

This spring, open the doors of your mind and heart. Listen for God's voice, look for God's presence, taste the goodness of God's promise. Explore the arts with faith-filled friends.

*"Increasingly I was coming to see that theology, like religion itself, was really an art form. In every tradition, I was discovering, people turned to art when they tried to express or evoke a religious experience: to painting, music, architecture, dance or poetry. They rarely attempted to define their apprehension of the divine in logical discourse or in the scientific language of hard fact. Like all art, theology is an attempt to express the inexpressible." - Karen Armstrong, *The Spiral Staircase: My Climb Out of Darkness**

*"We are not trying simply to grasp what the Bible means but to become the people that the Bible proclaims. We are not just learning about the Bible but attempting to incarnate the God revealed by Jesus, who incarnated that God." - Dr. Walter Wink, from *Creating Change*, edited by Keri Wehlander*

*"The Imagination works on the threshold that runs between light and dark, visible and invisible, quest and question, possibility and fact. The imagination is a great friend of possibility. Where the imagination is awake and alive, fact never hardens or closes but remains open, inviting you to new thresholds of possibility and creativity." - John O'Donohue, *Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom**

Directions

First Congregational UCC
310 Broadway St
Eau Claire, Wisconsin
(715) 834-2668

From the north: (Hwy 53 now bypasses Eau Claire) Exit 53 at River Prairie Drive. River Prairie becomes Birch St. Follow Birch St. downtown. Turn left at Farwell and take Farwell to Lake St, turn right, cross the bridge and go 3 blocks to Third Avenue. Turn left and the church is on Broadway and Third, 2 blocks south.

From the south, take Business 53, Hastings Way exit. This will bring you into the "old" 53. Turn left at Brackett Ave and follow it downtown Turn right (north) on Farwell. Go to Lake St. Turn left (west). Cross the bridge on Lake St. Go to Third Avenue. Turn left. The church is on corner of Broadway and Third Avenue, 2 blocks south of Lake St.

St. Bede's Retreat Center
1190 Priory Road,
Eau Claire, WI 54701-9519
(715) 834-8642

From Eau Claire: Follow State Street south. Continue to three-way stop sign, then turn right on Cty F. Drive approximately one mile under the 1-94 overpass, then turn right on Priory Road. Saint Bede is on the right at the top of the hill. Watch for the sign.

Wisconsin Conference UCC
4459 Gray Road
P.O. Box 435
DeForest, WI 53532-0435
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Fax: 608-846-7881
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Spring Training Imagine! The Art of Faith Formation.

Keynote Presentation by
Dr. Jann Cather Weaver,
Professor of Worship, and
Theology and the Arts,
United Theological
Seminary.

April 17, 2010
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

First Congregational UCC
310 Broadway St.
Eau Claire, Wisconsin
[First Congregational UCC](#)

This event is sponsored by
The Christian Education
Commission and The Arts
Committee of the Wisconsin
Conference United Church of
Christ.

The Art of Faith Formation

- Do you choose the clothes you want to wear each morning?
- Does your dwelling place reflect your personality and the things you like?
- Do you think about how your classroom looks when the children arrive on Sunday morning?

Many of us describe the arts as being able to draw a straight line, or paint a picture that resembles something real.

Yet we all use a wide variety of arts every day. We select clothes that are comfortable and flattering. We listen to music. We use words to tell stories and jokes. Colors and shapes help us find the products we prefer. The arts surround us and help us make all kinds of choices.

The arts can also help us draw near to and encounter God. God's story of faith is filled with images, sounds, smells, actions, even tastes. Utilizing the arts, we become God's story as it is lived out through the ages.

This workshop is designed for Pastors, Education Directors, Teachers, Boards of Christian Education, Sanctuary Committees, Worship Teams and all creative people interested in the arts and teaching ministries of the church.

Schedule

- 9:00 Registration, and refreshments
- 9:45 Worship
- 10:00 The Art of Faith Formation
Keynote Presentation – Dr. Jann Cather Weaver
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Imagine Workshops 1
Imagine: The Art of Storytelling – Katie McKy, author of *Wolf Camp, Pumpkin Town and It All Began with a Bean*
Imagine: The Art of Prayer – Sandie Miller Schrieter, First Congregational UCC, Oshkosh
Imagine: The Art of Seeing God, Dr. Kristine Krumenauer, Marion College
Imagine: The Art of Journaling, Kristin Underwood, First Congregational UCC, Neenah
- 2:15 Imagine Workshops 2 – the 1:00 workshops will be repeated
- 3:15 Imagine Workshop 3 – The Ride Home
- 3:30 Departure

**Registration for Spring Training:
The Art of Faith Formation**
Deadline: Friday, April 9, 2010

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

(for confirmation notice)

Cost: \$25 per person \$75 maximum per church. We encourage you to send a team!

We have booked a limited number of rooms at St. Bede's Retreat Center for Friday April 16th. for guests who must travel a long distance. [St. Bedes Retreat Center](#), 1190 Priory Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701-9519 (715) 834-8642

Room cost is \$30.00. You must register by April 2 to guarantee a room. There will be a social hour for Friday evening guests.

Yes, I want to reserve a room. \$30 plus \$25.00 registration fee enclosed.

Make checks payable to: Wisconsin Conference UCC

Mail checks and registration form to:
The Wisconsin Conference, PO Box 435,
Deforest WI 53532-0435