

Confirmation Curriculum Resources

The following confirmation resources are available for preview at the Congregational Resource Center (CRC). You may visit the CRC which is located in the library at Christian Theological Seminary, 1100 W. 42nd Street in Indianapolis. You may contact CRC Coordinator Art Vermillion by phone at 317-931-2360 or 888-287-7364 or via e-mail at crc@cts.edu to have materials mailed to you.

Intergenerational

Encountering Christ: An Intergenerational Faith Experience - Charlotte N. Molrine and Ronald C. Molrine (Morehouse 1999)

The 14 sessions in this curriculum includes exercises on the Bible, the Prayer Book, the Church, symbols, Christian beliefs, prayer, and “Who is Jesus” with an emphasis on helping participants “encounter Christ in their daily lives and to take part more fully in the ongoing life of the Christian community.”

I Will With God's Help: Episcopal Confirmation for Youth and Adults - Mary Lee Wile (Living the Good News, a Division of the Morehouse Group, 2000)

Built on the Baptismal Covenant, this curriculum features interactive journals for youth and adults. It has an easily-adapted format which can be used as a 6-12 week program, a confirmation retreat, or as a sacramental supplement with the J2A program.

Keeping the Promise: A Mentoring Program for Confirmation in the Episcopal Church - Andrew D. Parker (Morehouse 2000)

A 9-session journey of faith for the mentor and confirmand to do together. Included are lessons on scripture, sacraments, spiritual life, the Church, ministry and turning points in life.

Making Disciples: A New Approach to Confirmation - William Willimon

This non-denominational mentoring curriculum includes sessions on God, the Holy Spirit, Jesus, scripture, spiritual life, saints, baptism, and death and dying. Since this curriculum is not designed for any particular denomination, specific information on the Episcopal Church would have to be supplemented.

Youth

Engrafting the Word - Seedlings, Inc.

Aimed at middle school students, this curriculum is divided into two units. Unit I is entitled Christian Beliefs and is organized around the Catechism. Unit II, Christian Worship, utilizes the Prayer Book. The course is designed for 12-16 sessions and includes an outline for a weekend retreat focusing on life issues. Uses a traditional, didactic approach.

What Does It Mean To Be An Episcopalian? Diocese of Missouri (1210 Locust St, St. Louis, MO 63103, 800-717-1259)

This is actually two books in one - there are 7 sessions for youth and 7 sessions for adults all based on the Baptismal Covenant.

Adults

The Discovery Series: A Christian Journey

This series includes five courses, each with a video, facilitator's guide and participants' guide, designed to provide comprehensive training for baptism, confirmation, spiritual gifts assessment, discipleship and worship. Courses include: The Path to Episcopal Worship, A Journey of Faith, A Path to Spiritual Maturity, Our Spiritual Gifts and the Great Commission.

Foundations for Mature Faith: An Adult Inquirers' Series (Seedlings)

This 8-session course has lessons on worship, sacraments, scripture, Jesus, the Church, Christian living and Christian hope.

What Does It Mean To Be An Episcopalian? (Diocese of Missouri)

This is actually two books in one - there are 7 sessions for youth and 7 sessions for adults all based on the Baptismal Covenant.

Other Print Resources

The ***Episcopal Curriculum for Youth*** includes materials on the history, beliefs, sacraments and saints of the church which could be included in confirmation classes for youth.

Forward Movement Publications has inexpensive pamphlets on a wide variety of topics pertaining to the Episcopal Church. Check out the website at www.forwardmovement.org for a listing of available resources.

The **New Church's Teaching Series** (available from Cowley Publications) includes the following titles which are excellent resources for adult study.

- The Anglican Vision*** - James E. Griffiss
- Opening the Bible*** - Roger Ferlo
- Engaging the Word*** - Michael Johnston
- The Practice of Prayer*** - Margaret Guenther
- Living with History*** - Fredrica Harris Thompsett
- Early Christian Traditions*** - Rebecca Lyman
- Opening the Prayer Book*** - Jeffrey Lee
- Mysteries of Faith*** - Mark McIntosh
- Ethics After Easter*** - Stephen Holmgren
- Christian Social Witness*** - Harold T. Lewis
- Horizons of Mission*** - Titus Presler
- A Theology of Worship*** - Louis Weil

Videos about the Episcopal Church

Come and See - The Most Rev. Frank Griswold, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, leads viewers on a tour of the Episcopal Church showing the diversity of its congregations and ministries. The video is intended to be an introduction to the church as Bishop Griswold discusses the history, organization and worship of the church and what makes the Anglican tradition unique.

(30 minutes - adults and older youth)

In the Steps of Samuel Seabury - Filmed in Scotland and England, this video chronicles the struggles of Samuel Seabury who was consecrated as the first bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States in 1784. (30 minutes - adults and older youth)

The Many Faces of Anglicanism - This video celebrates Anglicanism around the world. Part I (24 minutes) focuses on the origins of Anglicanism, and Part II (27 minutes) looks at the characteristics of the Anglican mission throughout the world.

The Story of Anglicanism - These three 30- minute videos trace the evolution of the Anglican tradition from its earliest English beginnings through its emergence as a major global communion of churches. (adults and youth)

Part I - Ancient and Medieval Foundations

Part II - Reformation and Its Consequences

Part III - Creating a Global Family

The Story of the Episcopal Church

These two 30-minute videos look at the 400-year history of the Episcopal Church in the US. (adults and youth)

Part I - From Jamestown to the Revolution

Part II - The Call to Mission

Welcome to the Episcopal Church

This introduction to the Episcopal Church is designed to provide basic information about the Episcopal Church and its beliefs. (17 minutes - adults and youth)

What It Means to be an Episcopalian

In six 18-minute segments, the Rev. Dr. Charles Winters, retired Professor of Christian Ministry at Seabury-Western Seminary, discusses questions of identity, tradition and beliefs of the Episcopal Church. Sessions include: Our Ethos, History of the Episcopal Church, Our English Roots, Roots of Episcopal Worship, Liturgy and the Laity, and Our Present and Future Calling. (adults - This video has good information, but the presentation is not very exciting.)

The videos listed below are just a sampling of the many videos available at the Resource Center on these particular topics.

Videos on Scripture

Discovering the Bible - A series of 4 30-minute videos which provide a concise introduction to the Bible including its history and origins as well as its use for us today. Topics include: Getting Acquainted, The Old Testament, The New Testament, Survival, Spread and Influence. (adults)

Mysteries of the Bible - This series from the Arts and Entertainment Network explores some of the questions and unsolved mysteries of the Bible. Volume I - Revelations of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Volume II - Moses at Sinai and Jesus in the Galilee. (each tape 100 minutes - adults)

Testament: The Bible and History - Archaeologist and writer John Romer takes viewers

throughout the Middle East as he explores the history, sources and compilation of the Old and New Testaments. Included are 3 tapes on the Old Testament and 4 tapes covering topics of the New Testament. (Each video is 52 minutes - adults)

Understanding the Bible - This 4-part series provides an overview of the writing, collection and translation of the Bible. (Each part is 30 minutes - adults and youth)

Part 1 - The Bible is Written

Part 2 - The Canons are Formed

Part 3 - The Bible is Translated

Part 4 - Studying the Bible

Who Wrote the Bible? - These two videos from the Arts and Entertainment Network explores new scientific research along with insights from Biblical scholars and theologians to delve into the mysteries surrounding the origins of the Bible. (each video - 75 minutes; adults)

Sacraments - Baptism

Baptism: Sacrament of Belonging - In this touching story a young Mexican boy who has been orphaned in a tragic fire, finds acceptance. Reflection on the story encourages exploration of baptism as the sacrament of welcome into the family of God. (15 minutes - all ages)

Living Water - Dr. Robin Jensen, Assistant Professor of Church History at Andover Newton Theological School, present a comprehensive overview of the history, practices, symbolism and theology of baptism. (58 minutes - adults)

Marked as Christ's Own: Baptism and Stewardship - Centered around the lakeside liturgy of the baptism of an infant, this video features reflections on the meaning of the Baptismal Covenant by the Rt. Rev. William G. Burrill, Bishop of Rochester. (28 minutes - adults)

Sacraments - Eucharist

Babette's Feast - This movie, based on a story by Isak Dineson (*Out of Africa*), tells the story of Babette, a superb French chef, who changes the lives of the people in a remote Danish village by preparing a magnificent feast for them. (102 minutes - adults and youth)

Celebrating God's Love: Children and Eucharist - The history, theology and importance of children's participation in the Eucharist are explored. Part I introduces the idea of the Eucharist as a joyous celebration for the entire church family. Part 2 features a mime enacting the history of children receiving Communion. (30 minutes - adults)

Do This for the Remembrance of Me - A service of Holy Eucharist is interspersed with scenes of the everyday lives of members of a congregation. (28 minutes - adults and youth)

Eucharist: A Celebration of Life - Using a number of everyday images interspersed throughout the liturgy, this film celebrates the mystery of the Eucharist. (9 minutes - all ages)

Grandma's Bread - In this story about the special friendship between a boy and his grandmother, themes of tradition, family, Easter and Eucharist are explored. After his grandmother dies, Mario insists on continuing her tradition of baking Easter bread. Through the making of this bread, he feels the continued presence of his grandmother just as the presence of Christ is felt in the

Eucharist. (17 minutes - all ages)

The Last Supper - Filmed on location in the Middle East, this film realistically depicts the events of the Last Supper of Jesus while also documenting a contemporary Jewish Seder meal. The symbolism of the history of both the Jewish Passover and Christian Eucharist are examined with an emphasis on the common elements of the two celebrations. (60 minutes and older youth)

With Burning Hearts - Roman Catholic priest and author, Henri Nouwen, shows how the Eucharist reveals the deepest aspects of human experience. He focuses on themes of loss, presence, invitation, communion and mission. Nouwen's meditations are accompanied by Biblical enactments, artwork and scenes from contemporary life which enhance the power of the Eucharist to touch the soul. (28 minutes - adults)

Church Year

The Christian Year - This filmstrip in video format is divided into six segments - Overview of the Christian Year; Advent; Christmas/Epiphany; Lent and Holy Week; Easter; and Ordinary Time. Each segment is about 10 minutes long and discusses the meaning of the season, its symbols, colors and ways the season is celebrated. (60 minutes - Older children, youth and adults)

This is Your Life: Journey Through the Book of Common Prayer - Living a Story - As the first of a 4-part series on the Episcopal Church, this video goes through the calendar of the church year beginning with Good Friday and Easter. (12 minutes - Youth and adults)

Understanding Church Symbols - Using live-action photography and graphics, this video enriches the understanding of traditional Christian symbols with an exploration of their origins and theological significance. (20 minutes - Older elementary children, youth and adults)

Understanding Pentecost - This video explores the history, traditions and experience of Pentecost; what it meant for the early church; how it empowered the first Christians; and how we continue to be empowered by the experience of the Holy Spirit in our own lives. (20 minutes - Youth and adults)

Church History

Reformation Overview - These programs examine the lives and actions of individuals who shaped the era of the Protestant Reformation and continue to influence the Church today. Each tape contains three 30-minute segments with historical commentary and dramatic sequences. Tape 1 - looks at the lives and influence of John Wycliffe, John Hus and Martin Luther. Tape 2 - focuses on the Swiss Reformation led by Ulrich Zwingli and John Calvin, the Anabaptist movement, and Bible translator William Tyndale. (2 90-minute tapes - Youth and adults)

There are also videos on other topics such as Who is Jesus?; Who is God?; prayer and spirituality, the saints; ethics; and mission which would also be appropriate for confirmation preparation. Again, the resources listed here are a sampling of what is available at the Congregational Resource Center.