worksheet. Remember that the positions of the numbers means different things! Remember the number is  
2 comments

Record your own video of The Elements Song  
Due Wed  
Feel free to use props, animations, and other creative embellishments.  
Attachments  
Daniel Radcliffe sings The Elements Song  
1:54 seconds  
Comments  
Zach Yeckel Dec 13  
Do we all have to do our videos with British accents?  
Justine Tu Dec 13  
I love this song!

**KEF**

*Building relationships with God, family and other congregants.*

*Building connections to Torah, Shabbat, holidays, Israel.*

*Building knowledge of Hebrew, history, music, ethics.*

*Building community within our Temple and Los Angeles.*

The participation of the family as a whole, including younger and older siblings, is welcomed. Families will come together in a *K'vutzah*, the Hebrew word for group. Each *K'vutzah* will have its own *Rosh K'vutzah* (group leader).



KEF is a bold new model of Jewish learning. Rather than studying *about* Judaism, prayer, celebration and Jewish culture, or reading *about* Jewish literature, the Bible and what makes a Jewish community, participants in KEF will *experience* it all and be a part of building their own Jewish community.

The goals of the KEF program are:

- to learn about the Jewish tradition through family experiences with prayer, celebration and *tikkun olam*;
- to strengthen the family's connections to one another, to the Jewish tradition, and to the congregation as a whole; and
- to build a community of learners at Temple Emanuel.

**Program Requirements**

Student and at least one adult family member shall participate in the following activities in the course of a year:

- 4-6 *K'vutzah* activities, including orientation, Shabbat dinners, 2 class-age based programs, book club discussions and the culminating Torah activities;
- 10-12 Shabbat services;
- 6 holiday celebrations or commemorations held at Temple Emanuel; and
- 3-4 cultural programs (in the congregation or around the city).

In addition, each family will be responsible to:

- read books from a selected reading list. (the types and number of books would vary with the students' age);
- devote 12-18 hours doing work related to *tikkun olam* (repairing the world); and
- do a Torah project (Each year there will be a theme for these Torah projects, e.g., Genesis, Exodus, mitzvo' in the Torah, the prophets, and the Writings).

What the program will provide:

- a *Rosh K'vutzah* for each Havurah (the rabbis, educators and coordinators will serve as *rashai k'vutzah*), who will meet with each family individually at least twice and with the entire *K'vutzah* several times during the year;
- orientations to worship services and holidays;
- a Torah-related program for children attending the New Emanuel Minyan (during the time the adults participate in Torah reading and text study);
- *K'vutzah*-based activities;
- book discussion groups; and
- a Torah project.

