

MANITOU CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETING

held via Adobe Connect
February 12, 2016

FRIDAY, February 12, 2016 – 1:00 p.m.

Attendance	Will Kunder, Mary-Jo Eckert Tracy, Stewart Walker, Cindy Desilets, Rick Thorne, David Le Grand
Ministry Personnel	
Laity	Marguerite Hayes, Janice Brownlee, Kathie Smith, Barb Cunnington, Bill Rowe
Regrets	Judy Biondi, Erin Todd, Maxine McVey
Staff support	Susan Whitehead, minute-taker
Constitution of the Court	President Stewart Walker welcomed the Executive members and constituted the court with these words: <i>We have been called to this Court to bring our gifts of passion as we seek to make fair judgments, our gifts of conviction as we seek to make a difference, our gifts of vision as we look for new shapes, our gifts of hope as we see possibilities and promises. We are thankful for the faith within us that allows us to be part of this gathering. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, Sovereign Head of the church, this court of Manitou Conference is open for any or all business that shall come before it.</i>
Recognition of Traditional Territory	The President recognized the traditional territories of all the areas where Executive met via Adobe Connect.
Opening Prayer	The President lead an opening prayer with Executive.
Logistics and Holy Manners Online	Will Kunder spoke to Executive about the Holy Manners we follow at our meetings and asked for patience from everyone as we experience this kind of meeting for the first time together. Susan Whitehead highlighted issues to keep in mind while participating in an Adobe Connect meeting.
Approval of Agenda	There was consensus that the agenda be accepted as presented.
Minutes of the Meeting of: • January 7-8, 2016	Executive reviewed the minutes of the January 7-8, 2016 meeting. MOTION 15-17 #13: Will Kunder/Rick Thorne That the minutes of January 7-8, 2016 meeting of Executive be approved as printed. CARRIED
Business Arising	The primary piece of business arising for Executive is Camp Lorrain,

which is on the agenda for this meeting.

Toronto Conference
Executive decision re:
2016 & 2017 Conference
Grants

The Conference Executive Secretary (CES) explained that after the announcement from GC42 that the Conference Grants would go to zero in January 2018, Manitou would need to find a way to wind down our operation, as we need that grant to continue.

Will shared a motion from the last Toronto Conference Executive meeting (*attached as Appendix A*). They decided to give back their 2016 grant and to serve notice they do not wish to receive their 2017 grant funds. They have requested that those two years of funding be held in reserve and that they be redistributed to those Conferences that might need it to keep the current Conference structures in place.

MOTION by Sungmin Jung/Brian Nicholson that the Executive of Toronto Conference recommend to the Toronto Conference annual meeting that the 2016 and 2017 General Council grants be reduced to \$0 and request the General Council to redirect those funds to assist other Conferences to remain viable.
MOTION CARRIED

The CES expressed his feelings of being overwhelmed by their generosity. He does not yet know what this means for Manitou Conference but certainly will be good news if we are hoping to maintain our current level of functioning as a Conference office a little longer than we anticipated.

Executive shared their gratitude and excitement with each other.

Stewart offered to write a thank you letter to Toronto Conference on behalf of Manitou Conference.

Camp Lorrain realtor
listing

The CES asked Barb Cunnington to give input on the listing for the Camp Lorrain property, as at the last Executive meeting, she was empowered to seek out a listing from a Realtor:

(Manitou Conference Executive Meeting – January 7-8, 2016)

Motion 15-17 #11: Janice Brownlee/Marguerite Hayes
That Executive empower Camp Lorrain Trustee, Barb Cunnington, to engage a local realtor to assist in a formal appraisal and listing of the camp property.
CARRIED

Mary Church is a realtor with some experience in selling resort property and has provided Barb with a Residential Market Comparison Guide form, which gives selling prices for comparable properties in the area and then lists the estimated minimum and maximum recommended selling prices for the Camp Lorrain property (*Appendix B*).

The CES expressed his surprise at the maximum selling price, as the Camp Lorrain Board has thought over the years that it would be worth a bit more.

Will informed Executive that if a more formal appraisal was needed, we would need to bring in an appraiser from Timmins or North Bay at a cost of \$3,000 - \$5,000.

The CES inquired what Executive thought about the estimated prices and a discussion commenced.

A vote was taken:

Question:

Would you like to go ahead with this listing or would you like to have a formal appraisal completed?

1. Go ahead with the local listing.
2. Would like a formal appraisal completed.
3. Undecided.

Results:

70% Go ahead with the local listing.

20% Would like a formal appraisal completed.

10% Undecided

(10 people voted)

Barb Cunnington will contact Mary Church with the results of our vote and with the thought that we wish to have it listed a bit higher.

Barb will report back to Executive at the next meeting with any further results and Executive will meet again, when needed, regarding any offers.

Pilot Project Proposal:
"Strengthening
Congregation's for Living
Out God's Mission"

Will introduced the project with slides online (*Appendix C & D*).

This pilot project came out of the gathering held here in Manitou for smaller congregations without ministry personnel, in relation to the Comprehensive Review re: the future of the church. Barbara Lloyd (General Council Office) led this event.

This pilot project will use online faith formation courses, for the purpose of strengthening faith formation and engaged spirituality in congregations, especially those without ministry personnel.

This might be a useful tool to connect those smaller congregations around the United Church and to be used a continuing education source for congregations. There are approximately 200-300 courses available to

congregations to access online, that are approximately 45 mins in length. Examples of course topics include: Basic Bible, Mission in the Church, Liturgy, etc. (see *Appendix D for a list of topics*).

Barb is seeking 5 people from each conference join a pilot cohort to test the online courses, talk about them and report back their recommendations how we might use this in our Conference.

The CES commented that is a productive and positive opportunity to offer this information to smaller congregations. Will invited Executive to Google "ChurchNext" and check it out.

Will also invited Executive to forward their interest in being involved with this pilot project to Susan via email in the coming days. Four Executive members indicated their interest immediately.

Pilot Project Volunteers from Executive:

Stewart Walker
David Le Grand
Kathie Smith
Cindy Desilets

Effective Leadership
Report for April 2016
meeting

Not covered in this meeting.

Meeting Dates 2015-2017

April 14-15, 2016 – Villa Loyola
NPG – June 3-4, 2016 – Sudbury Presbytery - Huntington University
September 29-30, 2016 – Villa Loyola
December 16, 2016 – Conference Call
February 17, 2017 – Conference Call
April 20-21, 2017 – Villa Loyola ***
General Meeting – May 26-28, 2017 – Spirit Dancing Presbytery –
location TBA

Adjourn

The CES shared information about the Past President's (Maxine McVey) brother-in-law in hospital and also asked for prayer for Maxine on her March 2nd surgery date.

The President adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

President, Stewart Walker

Recording Secretary, Susan Whitehead

Executive Secretary, Rev. Will Kunder

Appendix A

Email from David Allen
Executive Secretary – Toronto Conference

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:[Staff Leaders] Toronto Conference motion

Date:Thu, 04 Feb 2016 21:28:55 +0000

From:'Allen, David' dallen@united-church.ca [staffleaders] <staffleaders@yahoogroups.com>

Reply-To:staffleaders@yahoogroups.com

To:staffleaders@yahoogroups.com <staffleaders@yahoogroups.com>

Hello all,

Yesterday the Executive of Toronto Conference met, and I asked them to provide advice for me in preparation for our meeting March 6-8. The following is an excerpt from the minutes. The “he” in the opening line is me.

“He asked for advice about an up-coming meeting involving the other Executive Secretaries/Speaker and General Council leadership. A major topic will be the impact of eliminating the General Council grants to Conferences. There was CONSENSUS amongst the Executive that Toronto Conference could manage without a grant.

MOTION by Sungmin Jung/Brian Nicholson that the Executive of Toronto Conference recommend to the Toronto Conference annual meeting that the 2016 and 2017 General Council grants be reduced to \$0 and request the General Council to redirect those funds to assist other Conferences to remain viable.

MOTION
CARRIED.”

Obviously, consensus among the Executive is not the same thing as a decision at the annual meeting, but I thought you might like to see the direction we are going.

David

David W. Allen (Rev.)
Executive Secretary, Toronto Conference
The United Church of Canada



Residential Market Comparison Guide

Appendix B

Form 260
 for use in the Province of Ontario

SUBJECT PROPERTY: N parts L 13 and 14, C 4, Lorrain Township
PREPARED FOR: Mrs. Barbara Cunningham
PREPARED BY: MARY CHURCH **DATE:** January 7, 2016

COMPARABLES FOR SALE NOW:

Address	Price	Features/Comments
Temagami Resort	\$695,000.00	up to date modern cabins, dining hall, equipmt
Rosepoint Lodge	\$529,000.00	winterized 4 season smaller property
Old Mission Resort	\$850,000.00	est clientele, sim location, well known busines

(Use back of form for additional features/comments if required)

COMPARABLES SOLD PAST 12 MONTHS:

Address	Price	Features/Comments
Duncan Lake Lodge, Gowganda		remote, smaller lake, small property

(Use back of form for additional features/comments if required)

COMPARABLES EXPIRED PAST 12 MONTHS:

Address	Price	Features/Comments
Temagami Resort	\$695,000.00	see above
Rosepoint Lodge		
Argyle Lake Lodge	\$799,000.00	modern cabins, 3 season

(Use back of form for additional features/comments if required)

ESTIMATED SELLING COSTS :

Brokerage Fee	\$
Mortgage Payout Penalty	\$
Mortgage Discount	\$
Approximate Legal Costs	\$
Miscellaneous	\$
Total	\$

Recommendations: as of January 7, 2016

I recommend a maximum list price of: \$ 329,000.00

With estimated selling price of: \$ 290,000.00

With estimated outstanding mortgage balance of: \$

With estimated selling costs of: \$

Anticipated net proceeds would be: \$

Signature M Church

NB: The recipient of the above information acknowledges by reading, reviewing or receiving such information that the information may not be accurate or current or correct and agrees to indemnify, save harmless and release, the Brokerage, sales representative or broker by whom the information was prepared, from all manner of actions, causes of action, suits or claims of any kind whatsoever.

NB: The above information is the property of the Brokerage, sales representative or broker by whom it was prepared and is not to be shared, distributed, published, transmitted, assigned, communicated or transferred in any way whatsoever without the prior written consent of the Brokerage, sales representative or broker named above.

NB: The above information is NOT an appraisal and is to be used for marketing purposes only.

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Appendix C

Strengthening Congregation's Pilot Project Slideshow for Executive

Pilot Project Proposal

“Strengthening Congregation’s for Living Out God’s Mission”

WHAT?

• One Possibility:

Introduce and test, in a Pilot Project, the use of online faith formation courses, for the purpose of strengthening faith formation and engaged spirituality in congregations, especially those without ministry personnel. Use ChurchNext (US Episcopal based) programs and courses for individuals and groups.

Appendix C Cont'd...

GCO staff would work with Saskatchewan and Manitou Conference staff and leaders on the Pilot Project.

- The ultimate goal would be to engage lay and ministry personnel in short courses online that can be taken individually or in groups. These would be followed by face to face gatherings, perhaps by Presbyteries, once or twice a year, to deepen and widen discussion on the topics.
- 1. **Pilot Project – Part One:** Start with key lay leaders and ministry personnel from each Conference who would take several courses (45 min each) in a 3 month period (March to May 2016?) and later be willing, if the Conference agrees, to promote this form of learning more broadly.
- 2. These leaders would be asked to be part of a **Reference Group** in this GCO/Conference **Pilot Project** and be willing to move the project to **Part Two** where more congregations and individuals in the Conference could be engaged (Fall 2016?).
- 3. The **Pilot Project** would be funded by the GCO. Ongoing budget incentives for participation would need to be arranged between the GCO and Conference/regions.
- 4. As a pilot, GCO would start by using ChurchNext courses, but later seek to create courses related to our UCC denominational history and ethos, opportunities and challenges for faith and action in our Canadian and global contexts.

When and How?

1. GCO staff would meet with Manitou and Saskatchewan Conference staff – Feb, 2016 to discuss the idea and desirability of using ChurchNext courses in a pilot project.
2. Discuss logistics of a pilot project.
3. If interested, determine next steps for pilot project.
 - Conference Pilot Project – Part One leaders would sample the online ChurchNext courses (3 courses minimum in the area of “adult formation”) in the March to May 2016 period and then, in June, be part of a reference group to reflect on and evaluate the resources, and then plan next steps for wider implementation in the Conference.
 - Fall 2016 broader launch in the Conference with promotion from Pilot Project Leaders.
 - GCO would fund the Pilot Project Part One – about \$150 for 10 persons (March- April
 - GCO would fund or subsidize Pilot Project Part Two (Sept to Dec/June 2017) - if each Conference/ Presbytery launches its own school. To be determined. Might include small participant fee.

Appendix D

Strengthening Congregations for Living Out God's Mission

Proposal to Saskatchewan and Manitou Conferences, January 2016.

Why?

For the sake of continued life, healing and peace on Earth, our Church and its communities of faith, are seeking to embody and offer resilient hope for the future. Within their neighborhoods and across the nation, UCC members are looking to re-discover and use their moral agency for life in a world that seems more bent on cynicism and death.

In many Conferences, a growing number of UCC congregations are functioning without ministry personnel. As well, other congregations have limited access to trained ministry leaders. These congregations are committed to being loving communities but seek resources and opportunities for deepening and strengthening the faith and engagement of their members. Even in congregations where trained ministry personnel are present, they are often pressed to offer faith formation experiences and opportunities as other pastoral needs take precedence.

In comments from participants – primarily from congregations without ministry personnel – at workshops given in Saskatchewan and Manitou Conference, a yearning was named for the deepening of faith. Participants were unsure where to look for resources on the Bible, faith, ethics, world issues, and how to discern what is theologically and educationally appropriate for the United Church of Canada. Participants seemed hungry for discussions about the future of the church and how we can best be engaged for good in our communities and world. Many of these participants understood themselves as lay leaders in their congregations but sought support and nurture to carry on.

The UCC proclaims the importance of the ministry of the laity and the priesthood of all believers. It is often assumed that the ministry of education and formation will be attended to by ministry personnel in each congregation. Earlier forms of adult education, such as through Education Centres (now mostly closed), prove difficult to sustain in today's economy. Currently, ministry personnel carry many demands, and a significant number of congregations only have access to limited educational opportunities.

The ministry of the baptized must be nurtured through learning, reflection and action toward ever more mature faith and spiritual engagement. Given that many newer members and adherents were not raised UCC or Christian, there is a need to be more systematic in developing ways to deepen and strengthen faith and denominational formation for Christian discipleship and engaged citizenship. How can we make these opportunities for learning and reflection more accessible for every church member? How can we build an awareness and familiarity with our UCC ethos and beliefs, ethical stances and public witness? How can we deepen Biblical wisdom, and encourage discussion and compassionate activism?

What?

One Possibility – Introduce and test, in a **Pilot Project**, the use of online faith formation courses, for the purpose of strengthening faith formation and engaged spirituality in congregations, especially those without ministry personnel. Use ChurchNext (US Episcopal based) programs and courses for individuals and groups.

GCO staff would work with Saskatchewan and Manitou Conference staff and leaders on the Pilot Project. The ultimate goal would be to engage lay and ministry personnel in short courses online that can

Appendix D Cont'd...

be taken individually or in groups. These would be followed by face to face gatherings, perhaps by Presbyteries, once or twice a year, to deepen and widen discussion on the topics.

1. **Pilot Project – Part One:** Start with key lay leaders and ministry personnel from each Conference who would take several courses (45 min each) in a 3-month period (March to May 2016?) and later be willing, if the Conference agrees, to promote this form of learning more broadly.
2. These leaders would be asked to be part of a **Reference Group** in this GCO/Conference **Pilot Project** and be willing to move the project to **Part Two** where more congregations and individuals in the Conference could be engaged (Fall 2016?).
3. The **Pilot Project** would be funded by the GCO. Ongoing budget incentives for participation would need to be arranged between the GCO and Conference/regions.
4. As a pilot, GCO would start by using ChurchNext courses, but later seek to create courses related to our UCC denominational history and ethos, opportunities and challenges for faith and action in our Canadian and global contexts.

What is ChurchNext?

- This is an online Episcopalian-based platform for individuals, groups and congregations/ judicatories to access faith formation resources (over 200 courses) primarily in three basic areas:
 - 1) adult and young adult formation (Bible studies, theology, etc.),
 - 2) threshold crossing (preparation for baptism, confirmation, marriage, etc.), and
 - 3) leadership (church marketing, church board leadership, how to run a vacation Bible school, etc.).
- Congregational subscribers also have access to 'For Groups' courses, which are all-in-one curriculums. They include downloadable Facilitator and Participant guides designed to equip anyone to lead using a TV or projector. They can be used for bible studies, church board meetings, and other gatherings.
- These resources quite intentionally connect faith formation and discipleship to justice-living and justice-making. This connection emerges from a seamless and holistic understanding of the church living out God's mission. The choice of educational methodology shows a valuing of the principles of adult education, small group process, and the need for "incarnation" through face to face sharing, even when individuals may take courses alone.

ChurchNext Frequently Asked Question at - <https://www.churchnext.tv/support/>

ChurchNext Launch Plan and Getting Started Manual -
<https://churchnextblog.wordpress.com/launchplan/>

TRY! Free Courses for Lent - <https://churchnextblog.wordpress.com/free-courses/>

See Appendices p. 5- 9 for more information.

When and How?

1. GCO staff would meet with Manitou and Saskatchewan Conference staff – Feb, 2016 to discuss the idea and desirability of using ChurchNext courses in a pilot project.
2. Discuss logistics of a pilot project.

Appendix D Cont'd...

3. If interested, determine next steps for pilot project.
 - Conference Pilot Project – Part One leaders would sample the online ChurchNext courses (3 courses minimum in the area of “adult formation”) in the March to May 2016 period and then, in June, be part of a reference group to reflect on and evaluate the resources, and then plan next steps for wider implementation in the Conference.
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 - GCO would fund or subsidize Pilot Project Part Two (Sept to Dec/June 2017) - if each Conference/ Presbytery launches its own school. To be determined. Might include small participant fee.

Defining terms:

Faith formation – a life-long process of theological reflection and action that is rooted in biblical wisdom, Christian tradition, denominational ethos and the lived experience of others and ourselves. Both an individual and corporate process of learning, discernment and action. It enables us to bring a critical yet loving eye to the social interactions in our lives, and to the structures and systems in which we are enmeshed, including the church as an institution. This process of reflection, discernment and engagement leads to words and actions that promote truth-telling, justice-making, healing, loving, radical welcoming, reconciliation and peace-building. Faith formation is not an end in itself but a means to deepen and broaden authentic and mature Christian discipleship (engaged spirituality) – following in the way of Jesus.

Mission – God’s call for justice and peace, life, love and mercy in all our relationships (God’s kin-dom) – with ourselves, with others near and far, with Earth community. The role of the church is to live out, in bold hope and humility, God’s kin-dom in the world and to model the signs of the kin-dom within our faith communities. Faith formation is part of mission and vice versa. In this time, we are particularly called as denominations and as congregations to speak and act toward climate justice, peace and the valuing of all people.

Lay ministry – The church talks about “the ministry of the laity,” the “priesthood of all believers,” and “the ministry of the baptized.” Lay ministry is the basic building block of communities of Christians seeking life together. Lay members/baptized members are empowered and equipped to support each other, re-member and incarnate Christian rituals, stories and practice, and seek justice for all Gods’ people and Earth.

Five distinctive traits of faithful and lively UCC congregations in the C21 have been identified as - Radical Welcoming: Open to the “Other”; Risk-Taking: Open to Change and Transformation; Loving: Open to Journeying with Friends, Neighbours and Strangers; Empowering Leadership: Open to the Gifts of All; Justice-Making: Open to the Wounded and the World. (*Open to the Spirit: Five Traits of Lively Congregations*)

The methodology for strengthening congregations for living our God’s mission includes a circle of concrete experience, reflection, theory, theology and active experimentation. This process relates to all areas of learning that inform our faith: the bible, theology, denominational ethos, life experience, critical thinking, discernment, engagement in community and world. There is a critical connection between faith formation and justice-making (healing, reconciliation, truth-telling, political action, advocacy, peace-making) and vice versa. This is named as “engaged spirituality” by the Iona community.

Appendix D Cont'd...

Appendix #1 **From the ChurchNext website)** *About Us*

At ChurchNext we make online learning experiences that shape disciples.

Plain and simple.

We started in 2012, as a dream by clergy and lay people to take the vast amount of formation material available online and enable congregations to harness this practically, efficiently, conveniently, and affordably.

We believe in online learning. And we believe in the local congregation. Our first and flagship product is what this manual is all about: building online schools for local congregations. We believe that learning about faith is local, in person, and relational. ChurchNext is about making connections in an increasingly disconnected world.

We are a team of clergy, educators, writers, and producers from across the country who have a deep desire to invigorate lives and congregations.

You can find out more about us at our Facebook page ([facebook.com/churchnext](https://www.facebook.com/churchnext)), our twitter account (@churchnext), and in the 'About' section of our blog (churchnextblog.wordpress.com).

We also believe in partnerships – and value your presence and input as we move together into God's future.

We invite you to reach out to us anytime!
Chris, Shannon, Julie, Stacy, Ashley, and Karen

Courses

ChurchNext launches a new course every week. Here's a list of those currently available. Just click on the class for more information.

Bible Study

[animate: Bible 1 with Eric Elnes, Phyllis Tickle, and Rachel Held Evans](#)

[animate: Bible 2 with Nadia Bolz-Weber and Jose Morales](#)

[animate: Bible 3 with William Willimon and Jay Bakker](#)

[animate: Practices 1 with Brian McLaren and Sara Miles](#)

[animate: Practices 2 with Mike Slaughter and Phyllis Tickle](#)

[animate: Practices 3 with Shane Claiborne, Enuma Okoro, and Doug Pagitt](#)

[Approaching Scripture with Vicki Garvey](#)

[Introduction to the Bible with Marek Zabriskie](#)

[Introducing the Psalms with Isaac Everett](#)

[Introducing the Gospels with Michael Card](#)

[Introduction to St. Paul with George Guthrie](#)

Appendix D Cont'd...

[Introduction to Matthew with Katy Valentine](#)
[Introduction to Mark with David Lose](#)
[Introduction to Luke with John Lewis](#)
[Introduction to John with Karoline Lewis](#)
[Introduction to Revelation with Wayne Whitney](#)
[Violence, Myth, and Scripture with Suzanne Ross](#)

Biblical Storytelling

[Biblical Storytelling: The Feeding of the 5000 with Kathy Culmer](#)

The Book of Common Prayer

[An American Prayer Book, A Global Prayer Book](#) with Tom Ferguson
[The Spirituality of The Book of Common Prayer](#) with Karl Ruttan
[English Origins of The Book of Common Prayer](#) with John Dally
[Scripture and The Prayer Book](#) with Roger Ferlo
[Creeds and Commitments of The Prayer Book](#) with Jason Fout
[Praying the Collects](#) with Ellen Wondra
[Crossing Thresholds](#) with Roger Ferlo and Suzann Holding
[Singing the Prayer Book](#) with Milner Seifert

Church Management

[Digital Strategies for Churches with Kyle Oliver](#)
[Building a Spiritually Mature Congregation with Thomas Bergler](#)
[How to Run a Vacation Bible School with Dorothy Linthicum](#)
[Introducing Stewardship with Kristine Miller](#)
[Introduction to Church Marketing with Jake Dell](#)
[Introducing the Altar Guild with Hobey Hinchman](#)
[TREC 1: Reimagining Church Leadership](#)
[TREC 2: Mission and Leadership](#)
[TREC 3: Culture and Leadership](#)
[Deepening the Spirituality of Your Congregation with Graham Standish](#)
[Welcoming Visitors with Elizabeth Geitz](#)
[Re-Inventing Your Church Board with Dan Hotchkiss](#)

Denominational

[The Baptist Tradition with Amy Butler](#)
[The Lutheran Tradition with Mark Tranvik](#)
[Introducing Lutheran Worship with Don Kreiss](#)
[The Episcopal Tradition with Frank Wade](#)
[Introducing Episcopal Worship with James Hamilton](#)
[The Presbyterian Tradition with Graham Standish](#)
[The Methodist Tradition with Jason Byassee](#)

Family

[Start a Family Devotional Time with Anne Kitch](#)
[Holy Habits for Children with Valerie Hess](#)

Appendix D Cont'd...

[How to Be a Godparent with Nancy McLaughlin](#)
[Spiritual Roots of Loving Parenting with Holly and Scott Stoner](#)
[Handling Strong Willed Children with Jerome Price](#)
[Advent for Families with Heath Howe](#)
[Lent for Families with Kim Baker](#)
[Reimagining Childrens and Youth Ministry with Faith Forward](#)
[The Spirituality of Children with Catherine Maresca](#)
[Preparing for Infant and Children's Baptism in the Episcopal Church with Anne Kitch](#)

Finances

[Handling the Household Budget with Timothy Dombek](#)
[Handling Credit Cards and Debt with Timothy Dombek](#)
[Handling Retirement and Savings with Timothy Dombek](#)
[Handling Church and Charity with Timothy Dombek](#)

Liturgy

[Reading and Praying in Church: The Office of Lector with Tim Spannaus](#)
[Holy Hardware with Deon Johnson](#)
[Eucharistic Visitation with Tim Spannaus](#)
[Holy Communion 101 with James Hamilton](#)
[Introducing Christian Baptism with Anne Kitch](#)
[Adult Baptism in the Episcopal Church with Anne Kitch](#)
[Preparing for Infant and Children's Baptism in the Episcopal Church with Anne Kitch](#)

Outreach

[Redemptive Charity with Robert Lupton](#)

Prayer

[How to Pray Online with Karekin Yarian](#)
[Introducing Benedictine Spirituality with Laurel Dahill](#)
[Praying with Icons with Randall Warren](#)
[How to Pray with Christopher Martin](#)
[Three Prayers You'll Want to Pray with George Donigian](#)

Relationships

[Finding God in Divorce with Carlyne Call](#)
[Healthy Relationships for Couples with Holly and Scott Stoner](#)
[How to Deal with Difficult People with Peter Steinke](#)
[How to Help a Sick Friend with Joyce Mercer](#)
[How to Forgive with Virginia Holeman](#)
[Introduction to Christian Marriage with Paul Walters](#)
[Overcoming Sex Addiction with Mark Laaser](#)

Self Care

[How to Simplify Your Life with Mark Scandrette](#)
[How to Take a Sabbath with MaryAnn McKibben Dana](#)

Appendix D Cont'd...

[Stop Worrying! with Teri Racey](#)
[Handling the Work / Life Balance with David Gray](#)
[Growing Old with Grace \(Not Glamour\) with Barbara Crafton](#)
[Being Single, Staying Faithful with Beth Knobbe](#)
[Your Faith Can Make You Well with Scott Stoner](#)
[Grieving Well with Andrew Gerns](#)

Social Justice

[A Christian Response to Gun Violence with Eugene Sutton and Ian Douglas](#)
[Responding to Refugees with Allison Duvall](#)
[Creating Common Good 1: Economic Inequality and Injustice with Bp. Julio Murray](#)
[Creating Common Good 2: Christian Responsibility with Rachel Held Evans](#)
[Creating Common Good 3: Educational Inequality with Nicole Baker Fulgham](#)
[Creating Common Good 4: A Christian Response with Justin Welby](#)
[Radical Welcoming with Stephanie Spellers](#)
[Talking About Same Gender Unions with Jeffrey Lee](#)

Spirituality

[Everyday Spiritual Practices with Keith Anderson](#)
[Living a Spiritual Life with Mary Gray-Reeves](#)
[How to Discern God's Will with Ruth Haley Barton](#)
[Developing Christian Patience with Jeff Bullock](#)
[How to Be a Crazy Christian with Michael Curry](#)
[Animate Faith Part 1 with Brian McLaren, Mark Scandrette, Lillian Daniels](#)
[Animate Faith Part 2 with Shane Hipps and Nadia Bolz-Weber](#)
[Animate Faith Part 3 with Lauren Winner and Bruce Reyes-Chow](#)
[Living a Spirit-Filled Life with Alberto Cutie](#)
[Lessons in Belonging with Erin S. Lane](#)
[A Simple Path to a Deeper Spiritual Life with Becca Stevens](#)
[Spirituality and Gardening with Christine Sine](#)

The Christian Year

[Advent: The Most Wonderful Time of the Year with Susan Goff](#)
[Introduction to Advent with Tim Schenck](#)
[Advent for Families with Heath Howe](#)
[Introduction to Epiphany with Sharon Pearson](#)
[Introduction to Lent with Maggie Dawn](#)
[Lent for Families with Kim Baker](#)

Theology and Church History

[Who Is Jesus? with Jason Fout](#)
[Introduction to Church History with Eric Williams](#)
[Jesus at Twelve with Chris Stepien](#)
[Making Sense of the Cross Part I with David Lose](#)

Appendix D Cont'd...

[Making Sense of the Cross Part II with David Lose](#)
[Making Sense of the Cross Part III with David Lose](#)
[How to Share Your Christian Faith with John Bowen](#)
[Exploring Hell with Seth Carey](#)

Why?

[Why Does God Get Angry? with Rolf Jacobsen](#)
[Why I'm Not an Atheist with Frank Schaeffer](#)
[When We Get Angry with God with Laurie Brock](#)

World Religions

[Introducing Islam with Mustapha Elturk](#)
[Introducing Judaism with Joseph Krakoff](#)
[The Roman Catholic Tradition with William Farris](#)

Appendix #2

- **ChurchNext for Individuals**

New to online learning? Most people are. But relax, you've discovered a fun and easy way to learn on your own in a self-paced environment. Individual subscribers find that each course takes about 45 minutes to work through. Every course is taught by an expert who has written and/or studied extensively on the subject. You'll begin with an invitation to introduce yourself to your classmates, then journey through the material using videos, bible studies, discussion forums, and quizzes. We'll then suggest classes to take so you can continue your learning adventure. You'll have 100+ courses to choose from. We understand you have a hectic schedule yet a thirst for a deeper knowledge of God. We think online Christian learning is an outstanding way to grow in Christ.

- **ChurchNext for Congregations**

Envision your people coming together in vibrant conversation, building Christian community. Our courses will stimulate discussion and deep connection. We have 200+ courses to choose from in three basic areas, 1) adult and young adult formation (Bible studies, theology, etc.), 2) threshold crossing (preparation for baptism, confirmation, marriage, etc.), and 3) leadership (church marketing, church board leadership, how to run a vacation Bible school, etc.). Congregational subscribers also get access to our 'For Groups' courses, which are all-in-one curriculums. They include downloadable Facilitator and Participant guides designed to equip anyone to lead. Simply plug your computer into a TV or projector. Use them for bible studies, church board meetings, and other gatherings.

- **What is Online Christian Learning?**

ChurchNext is an online learning tool designed for those who want to grow in their knowledge of Christ. It's a fun and easy way for people to learn on their own or together in a self-paced environment that's practical and affordable. Each course takes about 45 minutes to work through and is taught by an expert who has written and/or studied extensively on the subject. We begin each course with an invitation to community, journey through the material using videos, bible studies.