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SeasonofAdultFaith.com
FamiliesattheCenter.com
WholeCommunityFaithFormation.weebly.com
Lifelong Faith Books

A Faith Forming Ecology

- Missional
- Family
- Life Cycle

Digitally Enabled and Connected

Inter-generational
Key Concept: Adaptive Challenges

Life Span Diversity
The Seasons of Life

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seasons of Life</th>
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</table>

Five Generation Diversity

- iGeneration (2000-)
- Millennials (1980-99)
- Generation X (1961-1979)
- Baby Boomers (1946-60)
- Builders (before 1946)
Generations

- Relationship to Institutions
- Relationship to Authority
- Family Relationships
- Work-Life Balance
- Communication Style
- Technology Usage
- Learning Style
- Spiritual Expression
- Worship Style

Family Diversity

- Married Couple + No Children
- Married Couple + Children (biological or blended)
- Single Parent + Children
- Unmarried Couple + Children or No Children
- Same Sex Couple + Children or No Children
- Multigenerational Family (young adult, grandparents)
- Grandparents as Primary Caregivers
Families Today

- Diversity of family structures and a variety of living arrangements from 0-18 years old
- Pressures of work and finances; 70% of mothers work outside home
- Increasing complexity of family life, managing/balancing time and commitments
- New generation of parents: Millennial parents & young Gen X
- Decline in religious practice at home, and decline in participation and affiliation in churches
- Decline in faith transmission and practice at home

A Diversity of Spiritual Religious Identities

- Not Spiritual, Not Religious
- The Spiritual but Not Religious
- Faith & Engagement – one among many priorities
- Faith & Engagement at the Center of Life

- Unaffiliateds
- Uninvolved
- Occasionals
- Actives
### Spiritual-Religious Diversity

#### Unaffiliated Make Up Growing Share Across Generations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silent generation (b. 1928-1945)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>+2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baby Boomers (b.1946-1964)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>+3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generation X (b. 1965-1980)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Millennials (b. 1981-1989)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>+9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Younger Millennials (b. 1990-1996)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*2014 Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014. All changes are statistically significant.*

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

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### Spiritual-Religious Diversity

#### Many ‘nones’ lost faith before they finished high school

Percentage of religiously unaffiliated Americans raised in a faith group who said they abandoned religious practice at the following time:

- **62%** before age 18
- **28%** between 18 and 29
- **5%** between 30 and 49
- **2%** after age 50

*Source: Public Religion Research Institute*
Decline in Religious Socialization & Practice

Digital Transformation
Technological Revolution:
The Print Era (1500s - )

Technological Revolution:
The Multimedia Era (1960s - )
Technological Revolution: The Digital Era (2000s -)
Digital Culture

- Digital culture is transforming every aspect of life.
- People have the technology and know how to use it.
- People have time in their busy lives to connect, participate, and interact in online experiences and communities.
- People are already engaged in online learning and online spiritual experiences.
- People have access to an abundance of content – in all types of media formats – on demand, just in time, available 24x7, and often free!
The Adaptive Challenges of 21st Century Faith Formation

1. Ten decades of the life cycle
2. Five unique generational identities
3. Diverse family forms and styles
4. Diverse spiritual-religious identities of people
5. Decline in religious transmission and practice at home and decline in participation in church life and programs
6. Digital culture: new technologies and media create transformation in every aspect of life

Key Concept: Life Cycle - Maturing in Faith

Addressing the unique life tasks, needs, interests, and spiritual journeys of people at each stage of life.
Focus on Maturing in Faith:  
*Toward What Ends Are We Working*

*Maturing in Faith*

*Christian faith formation is a lifelong journey with Christ, in Christ, and to Christ.*

*Lifelong Christian faith formation is lifelong growth in the knowledge, service and love of God as followers of Christ and is informed by scripture, tradition and reason.*

*(The Charter for Lifelong Christian Formation)*
Maturing in Faith

Every person is well-equipped to be growing in faith, be theologically conversant, and be active in the global mission of the church.

Faith Formation can then be understood and defined as “an engaged process of learning and practice integrated throughout all aspects of congregational and daily life.”

(United Church of Christ, “Foundations, Findings, and Futures,” 2012)

Maturing in Faith

The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch, but also in communion and intimacy, with Jesus Christ. Starting with the “initial” conversion of a person to the Lord, moved by the Holy Spirit through the primary proclamation of the Gospel, catechesis seeks to solidify and mature this first adherence. It proposes to help those who have just converted “to know better this Jesus to whom he has entrusted himself: to know his ‘mystery’, the kingdom of God proclaimed by him, the requirements and comments contained in his Gospel message, and the paths that he has laid down for anyone who wishes to follow him.”

(Roman Catholic, General Directory for Catechesis, 80)
Maturing in Faith: Holistic

- **A way of the head (inform)** demands a discipleship of faith seeking understanding and belief with personal conviction, sustained by study, reflecting, discerning and deciding, all toward spiritual wisdom for life.
- **A way of the heart (form)** demands a discipleship of right relationships and right desires, community building, hospitality and inclusion, trust in God’s love, and prayer and worship.
- **A way of the hands (transform)** demands a discipleship of love, justice, peace-making, simplicity, integrity, healing, and repentance.
  
  (Thomas Groome)

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Maturing in Faith: Holistic

(Roman Catholic, National Directory for Catechesis)

Christ’s method of formation was accomplished by diverse yet interrelated tasks. His example is the most fruitful inspiration for effective catechesis today because it is integral to formation in the Christian faith. Faith must be known celebrated, lived, and expressed in prayer. So catechesis comprises six fundamental tasks, each of which is related to an aspect of faith in Christ.

1. **Promote Knowledge of the Faith** – Teach the “basics” of the faith as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic tradition and human experience.

2. **Liturgical Education** – Teach about the form and meaning of the liturgy and the sacraments and help individuals prepare their minds and hearts to enter into these mysteries of our faith.
Maturing in Faith: Holistic
(Roman Catholic, National Directory for Catechesis)

3. **Moral Formation** – Teach the moral teachings of the Church which are the fulfillment of the Commandments.
4. **Teaching to Pray** – Teach that a “climate of prayer” and participation in prayer invites individuals into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
5. **Education for Community Life** – Teach that the human person needs to live in society. Society is not optional, but a requirement of human nature.
6. **Missionary Initiative** – Teach that all Christian service is an expression of love and is performed by Christians for the purpose of building up the Kingdom of God on earth.

Focus on Maturing in Faith

**Search Institute, 1988**
1. Trusting and believing
2. Seeking spiritual growth
3. Integrating faith and life
4. Holding life-affirming values
5. Experiencing the fruits of faith
6. Nurturing faith in community
7. Advocating for social change
8. Acting and serving

**Spirit & Culture of YM, 2005**
1. Seeking Spiritual Growth
2. Possessing a Vital Faith
3. Practicing Faith in Community
4. Making the Christian Faith a Way of Life
5. Living a Life of Service
6. Possessing a Positive Spirit
7. Exercising Moral Responsibility
Focus on Maturing in Faith

1. **Sustaining a personal relationship with Jesus Christ**
   supported through regular prayer, faith sharing and Bible reading.

2. **Making the Christian faith a way of life** by
   integrating their beliefs into the conversation, decisions, and actions of daily life.

3. **Possessing a vital faith** and being aware of God
   present and active in their own life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

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Focus on Maturing in Faith

4. **Seeking 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.

5. **Living a life of service** by caring for others, reaching
   out those in need, and addressing injustice in the world.

6. **Sharing the Good News** through words and actions,
   through Christian stewardship and working for peace, justice and human dignity.
Focus on Maturing in Faith

7. **Participating** fully, consciously, actively and regularly in the ritual and *worship life* of the faith community.

8. **Articulating the fundamental teachings** of the Christian faith and demonstrating a commitment to learning and growing in this faith.

9. **Exercising moral responsibility** by applying Christian ethics, virtues, principles, values, and social teaching to moral decision-making, life situations, and in interactions with the larger culture.

Focus on Maturing in Faith

10. **Practicing faith in Jesus Christ**, privately and publicly, through participation in the congregation’s worship, ministries, and leadership.

11. **Discerning and using their gifts** to actively belong to and participate in the life and mission of the Christian community.

12. **Exploring God’s call to vocation** through prayer, reflection, and discernment.

13. **Possessing a positive spirit** with loving and hopeful attitudes toward others and life, convinced that they can make the world a better place.
Maturing in Faith

We need to focus faith formation on the essential characteristics of lifelong growth in Christian faith and discipleship. These characteristics would incorporate knowing and believing, relating and belonging, practicing and living. With a lifelong vision of maturing faith we could address each characteristic in developmentally-appropriate ways at each stage of life.

Maturing in Faith

For example: if “sustaining a personal relationship with Jesus Christ supported through regular prayer, faith sharing and Bible reading” was one of these faith maturing characteristics, the task of faith formation would be to ask how we can accomplish this with children, youth, young adults, midlife adults, mature adults, and older adults. In this approach we would build our “curriculum” around the people and the faith maturing characteristics.
Multiple Ways to Foster Faith Maturing

Key Concept: Faith Forming Environments

Intergenerational

Family

Peers

Children & Adolescents
Forming Faith: Intergenerational

Utilize intergenerational events

Connect the generations

Infuse intergenerational into existing programs

Create intergenerational new programs & experiences
  (learning, service, community life)

Intergenerational Learning Process

Preparation:
knowledge & practices for participating fully

Guided Participation:
in the events of church life & the Christian Faith

Reflection:
on the experience and living its meaning in daily life
Intergenerational Faith Formation

Example: If we are creating a plan for children’s faith formation, we need to consider how we will:

1. engage children in faith community experiences with all generations (including worship)
2. equip parents to share faith at home and build families of faith practice.
3. build relationships with and engage children and parents who are not involved in the faith community (e.g., baptized but not engaged).

Then we can identity the unique age-group experiences we need to provide children.

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
### Parental Influence

- **Gatekeeper of the Faith**
  - control over how much and what sorts of religious content their children encounter

- **Interpreter of the Faith**
  - meaningful embodiment of the Christian faith in the lives of children

- **Sponsor of the Faith**
  - point of access between church and home

**Parent Role**

### Family Faith Formation

- **Family Life & Parent Formation**
- **Family Faith at Home**
- **Family Engagement in the Intergenerational Faith Community**
Family Faith Formation

1. God in Everyday Life
2. Faith Practices at Home
3. Milestones
4. Seasonal Events
5. Encountering God in the Bible
6. Intergenerational Connections
7. Strong Family Life
8. Parents & Grandparents as Faith Formers

Family Faith Formation Plan

Family Faith @ Home
✓ God in Everyday Life
✓ Faith Practices
✓ Milestones

Intergenerational Faith Community
✓ Seasonal Events
✓ Bible through the Year
✓ Intergenerational Connections & Experiences

Family Life & Parent/Grandparent Formation
✓ Strong Family Life
✓ Parents & Grandparents as Faith Formers
# The Seasons of Life

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- Millennials (1980-99)
- Generation X (1961-1979)
- Baby Boomers (1946-60)
- Builders (before 1946)

- Relationship to Institutions
- Relationship to Authority
- Family Relationships
- Work-Life Balance
- Communication Style
- Technology Usage
- Learning Style
- Spiritual Expression
- Worship Style
Key Concept: 21st Century Learning

LEARNING NETWORKS

- learner
- museums
- after school
- home
- libraries
- schools
- online
## 21\textsuperscript{st} Century Learning Characteristics

- Personalized
- Individualized
- Immersive learning environments
- Interactive
- Engaged
- Participatory
- Experiential
- Visual and multimedia
- Multi-Sensory
- Abundant content, on demand
- Episodic experiences
- Micro-learning
- Practice-Performance-Feedback
- Seamless Learning across multiple platforms
- Production-centered

## Transforming Our Approach

1. Providing an **abundance of content & experiences** developed around the needs and lives of adults available on demand, 24x7
2. Using **multiple environments**: independent, mentored, at home/daily life, small group, large group, church-wide, and in the world
3. Building a **digital platform** that integrates all faith formation content and experiences seamlessly
4. Using **digitally-connected** strategies to enhance and expand all faith formation programming
5. Designing **episodic engagements** and **micro-learning experiences**
6. Creating **personalized pathways** for adult faith formation
Virtual Learning Academy

VLACS is an online school public middle and high school offering students the opportunity to learn at their own pace. Adult programs will be available in 2018.

Choose Your Path

Middle School & High School:
VLACS is an online school public middle and high school offering students the opportunity to learn at their own pace. Adult programs will be available in 2018.

Adult Education:
Learn something new, 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.
Personalizing Learning

Personalized learning is tailoring learning for each student’s strengths, needs and interests—including enabling student voice and choice in what, how, when and where they learn—to provide flexibility and supports to ensure mastery of the highest standards possible.

A Faith Forming Ecology

Digitally Enabled and Connected

Inter-generational

Digitally Enabled and Connected

Missional

Digitally Enabled and Connected

Faith Forming Ecology

Digitally Enabled and Connected

Family

Digitally Enabled and Connected

Life Cycle
Key Concept: Personalized Faith Pathways

We need to tailor faith formation to the individual journeys of children, youth, young adults, adults, and families in order to address their increasing spiritual and religious diversity and life stage needs.

One of the latest educational innovations is personalized learning, i.e., tailoring the educational environment—the what, when, how and where people learn—to address the individual needs and interests of each person.

To personalize faith formation we need to create “faith growth pathways” that use the faith maturing characteristics and, with the help of a mentor or small group, guide people in discerning their faith growth needs.
A Diversity of Spiritual Religious Identities

- Not Spiritual, Not Religious
- The Spiritual but Not Religious
- Faith & Engagement – one among many priorities
- Faith & Engagement at the Center of Life

Personalized Pathways of Faith Growth

- Pathways
  - Vibrant
  - Occasional
  - Uninvolved
  - Unaffiliated

- Variety of Experiences & Activities
Multiple Ways to Foster Faith Maturing

Personalizing Faith Formation

- For example, if we took the characteristic “seeking 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” we could provide a tool that helps them discover their faith growth needs using a continuum from “exploring” to “getting started” to “making progress” to “going deeper” with short illustrations for each one.

- In this approach we would then develop a personalized faith growth plan—or what educators are now calling “playlists”—of content (print, audio, video, online) and direct experiences to address their needs.
Pathways Discernment

Through our baptism, we are called to join Christ in the “River of Life”, a life-long journey of discipleship. The following journey markers will help you identify where you are on this journey and to select programs and experiences that move you along the river. Whether you are “checking it out” or “leading others”, we want to accompany you on this journey!

1. **Check it Out (Come and See):** You are standing at the shore. You are looking for a place to belong and have questions about what is going on in the water. You are invited to join in…

2. **Step in the Water (Belonging):** You have stepped into the water. You are developing relationships and enjoying life as part of the church community. Find a place to belong…

3. **Get in the Boat (Exploring):** You are invited into the raft with others. You are becoming equipped with tools for the journey. You are excited to learn and discover more about your faith and are exploring a deeper relationship with Christ. Explore your faith…

4. **Navigate the Waters (Owning):** You are rowing hard, investing in your own spiritual growth. You are on the water ahead. You are a committed disciple of Christ, have a personal relationship with God and are an active member in the life of the church community. Your faith informs your decisions, actions and attitudes. Grow by…

5. **Lead Others (Living):** You have become an experienced guide. You’re inviting, equipping, and leading others on the journey. You continue to explore new waters in your own faith. Live your faith by…
Spiritual Assessment

Knowing God

- I understand the revelation of the Father, and that God is our Father. I feel loved by God. [3, 4, 5]
- I have personal experience of God’s love and grace, and I feel loved by God. [3, 4, 5]
- I have a personal relationship with God that is based on trust and faith. [3, 4, 5]
- I feel a strong connection to God, and I trust His guidance. [3, 4, 5]
- I feel a deep sense of connection to God, and I believe that He is always with me. [3, 4, 5]

Loving God

- I have a daily practice to engage with God and allow His love to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I seek to be in constant communication with God and allow His love to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I focus on growing in my faith and allowing God’s love to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I am committed to pursuing God’s love and allowing it to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I am committed to pursuing God’s love and allowing it to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Serving God

- I connect with others in my community to serve God and others. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I volunteer and serve others in my community, helping others in need. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I serve others in various ways, helping others in need and allowing God’s love to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I serve others in various ways, helping others in need and allowing God’s love to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
- I serve others in various ways, helping others in need and allowing God’s love to flow within me. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Take the next step today.

Visit us at 800-800-800-800 to view our calendar and find out more.

Calvary’s Vision and Mission

To become a church that is fully focused on reaching our community through worship and service.

- To love others in our community and serve them in need.
- To share the love of Christ with our community and beyond.
- To connect with others in our community and serve them in need.
- To provide a safe and nurturing environment for all.
- To create a community that is focused on reaching our community through worship and service.

We are committed to being a church that is fully focused on reaching our community through worship and service.

- To love others in our community and serve them in need.
- To share the love of Christ with our community and beyond.
- To connect with others in our community and serve them in need.
- To provide a safe and nurturing environment for all.
- To create a community that is focused on reaching our community through worship and service.

We believe that everyone has the opportunity to experience God’s love and grace.
Key Concept: Playlists for Learning

Learning Playlists

- A learning playlist is a curated group of digital and local learning experiences and resources (e.g. videos, websites, books, games, articles, etc.).
- A playlist weaves together these learning experiences into a sequenced pathway centered on a common theme.
- Playlists broaden opportunities to engage in cohesive, interest-driven connected learning experiences that combine a variety of ways to learning: peer settings, family settings, intergenerational settings, community/world settings, and online settings.
- Playlists create a rich network of experiences for learners.
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**

![Variety of Ways to Learn Diagram]

What is Edmodo?

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

Summer Eats!

Summer Adventure Story
Create Playlist

Faith Maturing Characteristic:
1. Characteristic / Goals
2. Faith Pathway (example)
   - Getting Started
   - Making Progress
   - Going Deeper
3. Faith Forming Experiences
   - Content
   - Settings
   - Methods
   - Peers/Mentors/Guides
4. Demonstration of Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faith Maturing Characteristic</th>
<th>Intergenerational</th>
<th>Family &amp; Parents</th>
<th>Peer</th>
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Playlist Plan: Activities & Experiences
Characteristic: ______________________

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<th>Getting Started</th>
<th>Making Progress</th>
<th>Going Deeper</th>
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Playlists of Content & Experiences

1. Learn
2. Pray
3. Read, Listen, Watch
4. Live
Playlists of Content & Experiences

Adult Living
Find resources for being a caregiver and an invitation to join our Caregiver Support Group.
Discover faith forming activities for grandparents to do with their grandchildren.

Discover Faith
Discover Jesus and the Christian faith with two of our invitational experiences:
1. Basics of Christianity - explore the video series on your own; join a Basics small group experience
2. Explore the Christian Faith through the ten-session Alpha Course with a small group of inquirers

Faith Enrichment
Grow deeper in your Christian faith with one or more of our offerings:
1. A Yearlong Journey into the Christian faith - 10 session program, monthly at church
2. Living the Spirit-Filled Life Course
3. Practice Makes a Christian - a small group study program
4. Practicing Our Faith - a self-study group study for growing in the practice of the Christian faith
5. Sacraments 101 - a video-based introduction or refresher on the Catholic sacraments

Scripture
The focus for each season of Scripture Enrichment is one Gospel - Matthew, Mark, or Luke. We are offering a variety of ways for you to study and read the Gospel:
1. Participate in the Gospel Presentation Series
2. Participate in a Small Group Gospel Bible Study
3. Explore the Gospel On-Your-Own
4. Take an Online Course
5. Develop a Gospel Study Plan using a Bible App
6. Discover Online Devotions and Bible Studies

Seasons
Deepen your understanding and celebration of the seasons of year at home during Advent, Christmas, and Lent.
Deepen your understanding of the death and resurrection of Jesus as presented in the four Gospels in preparation for Holy Week.
1. Participate in a Four-Session Presentation Series at Church
2. Watch the Four Video Presentations on Your Own or with a Small Group
3. Participate in a Six-Week Small Group Study
4. Study the Death and Resurrection of Jesus of On-Your-Own

Service & Mission
The Focus for the year is Poverty in our Community & Country. Get involved with an action project and learn more about poverty.
Action:
1. Build a Home
2. Participate in “Serve the Community” Day
3. Support the Education of Children
4. Assemble Promise Pucks for Refugees
Learn:
1. Explore the Christian practice of transforming the world
2. Explore poverty in the U.S.
3. Explore stories of poverty in the U.S.
4. See who’s poor in the U.S.

Spiritual Life
Develop your spiritual life through a variety of spiritual enrichment experiences:
1. Participate in our five-session Spiritual Practices Course
2. Join a Book Study for Spring - Feeling Uplifted by Richard Rohr
3. Explore Prayer Practices - experience a variety of ways to pray with these online resources
4. Take Time for Daily Devotions - select a daily prayer resources from the variety of online daily devotions
5. Take an Online Course or Make a Retreat with a Spiritual Master
6. Make an Online Retreat using the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises

Sunday Worship
Bring Sunday worship home with you and make it a seven-day experience:
1. Read the Daily Scriptures & Watch a Video Reflection
2. Watch a Video Reflection on the Sunday Readings
3. Reflect on the Sunday Readings with Lectio Divina
4. Learn More About the Sunday Scripture Readings
5. Live Sunday All Week @Home
Family Faith Formation Network

Families at the Center of Faith Formation
A Network of Experiences, Activities & Resources for Families with Children
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?

Transforming Our Role

*Balancing Both Roles*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Roles</th>
<th>Emerging Roles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Developing religious content</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Designing programming</td>
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<td>• Managing programming</td>
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<td>• Teaching/Facilitating programming</td>
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<tr>
<td>• <em>Designing</em> faith forming environments —<em>architecture</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>• <em>Designing Digital Platforms</em> for faith forming content</td>
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<tr>
<td>• <em>Curating</em> religious content and experiences</td>
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New Leadership Roles

- We are becoming **learning architects** who design and/or identify environments which can become settings for faith formation, e.g., homes, workplaces, coffee shops, online communities, and more. We can design content and experiences to “deliver” to that setting.
- We are becoming **designers of digital platforms** (websites, social media) where people can connect with each other, access content, engage in learning activities, and more. These platforms provide 24x7 faith formation.
- We are becoming **curators** of religious content and experiences. When there is an abundance of content, our role shifts from creator to curator. Curators are engaged in finding and identifying high quality content in all formats, matching it with the needs of people, providing the content on a digital platform (and often in gathered settings), and engaging people with the content.

Key Concept: Curating Faith Formation
What is Content Curation
(Beth Kanter)

Content curation is the process of sorting through the vast amounts of content on the web and presenting it in a meaningful and organized way around a specific theme.

- The work involves sifting, sorting, arranging, and publishing information.
- A content curator picks the best content that is important and relevant to share with their community.
- It isn’t unlike what a museum curator does to produce an exhibition: They identify the theme, they provide the context, they decide which paintings to hang on the wall, how they should be annotated, and how they should be displayed for the public.

Curating Religious Content

- Research & Organize Resources
- Select & Connect Resources to Programming
- Evaluate Resources
- Identify Potential Resources for Programming
Develop Trusted Sources

Blogs
Newsletters
Websites

Denominations
Curated Websites
Religious
Organizations

6-8 “Expert”
Resource
People

Develop a Research Checklist

1. People: teachers, mentors/guides, guest presenters
2. Community programs: churches, agencies, organizations,
3. Educational institutions: colleges, seminaries
4. Retreat and spiritual life centers, monasteries
5. Denominational programs, events, websites
6. Museums
7. Books (with study guides) & E-books
8. Apps
9. Audio podcasts & audio learning programs
10. Videos & video learning programs
11. Online courses & online activities
12. Television shows
13. Organizational websites
14. Resource center websites
Develop Evaluation Criteria

- Biblical content and interpretation
- Theological content and emphasis
- Developmental appropriateness
- Ethnic-Cultural appropriateness
- Inclusive of diversity
- Respect for diverse ways of learning
- Appearance and visual appeal
- Ease-of-Use
- Quality of Experience
- Applicable: Able to be incorporated into daily and home life

Digital Faith Formation Strategies

IDEAS
Blended Learning

Blended learning is a formal education program in which a student learns:

- at least in part through online learning, with some element of student control over time, place, path, and for pace;
- at least in part in a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home;
- and the modalities along each student’s learning path within a course or subject are connected to provide an integrated learning experience.

Digitally Enabled & Digitally Connected Faith Formation

- Fully Online Faith Formation
- Mostly Online with Regular Interaction in Gathered Sessions
- Online Faith Formation & Gathered Sessions (Flipped Classroom)
- Gathered Program with Online Components beyond the Program
- Gathered Program with Supportive Online Content
Extend the Event

Church or School Event or Program

At Home & Daily Life

Sunday Worship

- Learning
- Praying
- Reading the Bible: Daily Readings
- Living
Sunday Worship
Tri-Saints Lutheran Church

The Sixth Sunday in Lent: April 9, 2017

PRAISE

Website

Social Media

Gathered
Small Group
Independent
Online

Digital Content to Extend & Provide New Ways to Experience

Interaction
Connection
Communication
Demonstration

One Event/ Program, Multiple Formats

Event/ Program
Multiple Formats
Website
Social Media
Build on an Event/Experience

Preparing
- What types of experiences, programming, activities, and resources will you develop to prepare people for the event?

Experiencing
- How will you design the event?
- How will you engage age groups, families, and the faith community?

Living
- How will you sustain/extend the event?
- What types of experiences, programs, activities, and resources will you offer people?

Celebrating Milestones: Baptism

**Church**
- Mentors/Coaches
- Parent preparation
- Family gathering
- Ritual
- Intergenerational connection
- Celebration of Baptism
- Reunion
- Baptismal anniversaries

**Home**
- Caring conversations and storytelling
- Celebrating rituals
- Learning
- Praying
- Reading the Bible
- Serving
- Worshipping together
Flip the Model

@ Home / Daily Life
Exploring the Content - print, audio, video, activities

@ The Program
Applying the Content: Create – Practice - Perform - Participate

Christian Initiation & New Member Formation
Flip the Model

Flip Christian Initiation
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.
Integrate Online and Gathered

THE SLATE PROJECT

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 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: 4E University Plwy Bmore, MD 21201
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: 8 PM EST

#BreakingBread
Our weekly face-to-face worship experience happens on Monday nights with a ‘Dinner Liturgy’ we call #BreakingBread.

Starting at 6pm, everyone is invited to participate in transforming our ‘borrowed space’ graciously offered to us by the Episcopal Cathedral of the Incarnation and Diocese of Maryland into an intimate dinner setting for thirty or so people.

#SlateReads

Wow. That last hour was awesome. Thanks #slatereads for a great chat

#SlateReads is our on-line bible study that happens on Twitter every Wednesday night at 8PM EST.

There is a reading for each week and the conversation is informed by these readings.

Follow the hashtag #SlateReads to participate!
Integrate Online and Gathered

Discussing Creativity at God on Tap Tomorrow Night!

Join us for God on Tap tomorrow night, July 28th at 7:30pm at Horn & Hops Brewing Company in Arvada. Our topic: creativity.

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

Lately, I’ve been hearing a lot about creativity—how it works, what fuels it, what impedes it, and what promotes it. From a recent short remind us 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 creative muscles being, to a conversation just this past week with my friend like Amin Gadallah about how she 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. It’s a common thing. We create all kinds of art, theatre, music, school lessons plans, woodworkings, gardens, beer, designing, writing, business plans, you name it. We may not have created ourselves, and yet we do create and mold and shape our lives as we tend to our relationships, work, and outings.

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!
Online 40-Day Lent Curriculum

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