

**Rituals and Practices for an Inter-Generational  
Worshipping Community  
Vancouver School of Theology  
October 24-26, 2019**

Thursday October 24 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm – 9 pm
Friday October 25 <sup>th</sup>	9am – 5:30 pm
Saturday October 26 <sup>th</sup>	9 am – 3 pm

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**PURPOSE:**

*Faith formation research is pointing us to focus on inter-generational ministry being the heart of the faith community. This short intensive will focus on specific spiritual practices and other rituals that sustain a worshipping community and nurture the faith formation of all ages.*

*Students will spend time engaging in and leading spiritual practices. We will explore faith formation for a new generation and use rituals and practices in age specific, inter-generational and family context. This course is intended for those already practicing ministry with all ages, those brand new, or those wishing to refresh their skills.*

**GOALS:**

- To practice a variety of ways to use spiritual practices within age specific and inter-generational groups
- To discuss different methods to incorporate inter-generational approaches to community worship
- To develop strategies for incorporating spiritual practices into all ages worship, age specific ministry, and faith at home.

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Describe rituals and practices for families to grow in faith in their home.
2. Describe rituals and practices used for weekly worship in an inter-generational community
3. Describe rituals and practices for age specific groups such as youth group, children's group or an adult small group.
4. Articulate a new holistic model for faith formation.
5. Design a worship experience or retreat that incorporates rituals and practices modeled in the course.

**EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Arrive on time and be ready to begin. Bring all readings and any other materials you need to contribute to the class.
2. Participate in class by actively listening and engaging in thoughtful conversation. As this is a short intensive there are no unexcused absences, 100% attendance is expected.
3. Bring a spirit of openness to learning and new ideas.

4. Value and respect the opinions and views of all participants and the instructors.

**REQUIRED READINGS (please read prior to beginning of the course):**

Allen, Holly Catterton., and Christine Lawton Ross. *Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Whole Church Together in Ministry, Community and Worship*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

Kizinna, Doris E. *Go Deep: Spiritual Practices for Youth Ministry*. Kelowna, BC: CopperHouse, 2009.

Roberto, John, Lisa Brown, Tanya Eustace Campen, Lynn Barger Elliott, and Lee Yates. *Faith Formation with a New Generation*. Cheshire, CT: Lifelong Faith Publications, 2018.

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**

Roberto, John, Lisa Brown, Tanya Eustace Campen, Lynn Barger Elliott, and Lee Yates. *Faith Formation with a New Generation*. Cheshire, CT: Lifelong Faith Publications, 2018.

Smith, Traci. *Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home*. St. Louis: Chalice, 2017.

Westerhoff, John H, III. *Will Our Children Have Faith?*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse, 2012.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

This is a three-day intensive course worth 1.5 continuing education (Certificate) credit hours. It can also be taken as an auditor. Work in the course consists of classes including readings done ahead of the course, discussions, small group exercises, journaling, further assigned reading and assigned paper (for credit students).

**For all students:** Attendance is expected during all three class sessions. It is assumed that participants will come prepared to engage the assigned reading and be open to other interactive strategies as we move through each session. Please read all required reading in advance of the course and then simply skim the readings to refresh one's memory before each class. All Students including auditors are expected to do all the required readings and participate in class discussions.

**For certificate students:** Write a 4-6 page paper in which you design one of the following:

- a. A worship experience using the spiritual practices and rituals explored during class for a congregation
- b. An age specific worship experience such as for a youth group, adult book study or other age specific ministry.
- c. A weekend retreat for all ages in which you incorporate rituals and practices for an inter-generational worshipping community.

Please include specific learning from the readings and the course into the rationale for what you design.

*Note: The required credit work for certificate students is to be theoretical at time of submission. If the design were to be implemented in a local context all adults 19 years and older would be required to be cleared to work with children and youth. It is the expectation that appropriate*

clearance includes reference checks and police records check including a level 2 vulnerable sector check.

### **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Beckwith, Ivy. *Formational Children's Ministry: Shaping Children using Story, Ritual, and Relationship*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010.

Caldwell, Elizabeth, F. *Making a Home for Faith: Nurturing the Spiritual Life of your Children*. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2007, revised edition.

Csinos, David M. *Children's Ministry that Fits: Beyond One-Size-Fits-All Approaches to Nurturing Children's Spirituality*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2011.

Csinos, David M., ed. *Faith Forward, Volume 3: Launching a Revolution through Ministry with Children, Youth, and Families*. Kelowna, BC: Wood Lake, 2018.

Nye, Rebecca. *Children's Spirituality: what is it and why it matters*. London: Church House Publishing, 2009.

Yaconelli, Mark. *Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.

Yust, Karen Marie. *Real Kids, Real Faith: Practices for Nurturing Children's Spiritual Lives*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2004