

United Church of Christ – Local Church Ministries  
Committee on Certification for Church Educators

*[Feel free to print in your order of worship.]*

## **Recognition of a Certified Church Educator**

*[You might invite the person(s) being honored to come forward.]*

**One:** Employed church educators, ordained and lay, are called to serve the church in a variety of roles. Since 1963, the United Church of Christ has offered a professional credential known as certification. This process recognizes and affirms the outstanding, faithful, dedicated commitment of many in our churches. It is a process that:

Acknowledges and affirms the competence of church educators.

Encourages personal assessment, evaluation, and intentional growth.

Seeks to incorporate persons into a relationship of support and accountability with other church educators.

Today we honor *[name]* \_\_\_\_\_ as a certified educator in the United Church of Christ.

We thank you, O God, for the ministry of church education.

**Many:** **Through that ministry we learn about you, your creation of humankind, your trust in us to be your people, and your expectation that we will be responsible stewards of your creation.**

**One:** We also learn, from the Holy Spirit and from our spiritual ancestors, that we have room to grow in faith.

**Many:** **Priests, prophets, and wise counselors teach us through the Hebrew scriptures. Evangelists, apostles, and letter-writers in the Christian scriptures teach us of your love and forgiveness.**

**One:** Most of all, we learn from your Living Word, Jesus the Teacher.

**Many:** **That story, always fresh, comes to us through teachers in the church.**

**One:** We thank you now and offer your praise for the educational ministry of *[name]* \_\_\_\_\_. Help us to affirm and support *[first name]* \_\_\_\_\_ in the ministry of church education.

**Unison:** **We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

*[Present certificate, if available, or other gift, and/or offer handshake or sign of peace.]*