

## Spiritual Formation Resources

### Progressive Curricula

JL Creative <https://jlcreative4.squarespace.com/>

Illustrated Ministry <https://www.illustratedministry.com/>

Joyful Path- Progressive Christianity <https://progressivechristianity.org/childrens-curriculum/>

Shine <https://shinecurriculum.com/>

Picture the Bible <https://picturethebible.org/>

### Other Resources

God and Goodnight Moon: Finding Spirituality in Storybooks for Children <https://www.thepilgrimpress.com>

Storypath: Connecting Children's Literature with Our Faith Story <https://storypath.upsem.edu/>

Prayer for the Earth: The Story of Naamah, Noah's Wife or any other book by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso

Somewhere Today: A Book of Peace by Shelly Moore Thomas, Photos by Eric Futran

Shine On: A Story Bible <https://shinecurriculum.com/>

God's Blue Earth: Teaching Kids to Celebrate the Sacred Gifts of Water by Hammer and Blokland

<https://www.thepilgrimpress.com>

What's so Amazing about Polar Bears? Teaching Kids to Care for Creation by Hammer, Evans and Blokland <https://www.thepilgrimpress.com>

Flannel Board Sets: Little Folk Visuals <https://littlefolkvisuals.com/> the Beginner Bible sets tend to have more cultural and ethnic variety than the larger more detailed sets. Stories may need to be reviewed for gender neutrality.

### Christmas

The Three Wise Women of Christmas by Dandi Daley Mackall

The Huron Carol Illustrated by Frances Tyrrell

Shine On: A Story Bible <https://shinecurriculum.com/>

### Grieving and Death

Tear Soup: A Recipe for Healing after Loss by Pat Schwiebert and Chuck DeKlyen

Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children by Doris Stickney, <https://www.thepilgrimpress.com>

### Children's Message Resources

Multiple books at <https://www.thepilgrimpress.com/collections/all/children>

### Baptism

Today is a Baptism Day by Anna V. Ostenso Moore

### New Baby Gift Book

When the World Was Waiting for You by Gillian Shields

### World Communion

Bread, Bread, Bread by Ann Morris

**Holy Week and Easter:** Shine On: A Story Bible <https://shinecurriculum.com/>

### For Youth

Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens by Dorothy Bass

**Teen Text** from: [educationalcenter.org](http://educationalcenter.org) Two programs, one for Middle School and one for High School

From the website: *TeenText is a lectionary-based resource for middle and high school youth. It is an adventure into the biblical stories! TeenText brings the stories to life with carefully crafted questions that engage youth and leaders alike. TeenText promotes discussion, critical thinking and creative listening. It brings movies, TV, art, music, poetry, literature, and current events "into dialogue" with the Bible story.*

Each lesson can be mailed to you in a packet, or downloaded from an online subscription. Check out sample lessons online.

### Confirmation Resources

Rev. Carl Robinson's Confirmation Program - power point slides and program available from Carl.

[crobinson@sonka.org](mailto:crobinson@sonka.org)

Rev. Michelle Wilkey's Confirmation Program - contact her directly

Confirm, Not Conform (has UCC module)

### Adult Education

Living the Questions - any/all CD series

*A list churches that own this resource will be available soon, contact Rev. Ruth Hopkins if you are interested at [ruhop@me.com](mailto:ruhop@me.com)*

The Challenge of Paul by Faith and Reason CD

Spiritual Toolbox Class - By Rev. Ruth Hopkins

*Adult 6 week class exploring the spiritual "tools" we have on our "tool belts" and how we can use them.*

Reading Between the Lines - from the Educational Center who produces Teen Text

Lectionary based life-centered biblical resource designed for small group education in church and home, for individual study, or as an aid to preachers. One of the texts from the Revised Common Lectionary is chosen each Sunday and developed into a weekly design. Each lesson can be mailed to you in a packet, or downloaded from an online subscription. Check out sample lessons online.

[Visit educationalcenter.org.](http://educationalcenter.org)

Twilight Zone, Andy Griffith, Glee, others, sitcom themed, reflections on culture and faith

Contact Ruth Hopkins for availability or google.

The Beatles and Their Spirituality by Ruth Hopkins

*Flexible weeks. Explore the Beatles impact on culture and religion.*

[kerygma.com](http://kerygma.com) Great topics on individual books of the Bible, Advent and Lent and Handel's Messiah

Movie Nights - need some inspiration? email Ruth Hopkins at [ruhop@me.com](mailto:ruhop@me.com)

Book Studies

Yearnings: Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life by Rabbi Irwin Kula

Simple living, compassionate life by Michael Schut

*A diversity of voices and a helpful study guide make this an effective tool for individuals and groups ready to consider alternatives to high-price, high-stress "good life": the riches of simplicity and compassion.*

Making Sense of the Bible by Adam Hamilton (study guide available)

*How the Bible came to be*

Having Men for Dinner: Biblical Women's Deadly Banquets by Nicole Wilkinson Duran

Just Wives: Stories of Power and Survival in the Old Testament and Today by Katharine Sakenfeld

*Katharine Sakenfeld explores the stories of eleven women in the Old Testament. In clear and engaging fashion, she reveals the complexity of these women's lives, drawing out the issues they faced and relating their struggles to those women around the world face today*

The Gospel According to the Beatles by Steve Turner

The Gospel According to Bruce Springsteen by Jeffrey B. Symynkywicz

We Get to Carry Each Other :The Gospel According to U2 by Greg Garrett

John Dominic Crossan

Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography

The First Christmas

The Last Week

Nadia Boltz Weber

Shameless

Accidental Saints

Marcus Borg

Speaking Christian

Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time

The Heart of Christianity

Diana Butler Bass

Grateful

Phillip Gulley and James Mulholland

If Grace Is True

If God is Love

Rachel Held Evans

Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again

**Speakers** Weststar Institute - speakers from the Jesus Seminar

### **Workshops**

Core Curriculum Workshop - by Ruth Hopkins and friends

*Find out your congregation's core values and build your Faith Formation around them.*

Practical TR (Theological reflection) by Ruth Hopkins

*Easy Methods for stepping into the stories of our faith and connecting them with our lives.*

Building a Vibrant Faith Formation Ministry by Ruth Hopkins and Friends

*Need help with your Faith Formation Ministry? Advice? A listening ear? We are here.*

Coming Soon!!

Teacher Training

Safe Spaces

### **Collaborative Opportunities**

Vacation Bible School

Intergenerational VBS

Retreat Materials/Intensives/Festivals - collaborative ideas

**OWL More information coming soon!**

**Administrative Helps Coming soon!**

Position Descriptions for Faith Formation

Safe Space Policies- samples and help

*If you have any questions or have trouble finding these resources, please contact Ruth Hopkins at [ruhop@me.com](mailto:ruhop@me.com). This is not a complete list, send Ruth your ideas and resources as you come across things you'd like to share.*

