

Confirmation Curriculum Resources from Around the Church

Youth and/or Adult Resources

My Faith, My Life: A Teen's Guide to the Episcopal Church – Jennifer Gamber (Morehouse, 2006) is an essential handbook for teens in the Episcopal Church—and a great resource for confirmation classes, youth study groups, and high school Christian education programs. This book serves as a guide to the Christian faith and the Episcopal Church, covering everything from scripture, church history, and sacraments, to the meaning of prayer and ministry in the lives of real teens today. A complete 141-page **leader's guide** for using *My Faith, My Life: A Teen's Guide to the Episcopal Church* in your confirmation program is for download for \$6 at www.churchpublishing.org/myfaithmylife

Your Faith, Your Life: An Invitation to the Episcopal Church – Jennifer Gamber, Bill Lewellis (Morehouse, 2009) A rewrite of the teen book that is geared toward adults. Described by Google books as “This everything-you-need-to-know guide for newcomers to the Episcopal Church is written and designed to provide accessible and user-friendly reading, with an easy-going look and style that’s packed full of substance.” The book carefully unpacks the Episcopal Church’s language of worship, theology, church structure, and sacraments, so that newcomers will have the vocabulary and framework to share their beliefs and practices, explore the Bible, understand prayer and discern their own ministry within the church. The book invites readers to consider their relationship with God and the church community as an ongoing process of transformation, while providing ways to engage in that process. It also has a **downloadable leader's guide** that is very useful.

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.

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.

Intergenerational (*Uses mentoring approach*)

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.

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 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.

Adults

The Story of Anglicanism - These three 30- minute videos trace the evolution of the Anglican tradition from it 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-minutes 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.)