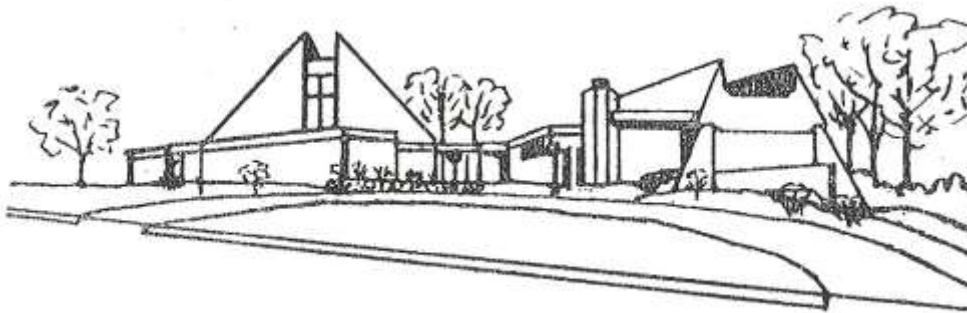


**SABBATH
CIRCLES®**
*A Home Sunday School
Curriculum*

offered by
**THE UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF
WESTERLY,**

United Church of Christ

9 Castle Hill Road, Pawcatuck, CT
860-599-1226 <> www.uccwesterly.org



Copyright 2019 by the Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth
& the United Congregational Church of Westerly, UCC
All Rights Reserved.

Sabbath Circles © is a new approach to the traditional model of Sunday School. It has been created by this church as a response to the realities of contemporary life for families with children and youth. We're doing this because we realized it only made sense for us to change our ways of doing things rather than expect families to adapt to our schedule. We want to offer a teaching/learning model that works within family schedules, as they exist. We want to move beyond church confined to a building, being just another thing on a "to do" list that's already too long. We want our faith community to be active out in the world, as an antidote to the crazy pace, confusing messages and questionable values of the world as it is today.

Here is what we hope to accomplish with this curriculum:

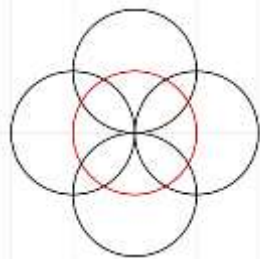
- *We want to empower and inspire* parents and grandparents to be the first teachers of the faith.
- *We want to hold on to worship* as the heartbeat of our church. That's why the Sabbath Circles© curriculum is linked to our weekly worship in content but you do *not* need to be present in worship to use the curriculum.
- *We want each weekly lesson to be user-friendly* so it has a simple format with a focus Scripture text and suggestions for going deeper with the text. This is done through suggested conversation questions as well as a variety of different activities utilizing Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences because everyone, no matter what their age or ability, learns differently.

In case you are wondering, the Sabbath Circles© logo of four interlocking and overlapping circles does have a meaning directly reflective of the ministries of our church. Here is what the circles represent:

- **Worship** – on Sunday mornings and whenever else the Spirit calls us
- **Learning** – Lifelong learning opportunities including Bible study, discussion groups and other groups on a short-term but on-going basis.
- **Fellowship** – in all sorts of events as developed by our Missions and Congregational Life boards
- **Service** – Working together to make a difference in the world has always been central to the practice of faith and it is at the core of who we believe ourselves to be as a church.

The interlocking circles design reminds us that every part of life in the church is always connected to the others. Some folks are more comfortable becoming involved through one circle rather than another – for example, service rather than worship. We believe it's all good! Whatever part of church speaks to you here will welcome you with open arms.

We believe we have the beginnings of an exciting new way to be church together and, more importantly, to pass on the faith of Jesus Christ. If you are a member of the church, you can access these Sabbath Circles© materials every week at worship or on the church website free of charge. If you are not a member of the church, a suggested donation of \$10 will be appreciated.



SIGN ME UP!!!

My family would love to have a
SABBATH CIRCLES© subscription!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Is this a cell or landline???? Please note.

Age range of folks using the curriculum?

Thanks for your interest. You will be added to our subscription list upon receipt of this form. A donation of \$10 would be greatly appreciated! Please make checks payable to UCC Westerly and drop it by the office or mail to us at:

9 Castle Hill Rd., Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Questions? Call us anytime at the church office, 860-599-1226.

Leave a message if the office is closed and someone will get back to you.