



# Champions of Faith Celebrating 100 Years of Ukrainian Orthodoxy in America

Published by the  
Office of Youth Ministry and the Ukrainian History & Education Center  
(2017-2018)



### **Leader Notes - Session Three:**

These praxis sessions are intended to be used in conjunction with the Champions of the Faith Curriculum which may be downloaded at <http://www.uocyouth.org/championsofthefait.html>

This curriculum is designed to be carried out in one session per class meeting, but please feel free to adjust in response to the children. If you find that they want more time to discuss a particular idea or session, others may be shortened or abbreviated, as long as the main understandings above are addressed. Youth can take turns reading the text to the class, or you may choose for them to read it to themselves if they need to adjust the pace.

These special praxis sessions are for varying age groups. We recommend previewing each session so that you plan accordingly.

### **Objective:**

In conjunction with the Centennial Celebration of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, which is taking place in parishes throughout the United States from September 2017 until September 2018, the Office of Youth Ministry is partnering with the Ukrainian History and Education Center (Somerset, New Jersey) to provide materials and lesson plans to be utilized in the parishes to educate the youth of the parish of the history of the Church in America, as well as celebrate this historic event.

The full teacher's guide provides five (5) lesson plans, each with suggested activities to use in the parish and regular youth ministry program. Each lesson plan can be tailored to fit any age group.

In addition to the monthly lesson plans, we ask all parish youth to create a poster board (tri-fold board) documenting the history of the parish which will be placed on display at the Metropolia Center during the celebration in July 2018 (see "Parish History Project" for further instructions). In addition, these boards can be displayed either before or after July in the home parishes, showcasing the work of the youth. It is our goal, that through the lesson plans, the youth of the parish will learn more about their home parishes, as well as the history of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA.

This teacher's guide is supplemental to the exhibits at the Metropolia Center which document the history of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

*Shepherding Ukrainian Orthodoxy in the New Land: The Metropolitans of the Church*  
On view November 2017 until April 2018

*Ukrainian Orthodoxy in the New Land: 100 Years in the United States of America*  
On view July to September 2018

The exhibits are on view at the UHEC Library Gallery and the Cultural Center (135 Davidson Avenue / Somerset, NJ 08873). Contact the Center for exhibit hours, guided tours, and/or to schedule "The Immigration Experience" Workshop for school groups ([info@ukrhec.org](mailto:info@ukrhec.org) or call 732-356-0090)

**Lesson One: History of the UOC of USA**

*Suggested Month: January 2018*

**Lesson Two: Oral History Project**

*Suggested Month: February 2018*

**Lesson Three: UOL Essay Contest**

*Suggested Month: March 2018*

**Lesson Four: The Importance of Primary Documents & Archives**

*Suggested Month: April 2018*

**Lesson Five: Musical Harmony**

*Suggested Month: May 2018*

**Parish History Project**

*Ongoing project to be completed for display at the Metropolia Center in July 2018*

## *Session Three:*

# *UOL Essay Contest*

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Every year, the Ukrainian Orthodox League encourages all children and young adults to participate in an annual Essay Contest. Each year, questions are published based on the upcoming convention's theme. The theme for the 71<sup>st</sup> UOL Convention is:

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." -Jeremiah 29:11*

This year's 71<sup>st</sup> UOL Convention will take place during the Centennial Celebration in South Bound Brook/Somerset, New Jersey at the Metropolia Center in July 2018. Winners of the essay contest are announced during the Convention. This year's essay topics are unique as they apply both to the Convention theme and the Centennial of the UOC of USA.

*Youth ministers and teachers:* Please take this opportunity to encourage all the youth of the parish to participate in the annual UOL Essay Contest. You do not need to be a member of the UOL or have a UOL chapter in your parish to participate. All youth and young adults are invited to participate. You may utilize one of your church school classes or youth sessions as time to construct submissions. You may then mail all entries in together.

The essay topics can be found on the UOL website and UOL Bulletin. There you will also find instructions on how to send in your parish's submissions. <https://www.uol.orthodoxws.com/>