



Frequently Asked Questions for POINT Representatives about the Network, Curricula, and Other Stuff

What do I say when people ask me, “Who or what is POINT?”

Use the description of the POINT network found on page one, section one of your POINT Ministry Guide. Provide a copy of this information sheet for the elder’s packets at presbytery. Post it on your presbytery Web site for download.

How can congregations find their POINT representative?

Congregations can call their presbytery office or the coordinator for educational ministries, (800) 728-7228, ext. 5166, to find out how to contact their POINT representative. They can also find out how to become a POINT representative if there is not one in the area.

What if an elder asks, “How can a POINT representative help our church?”

Ask the elder to tell you about the educational ministry of the congregation and consider how you can help. Some of ways you may be able to assist individuals or congregations, depending on their needs, are listed in the POINT representative task list on page two, section one of the POINT Ministry Guide. Be sure to tell the elder about the POINT CMP Regional Representative, if applicable.

How can my church receive assistance for teacher training and other Christian education support?

A POINT representative can introduce your denominational curriculum to your teachers and train your teachers in best practices for Christian education. Suggest educational events and workshops that you or someone in your presbytery, region, or nationally is hosting.

Take advantage of tools and support through Congregational Ministries Publishing (CMP), other ministry areas of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), or the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE), apcenet.org. Visit pcsua.org/point, pcusa.org/education, and the ecumenical training site for volunteers at odtd.net or openingdoorstodiscipleship.com. Contact the denominational representative listed on the site to receive the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) login number. Protect the number and the registrants’ personal information. Do not place the number on a website or in print materials for the Web.

Our church is searching for guidelines for using the Bible with children, youth, and adults. Can you help?

Children Among Us from Witherspoon Press offers an excellent list of Bible goals and experiences for elementary children. Order this resource by calling (800) 533-4371. You will also find this information for using the Bible with children and tips for Bible study with youth and adults in your POINT Ministry Guide, section one, pages 21-22.

What is the scope and sequence for *Growing in Grace & Gratitude* this quarter/year?

This is one of the most frequently asked questions about denominational curriculum. Find the scope and sequence for any denominational curriculum through pcusa.org/curriculum by selecting the icon for the curriculum and searching the curriculum page. Find a guide to scope, sequence, and samples in section one, page 19.

Does our denomination offer summer curriculum for children or VBS resources? If so, how much does it cost and when is it available?

Congregational Ministries Publishing offers several options for broadly graded summer ministry: *Awesome Adventures*, *Feasting on the Word Curriculum* in partnership with PPC, and *Mission Stories*. All three provide thirteen sessions for Sunday school or mid-week programming. They can be adapted easily for a Vacation Bible School or other gatherings. *Mission Stories* is available online anytime. The

summer quarter of *Feasting on the Word Curriculum* and all five *Awesome Adventures* titles are available year-round at pcusa.org/curriculum.

What curriculum or resources would you recommended for my middle and high school students?

As a POINT person, it is your role to help congregations articulate their goals and provide them with curricula to evaluate in relation to their needs. Become familiar with a variety of resources, such as denominational curriculum from CMP. The options for fall 2015 include *Faith Questions* short-term mini-courses, downloadable curriculum through *PresbyYouth*, and the Youth Survey Courses, including the confirmation curriculum, *Professing Our Faith*. See pcusa.org/curriculum for links to each.

Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC) and CMP offer *Feasting on the Word Curriculum*, lectionary-based, ecumenical curriculum. See section six for more information about this resource for all ages.

Another great tool for supporting youth is the online library of adolescent development resources, *INFormed* at pcusastore.com.

PPC offers *The Thoughtful Christian for Youth*, resources by session or subscription, delivered online. Find information at thethoughtfulchristian.com.

Use evaluation tools in section one of your POINT Ministry Guide to help churches review other curricula through a Reformed faith lens.

What curriculum is available for young adults and adults?

It is helpful to meet with a church's Christian education committee to discover what is important for education with adults. You may want to review these options with a congregation: *Being Reformed*, *Witherspoon Press* books such as *Living into Lent* with session plans for small group studies, *The Present Word*, *Feasting on the Word Curriculum*, *Engage*, and *The Thoughtful Christian*.

How can I find curricula materials online?

You can locate curricula options for all ages and a variety of ministries from your denominational publisher at pcusa.org/curriculum. This site provides a central location for materials from CMP, including *Growing in Grace & Gratitude* in English and Spanish, *PresbyYouth*, *Faith Questions*, *The Present Word* in English and Korean, *EBR*—Reformed Bible study in Spanish, *We Believe Workshop*, and *Being Reformed* in English, with select titles in Korean and Spanish.

Youth and adult study materials available by session or subscription are located at pcusastore.com and thethoughtfulchristian.com. You may also want to do a general search of other denominations to see what they offer online and through their related publishers.

Is there a way for a congregation to get samples to decide if they want to use a curriculum?

You can find session samples online at individual curriculum publisher's websites. Samples from Congregational Ministries Publishing are located at pcusa.org/curriculum. Select the individual curriculum line and age group to find current samples.

Our educational ministry needs a major overhaul and visioning session. Are there tools and resources for guiding our congregation?

Yes. Find online tools and resources for planning and building a holistic educational ministry at pcusa.org/education. You will be directed to a variety of websites and documents, such as lifelongfaith.com, and other sources to help your congregation vision and plan a dynamic ministry.

Do you have more questions, answers, and ideas?

Send your queries or share your ideas with the POINT network through Facebook™.