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# NAECED News

## Fall 2009

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## Words of Wisdom

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will

## Hello!

So...do **YOU** have all the teachers you need yet?! (Sigh.) If you're still working to fill a slot or two, know that you're not alone!

The care and feeding of volunteers is an art form. Do you have favorite recruitment, training or appreciation tips to share? Email [staff@naeced.org](mailto:staff@naeced.org) so we can share your bright ideas with all!

With best wishes for your program year ahead,  
*the NAECED Board of Directors*

## Blessing of the Animals

Many churches like to celebrate the life and ministry of St. Francis on the first Sunday of October. Blessing of the Animals is often a part.

At right, a "bunny blessing" is underway in Alabama. (Many thanks to Sabrina Evans, St. John's, Montgomery Alabama, for this photo from last year's event.)

There are many resources available to assist in planning such an event. Visit the National Church



forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."  
~Maya Angelou

## RESOURCE CORNER

The **Youth and Family Institute** has excellent materials regarding faith formation.

There are free resources on their website like sample job descriptions, research on faith development and helpful articles on a variety of topics. You can also order materials on "Milestones Ministry," hire a team to train your congregation for effective family ministry and more.

Check 'em out!  
[The Youth and Family Institute](#)

1601 West Old Shakopee Road  
Minneapolis, MN 55431  
Phone  
Toll-free: 877.239.2492  
Main: 952.405.7300  
Fax: 952.405.7310  
E-mail: [info@tyfi.org](mailto:info@tyfi.org)

website for lesson plans designed by NAECED Board member Jeff Harre; you'll find some great ideas on [Blessing of the Animals](#).



(St. John's, Boulder, CO)

Bridge Building Images has beautiful holy cards featuring a variety of saints. You might want to order some [St. Francis and the Animals](#) cards to give out to parishioners that Sunday; they're even on sale right now!

## Upcoming Conferences

**October 11-14, 2009**

[Western Christian Educators' Conference](#)

Lake Tahoe, Nevada

*High caliber presenters in a fantastic setting*

**January 22-24, 2010:**

**"Come Away to the Vineyard"**

**NAECED**

**["Tapestry" Conference](#)**

**Menlo Park, California**

(San Francisco Bay area)

We'll stay at the beautiful [Vallombrosa Center](#) and enjoy the hospitality of nearby [Holy Trinity Episcopal Church](#).

More details coming soon! The conference brochure will be finalized in the next week or two. And we're even working on the possibility of ***on-line registration!***

Keep an eye on the [NAECED website](#) or listserv for registration materials.



**Coming  
soon!**

**The National Observance of Children's Sabbaths®  
Weekend: October 16-18, 2009** Sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund, the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths weekend is an annual, multi-faith holiday that celebrates children and provides the opportunity for communities of faith to nurture, protect and advocate for all children. Visit [www.childrensdefense.org/faith](http://www.childrensdefense.org/faith) to learn more.



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