



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE *of* INDIANAPOLIS

Youth Ministry Faith Formation Resources

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Episcopal Nuts and Bolts

Professional Organizations

[Forma](#)

A collaborative site with resources gleaned from youth workers across the Episcopal church.

Episcopal Beliefs

[Core beliefs](#) of the church, including the Book of Common Prayer, Baptismal Covenant, Creeds, and Sacraments

[10 Things Christians should know about the Episcopal Church](#)

[The Episcopal Christian Educators Handbook](#) - Builds upon the success of The Episcopal Handbook, this handbook taps into and expands on the most accessed pages of the Building Faith website and its online resource room.

General Convention

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/youth-ministries/>

How our youth are invited to participate in the Episcopal church at the global level.

Devotional Resources

[D365](#)

A daily devotion written for youth and adults. The devotion follows a five-step format – Pause, Listen, Think, Pray, Go.

[Six Smooth Stones](#)

A simple book introducing spiritual practices and their benefit.

Safe Church Forms

[Examples of forms and tools](#)

Updated in 2018, these policies are a statement for the Episcopal Church, setting forth expectations for its leaders in their relationships with children and youth. The purpose of these model policies is to foster the highest standards of behavior in ministry settings.

Curriculums

Lectionary-Based

[Episcopal Lesson Plans That Work](#)

These lesson plans are written by experienced church teachers using practical approaches to respond to the needs of volunteer teachers. They are designed to follow the Revised Common Lectionary and published by The Episcopal Church.

[Dollar Store Children Sermons](#)

These lesson plans follow the lectionary and are written by a pastor in the ELCA.

[Grow Curriculum](#)

Very loosely based on this lectionary, this ecumenical year-long curriculum includes everything you need for a youth meeting, even including annual events. You can also level up your membership to include a strategy for developing leaders and partnering with parents. Grow partners with a variety of authors from all kinds of different backgrounds.

Each year, they include more and more progressive voices; so if you checked it out years ago and didn't like it, request a free sample of their current curriculum to see if it's a good fit!

Confirmation

[Confirmation Collaborative](#)

A study done by Virginia Theological Seminary that sought to provide Christian leaders with examples of good practice and strategies that are effective in helping young Christians grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

[Confirm Not Conform](#)

Confirm not Conform Episcopal retains a strong Anglican ethos, deeply exploring Scripture, Tradition, and Reason.

[Journey to Adulthood](#)

Journey to Adulthood is an online, downloadable youth ministry program of spiritual formation for 6th-12th grades. Fully revised and updated, it is centered on inclusive, relational ministry and uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, and outreach ministries. Creative, developmentally appropriate lessons are arranged within three categories of Self, Society, and Spirituality.

[My Faith, My Life: "A Place for Episcopal Teens and Their Mentors"](#)

Includes a thorough offering of practices, tools and program content resources for leaders, as well as teens.

Other Curriculum

[The Bible Project videos](#)

All of our videos are short visual explanations that show how the Bible is a unified story that leads to Jesus.

[How2Charist](#)

Digitally instructed Eucharist

[Diversity Course](#)

Diversity is one of a series of modules developed for Older Youth who are in senior high school. The curriculum is based on the promises made in the Baptismal Covenant found in The Book of Common Prayer.

[Building Faith Curriculum Center](#)

Part of Life Long Learning from the Virginia Theological Seminary

Topical Lessons & Resources

Justice

[Climate Justice for Youth and Young Adults](#)

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we seek truth and practice faith. "The curriculum assumes that young adults are familiar with the basic facts about climate change: it is real, it is human-caused, it is a long-range consequence of the industrial revolution (when society began to burn fossil fuels), the impacts are serious and those impacts unjustly fall on the poorest and most vulnerable. If you are not sure that everyone is familiar with these facts, include review of them in your opening sessions."

[Episcopal Curriculum for Youth](#)

Youth will be able to plan a study of peace and justice issues that relate to their lives.

[Becoming Beloved Community](#)

Christian formation resources including curriculum, films, and books

Anti-Racism

[Dismantling Racism: A Youth Curriculum](#) (Part of the [Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing](#))

[Becoming Beloved Community Labyrinth](#)

The Episcopal Church's work toward racial reconciliation, healing and justice is guided by the long-term commitment to Becoming Beloved Community. We organize our ministries around the four quadrants of the labyrinth. Each quadrant represents a commitment that is vital to lasting change within us, our churches, our communities and society at large.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

[Teen Wellness Compass](#)

Curriculum for kids, youth, and adults on mental health and wholeness.

[Mental Health First Aid](#)

Mental Health First Aid is a course that teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.

[Episcopal Health Foundation](#)

A list of resources available to the Episcopal Church in regard to mental health needs.

[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration](#)

Federal resources regarding mental health.

Gender Identity

[Transepiscopal](#)

TransEpiscopal is a group of transgender, nonbinary, and allied Episcopalians dedicated to fostering the full embrace of trans and nonbinary people, and our loved ones within the Episcopal Church and to inspiring faith-based advocacy for trans and nonbinary justice in the wider world. This includes a list of resources for families, youth, and parishes.

[Beloved Arise Youth Alliance](#)

A youth-led network committed to making the world a safer, more loving place for LGBTQ+ youth of faith. The Alliance is open to youth and young adults (ages 14-24) and is free to join!

[The Naming Project](#)

The Naming Project is a Christian ministry that walks with youth wherever they are on their own faith journey. Youth from around the country attend our summer camp, and we communicate with youth, parents, pastors, youth workers, and others who care for LGBTQ youth

[Reconciling Works](#)

A Lutheran organization focused on teaching how to be inclusive.

Worship

Church Publishing

Church Publishing produces an expansive portfolio that includes official worship materials and resources for The Episcopal Church, such as hymnals and prayer books as well as books on a range of topics that support clergy and lay employees of the church.

Resources for Youth Leaders

Books to Read

General Youth Ministry

- [Sustainable Youth Ministry: Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do About It](#) by Mark Devries
- [Revisiting Relational Youth Ministry: From a Strategy of Influence to a Theology of Incarnation](#) by Andy Root
- [Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church](#)
- [Faith Beyond Youth Group: Five Ways to Form Character and Cultivate Lifelong Discipleship](#)
- [Ministry by Teenagers: Developing Leaders from Within](#)
- [Speaking to Teenagers: How to Think About, Create, and Deliver Effective Messages](#)
- [Leading a Special Needs Ministry](#)

General Leadership

- [Dare to Lead: Brave Work. Tough Conversations. Whole Hearts.](#) by Brené Brown
- [The 4 Disciplines of Execution: Revised and Updated: Achieving Your Wildly Important Goals](#)
- [Fierce Conversations: Achieving Success at Work and in Life One Conversation at a Time](#)
- [The Leadership Challenge: How to Make Extraordinary Things Happen in Organizations](#)

Organizational Leadership

- [How to Keep House While Drowning: A Gentle Approach to Cleaning and Organizing](#)
- [Organizing Solutions for People with ADHD, 3rd Edition: Tips and Tools to Help You Take Charge of Your Life and Get Organized](#)
- [Do More Better: A Practical Guide to Productivity](#)

Working with Volunteers

- [Building Your Volunteer Team: A 30-Day Change Project for Youth Ministry](#)
- [The Volunteer Effect: How Your Church Can Find, Train, and Keep Volunteers Who Make a Difference](#)

Soul Care for Youth Leaders

- [The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry](#) by Kenda Creasy Dean
- [Bonhoeffer as Youth Worker: A Theological Vision for Discipleship and Life Together](#)
- [Contemplative Youth Ministry](#) by Mark Yaconelli
- [Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership](#) by Ruth Haley Barton
- [Celebration of Discipline](#) by Richard Foster

Mental Health & The Brain

- [Seen: Despair and Anxiety in Kids and Teenagers and the Power of Connection](#)

- [The Anxious Teen: Ministry with Stressed and Fearful Students](#)
- [Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain by Dan Siegel](#)
- [Boosting Mental Toughness for Teenagers: Reduce Stress, Tackle Social Anxiety, Conquer Fear, and Build Social Confidence](#)
- [The Teenage Brain: Understanding Anxiety and Depression in Teenagers: A Guide for Parents, Counselors and Teens](#)
- [A Parent's Guide to Understanding Teenage Brains: Why They Act the Way They Do](#) by Mark Oestricher

Books for Parents

- [And Then They Stopped Talking to Me: Making Sense of Middle School](#) by Judith Warner
- [Faithful Families Series](#) by Traci Smith
- [Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids](#)
- [Right Click: Parenting Your Teenager In A Digital Media World](#)

Books for Teenagers

- [3 Big Questions that Shape Your Future](#)
- [Beyond the Spiral: Why You Shouldn't Believe Everything Anxiety Tells You](#)

Sex & Sexuality

- [Queerfully and Wonderfully Made: A Guide for LGBTQ+ Christian Teens](#) (for youth) Provides answers to the most pressing questions about sexuality, gender, mental health, safe sex, and more. We recommend parents preview the youth addition before giving to a teenager, as the book may have varying reactions to it.
- [Welcoming and Affirming: A Guide to Supporting and Working with LGBTQ+ Christian Youth](#) (for adults)
- [A Brief guide to Ministry with LGBTQIA Youth](#)

Games & Icebreakers

- [Download Youth Ministry](#) - Great for powerpoint games
- [The Source 4 YM](#) - Great website where you can filter size of group, length of game, prep time, location, and supplies needed. You can even choose your grossness level.
- [30 Icebreakers for Youth Groups](#)
- [30 Youth Group Games & Activities](#)

Podcasts

[Youth Ministry Podcasts](#)

The best Youth Ministry podcasts from thousands of podcasts on the web and ranked by traffic, social media followers & freshness.

Websites & Newsletters

- [Building Faith](#)
- [Fuller Youth Institute](#)
- [Princeton Institute for Youth Ministry](#)
- [Episcopal Parish Network](#)

Facebook Groups to Join

- [Youth Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis](#)

- [Progressive Youth Ministry](#)
- [Women in Youth Ministry](#)
- [Forma | The Network for Christian Formation](#)
- [Progressive Children's & Youth Ministries](#)

Missions Organizations

- [Appalachia Service Project](#)
- [Carolina Cross Connection](#)
- [Service Learning Camps](#)
- [Youth Mission Co](#)
- [Wonder Voyage](#)