FAITH FORMATION FOR THE GENERATIONS & SEASONS OF ADULTHOOD
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LifelongFaith.com – Presentations, Journal
ReimagineFaithFormation.com – Adults
The Seasons of Adulthood

- Young Adults (20s-30s)
- Millennial Generation
- Midlife Adults (40s-mid 50s)
- Generation X
- Mature Adults (mid 50s–75)
- Baby Boom Generation
- Older Adults (75+)
- Building Generation

Life Issues

1. Physical & Cognitive Changes
2. Developmental Tasks
3. Family Life Cycle
4. Faith Development
5. Spiritual-Religious Identities
6. Generational Characteristics

How do we address all four seasons of adulthood and the diverse needs of each season?

How can we reach, connect with, and engage each generation in faith formation?

How do we balance faith formation for all adults and faith formation with one season of adults?
Transforming Our Approach

Networks of Faith Formation

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

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>
<td>• Designing faith forming environments — architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Designing programming</td>
<td>• Designing Digital Platforms for faith forming content</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Managing programming</td>
<td>• Curating religious content and experiences</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Teaching/Facilitating programming</td>
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Network Learning

- Take a Course or Workshop
- Read a Book
- Take an Online Course
- Watch a Video
- Listen to a Podcast
- Find a Mentor
- Join a Small Group Study
- Engage in an Action Project
- Take a Field Trip / Visit People
- Join a Small Group Study
- Research the Needs of Adults

**Sample Themes – Mature Adults**

1. Dealing with retirement
2. Making life plans, finances, health
3. Becoming a grandparent
4. Making a difference in the community and world
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 2nd half of life
10. Connecting with people my age; talking about things that matter to us
11. Dealing with loss

- Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Interviews
- Research Reviews
Adult Faith Formation Network

The Seasons of Adult Faith Formation

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

Playlists of Content & Experiences

Adult Living
Find resources for being a caregiver and an inspiration for joining our Caregiver Support Group.

Discover faith-forming activities for grandparent to do with their grandchildren.

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

Faith Enrichment
Grow deeper in your Christian faith with one or more of our offerings:
1. A Yearlong Journey into the Christian Faith - a 13 session program, monthly at church.
2. Growing in the Spirit - six large group study programs.

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 Gospels:
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.
6. Discover: Online Devotions and Bible Studies.
Whole Community Network

Welcome to a Life Worth Living
A Community-Wide Yearlong Faith Formation Experience

Gratitude September
Description
Learn More

Generosity October
Description
Learn More

Service November
Description
Learn More

Peace December
Description
Learn More

5/2/17
Three Seasons of Programming

**Fall Season:**
September 1 – January 1

**Winter/Spring Season:**
January 1 – May 1

**Summer Season:**
May 1 – September 1
DIGITALLY ENABLED AND CONNECTED

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 Event or Program

At Home & Daily Life

Sunday Worship

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

OPENING THE WORD
4th Sunday of Easter
The Good Shepherd
One Event/Program, Multiple Formats

- Gathered
- Small Group
- Independent
- Online

- Digital Content to Extend & Provide New Ways to Experience

Event/Program

Website

Social Media

- Interaction
- Connection
- Communication
- Demonstration

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?
Flip the Model

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

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

Flip Christian Initiation

CATHOLICISM
FORMED

myCatholicFaith DELIVERED™
Integrate Online and Gathered

CHURCH WITH A CLEAN SLATE

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: in 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: 4L University Plwy, Bimore, MD 212
  - When: 6PM EST

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

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

#BreakingBread

Our weekly face-to-face worship experience happens on Monday nights with a “dinner trilogy” we call #BreakingBread.

Starting at 6PM, everyone is invited to participate in transforming our “borrowed space” graciously offered to us by the Episcopalian Cathedral of the Incarnation (Diocese of Maryland) into an intimate dinner setting for thirty or so people.

#SlateReads

#SlateReads is our on-line book study that happens on Twitter every Wednesday night at 8PMEST.

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

Follow the hashtag #SlateReads to participate!

Wow. That last hour was awesome. Thanks @isillen4 for a great chat.
Integrate Online and Gathered

God on Tap Blog

We post news and updates about God on Tap and discussion topics for upcoming gatherings. Find 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 20th at 7pm at First Presbyterian Church. It’s a great opportunity to discuss creativity.

When the same man was to be needing signs, its best to pay attention.

Lastly, I’ve been hearing a lot about creativity–how it works, what fuels it, what inspires it, and what prevents it.

Peter, a podiatrist working in business, is interested in the
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reading authors like Stephen King and Abraham Lincoln describe their writing process. In Elizabeth Gilbert’s new book, she describes her creative process in something akin to throwing spaghetti against a wall and seeing what happens.

Creativity is a constant thing. We create all kinds of art, poetry, music, school lessons plans, woodworking, gardening, how sleeping, 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.
### Online 40-Day Lent Curriculum

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

### Online Prayer

![Online Prayer Image]

- [Online Prayer Link]
PERSONALIZING FAITH FORMATION

Personalizing Faith Formation

- Guide people in discerning their religious and spiritual needs
- Equip people with the resources and tools to learn and grow at their own pace
- Provide mentoring and support for the journey
Which Pathway to Faith Will I Follow?

Heart, Mind, Soul or Strength?

Review the traits listed under each pathway and see which pathway best describes you. You may have a primary path and a close secondary path. It is even possible that you see reflections of yourself in all four pathways.

**Pathway of the Heart**
- I cherish warmth in my relationships.
- My passions are led by my feelings.
- There are stories in the Bible that warm my heart.
- I value harmony and peace.
- I view God as a loving, nurturing parent.
- I connect with people through emotions.

**Pathway of the Mind**
- I tend to project possibilities for the future.
- I sense and experience things that cannot be seen or measured.
- Silence, meditation, and reflection are important to me.
- I appreciate metaphorical language.
- I view God as a Holy Mystery.
- I like to dream.

**Pathway of the Soul**
- I use logical analysis to come to conclusions.
- I look for objective information.
- I try to determine the cause and effect of things.
- I like to study the Bible and think about its teachings.
- I view God's laws and precepts as rules for giving order to the world.
- I might appear aloof because I'm thinking deeply.

**Pathway of Strength**
- I have a strong desire to make life better for the poor and oppressed.
- I like to do things that are practical and help people.
- Doing hands-on, physical activities is more satisfying to me than talking or discussing what I read.
- I like to think of myself as an agent for change.
- I experience God best when serving others.

Let us know how we can help you start or continue your journey of faith.
Personalizing Faith Formation

1. Assessing Learning Needs & Competencies
2. Working with a Mentor to Develop a Plan
3. Finding Programs and Resources
4. Engaging in Learning
5. Sharing with the Others
6. Reflecting on Growth and Identifying New Needs