



Resource Center for Churches

Resources for the Journey

Contact us: www.resourcesforthejourney.org

Volume 10 Number 1

January 2008

**Second annual
RCC/Red Balloon
Book Event success-
ful. Thank you!**

2008 is the year that we will see a significant change in the Resource Center as we clear out dated materials, embrace the DVD and purchase an above normal amount to aid the transition.

We are ready both philosophically and financially. See page 2 for funding detail that will make sure the job gets done. Thanks to all of our judicatories, board members, and other advocates. The best is yet to come!

Feature Article: <i>Fair Use: What would Jesus Do?</i>	1
<i>Several Grants Support Major Collection Up-</i>	2
<i>Insert: Resource Catalog of Recent Acquisitions</i> <i>(White paper Insert)</i>	(4-6) paged as 1-4
<i>Resources for Cultivating Spiritual Vitality This Lent</i>	7
<i>Attention Video Users</i> <i>Take the Challenge!</i>	8

Fair Use: What Would Jesus Do?

With the current writer's strike, the issue of creative rights and fair use are on everyone's minds, and we are getting a real taste of life without a healthy artistic community and economy. Most of us are pulling for the writers to be recognized for their part in the total process of creating entertainment, which we love to consume.

People who do anything that is creative (sewing and quilting, in my case) know the joy that comes with creating something new, unique, pleasurable. Those who work really hard to support themselves as creative professionals deserve financial support. Those who continue to do things on a less formal basis also deserve financial consideration if they request it. Respect is best demonstrated by others who do not assume they can take ideas and productivity without either reimbursement or permission.

Never assume it is your right just because you see it, and it is "perfect." It is easy to get yourself talked into a "just this once" mentality, to ignore the protocol of copyright and ownership issues. Please get permission to copy and use ideas, products, results, even from friends and coworkers. You will reap great rewards.

In many cases people do share their productivity willingly. They may do so because they support the same cause, and want to help others make the best use of their time as they both work for a similar result. That is great when it is offered from the heart and appreciated by the recipient.

Many blogs were founded to support such generosity. We're not there yet, but we offer our WEB site as a place for posting information you want to share. When information is put on a blog or other parts of the Internet, a large portion of the public thinks it is public domain. That is not true. As Christians I think Jesus would want us to respect others, and would not justify taking creative property wherever we find it? What would Jesus do?

I remember reading an article by John Gocke, a well known youth leader, in which he defended the rights of the artists and producers to make a living from their creativity and work. While articles abound on this subject his stuck with me because he talked about what Jesus would do and/or did do in relationship to this topic. (I can make short reference to it under a fair use copyright clause, but I refer you to the United Methodist Publishing House, c. 2005, to find the article.)

John reminded us that Jesus took a resource everyone had to work with (water) and turned it into something special (wine) to handle an immediate dilemma. He did not steal wine, money to buy wine or offer a cheaper, watered down version. He was not using other people's work or product at all. He created his own product and had every right to use it or give it away. He is also famous for saying we must give each power its due, whether it be Ceasar or God. I think you know what Jesus would do, he would respect others and the work of others. As a Christian shouldn't we also be fair and honest and witness to the world?

ASHLEY GRANT FROM UCC TO ENHANCE MINISTRY TO CHILDREN & YOUTH

The Resource Center for Churches is happy to announce receipt of a grant from the Ashley Foundation, a funding outreach of the United Church of Christ. The initial grant of \$4,000 arrived in late 2007, and will be funding many materials for children and youth up to the age of 18. We have been soliciting suggestions and have already acquired a variety of materials.



The **Ashley Grant** represents a long-term partnership. This is the first of three installments (over 3 years) to help us meet the needs of our children and youth under the age of 18.

The Resource Centers offers one full room of curriculum, books, media and resources for this portion of our ministry. Come check out our room and watch for all the changes. We are thrilled and thankful for this opportunity!

Recently we have also been awarded a grant from the Granner Fund, an outreach of the Episcopal Diocese.

This is a one-time grant in the amount of \$1800. This is also earmarked for resources that will help with Youth Ministry. This builds on the Ashley Grant by being a little more diverse in guidelines and could include resources for upper teen transition years and the Christian Educators and Parents who teach and mentor them. We are taking suggestions for youth ministry materials. We are also using some of these funds to update the format of some holdings to DVD.

We are also grateful to House of Hope Presbyterian Church who gave us a gift, which is in general support of our collection. All of this support will help us make the transition from old technology to new.

SOME ABOUT KIDS:

Take back your kids

No, Why Kids-- of all ages need to hear it

Love Languages of Children (Book on CD)

Love Languages of Teenagers (Book on CD)

Godparenting

MORE RESOURCES FOR KIDS:

Dog Heaven

Remembering My Pet

Remembering My Grandparent

For Heaven's Sake

The Table Where Rich People Sit

Different Just Like Me

Does God Forgive Me ?

Growing Together: Sermons for Children

What you will see inside a Mosque

What you will see inside a Catholic Church

What you will see inside a Jewish temple

Love Languages of Teenagers

Love Languages of Children

What I Believe, Kids Talk About Faith

Youth Bible Study — Beginnings

Learning to Use My Bible—Class Pak

Little Journeys Through the Old Testament

Wiggles and Squiggles: 60 Bible-based Classroom Games and Activities

Large-as-Life Bible Adventures (Skits and Drama CD)

Kids Care! 75 Ways to Make a Difference

Peanut Butter and Jelly Prayers

Tween Time: Fellowship and Service Projects ...

Christianity's Family Tree (Book and DVD curriculum)

Acting It Out: 74 Short Plays for Starting Discussions

Tween Spirituality:

Book Descriptions

BLESSINGS AND PROMISES (BK3909)

This easy-read book offers depth and insight into the ten commandments as relational rather than the "ten rules to follow or you get in trouble with God." White 12/31/07 Age: A 107 pages

CHANNELS OF HEALING (BK3865)

Channels of Healing has been written to encourage Christian believers and seekers to become involved in healing ministry. The studies point out that the people of God are encouraged to pray and act in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ, for the healing of souls and bodies. There are 30 Bible studies on healing for individuals and groups. 12/31/07 Age: A 110 pages

COMMUNION SERVICES (JUST IN TIME SERIES) (BK3949)

Ready-to-use Communion services suitable for Sunday morning and other special occasions. The Just In Time! Series offers brief, practical resources of immediate help for pastors. This book introduces the practice of Communion and offers a collection of Communion prayers and ready-to-use resources for worship. Included is information on Communion elements, vessels, and methods with answers to commonly asked questions. Rev. Knowles Wallace gives four possible orders of Communion, various ways to offer Communion, and prayers and resources for specific seasons and holy days in the church year from Advent through Thanksgiving. Also includes: Communion prayers for special occasions such as: commissioning services, weddings, funerals, and Confirmation. Services in this book are appropriate for use at hospitals, camps, retreats, and shut-ins' homes, as well as more traditional worship settings. Purple/white 12/30/07 Age: A 99 pages

DEEPENING YOUR EFFECTIVENESS : RESTRUCTURING THE LOCAL CHURCH FOR LIFETRANSFORMATION (BK4001)

Dan Glover and Claudia Lavy build a scriptural foundation for discipleship by illustrating the challenging spiritual journey from unchurched to fully committed follower and identifying the primary person at each stage of spiritual development, the questions for which he or she is seeking answers, the significant relationships that will move that person forward, the obstacles he or she must overcome, and the ministries a church must have in place to intentionally help move that person forward along the spiritual continuum. They then offer a template – a discipleship pathway - that can be used by any congregation of any size in any denomination to put into place in the proper sequential order the ministries that will allow the local church to strategically move people forward toward becoming fully devoted disciples of Jesus. 2/29/08 Age: A 224 pages

DEVELOPING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN THE SMALLER CHURCH (BK3919)

Small churches have many things going for them -- a familylike atmosphere, lively services, and more. But there are problems -- one is starting a viable Christian education program. With relatively few resources at hand, the would-be church school organizer faces a

formidable task. At last, here's a book that shows how to overcome the odds. Borrowing from her wide experience with smaller churches, Carolyn C. Brown presents a multitude of original ideas. Age: A 96 pages

END OF POVERTY, THE (BK3959)

Marrying vivid eyewitness storytelling to his laserlike analysis, Jeffrey Sachs sets the stage by drawing a vivid conceptual map of the world economy and the different categories into which countries fall. Then, in a tour de force of elegance and compression, he explains why, over the past two hundred years, wealth has diverged across the planet in the manner that it has and why the poorest nations have been so markedly unable to escape the cruel vortex of poverty. This book is recommended reading for the Millen Development Goals. Orange spine 12/30/07 Age: A 397 pages

ENDING POVERTY: A 20/20 VISION: A GUIDE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND CONGREGATIONS (BK3970)

Led by Bishop Peter Rogness and staff at the St. Paul Area Synod of the ELCA, a diverse group of community and religious leaders decided to focus their attention and action on the issues related to poverty. From this focus came a statement called "A Common Foundation: Shared Principles for Work on Overcoming Poverty." The final principle states: "We believe the desire to overcome poverty is not simply a human idea, but is the desire of our creator, and that the work to create a more just and whole society will be empowered by the Creator's presence." Like the "A Common Foundation" statement itself, this book invites people from varied faith backgrounds to just action on behalf of those who experience poverty and prejudice due to class. Stories from four different settings help define poverty, recognize communities of poverty, explore the hidden culture of class, and take a deeper systems view that shows how we are all one community. This book is designed for those who share the conviction that people of faith ought to be concerned about poverty issues and are called to action on behalf of the poor. Age: A 112 pages

ERADICATING GLOBAL POVERTY (BK4010)

A Christian study guide on the millennium development goals. 2/29/08 Age: A 61 pages

FEED MY SHEPHERDS: SPIRITUAL HEALING AND RENEWAL FOR THOSE IN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP (BK3915)

Church leaders are good at giving comfort to others, but often need to receive it too. Through Scripture, reflection, and meditation, this book takes seriously the struggles and burnout of those in caregiving ministries. 12/31/07 191 pages

GIVE US THIS DAY : LENTEN REFLECTIONS ON BAKING BREAD AND DISCIPLESHIP (BK3944)

Give Us This Day offers meditations for every day in Lent, inviting us to connect faith "our daily bread" and the world in which we live, along with recipes that range from Shrove Tuesday "No-Fret Pancakes" to Easter Challah bread. Each of the 40 meditations begins with a scripture verse and a prayer. Light brown 12/30/07 Age: A 123 pages

Book Descriptions

GODPARENTING : NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION (BK4002)

Godparenting: Nurturing the Next Generation explores the history and theology of godparenting, and offers plenty of helpful tips on how to be the best godparent ever. 2/29/08 Age: A 145 pages

GRACE ALL AROUND US : EMBRACING GOD'S PROMISE IN TRAGEDY AND LOSS (BK4008)

What sustains Christians when they are confronted with tragedy and grief? How do Christians live in the changed world of post- 9/11 reality? Stephen Paul Bouman addresses these questions as he shares his own personal story and the stories of others. 2/29/08 Age: A 127 pages

GRACE KEEPS YOU GOING: SPIRITUAL WISDOM FROM CANCER SURVIVORS (BK3945)

The book includes quotations from cancer survivors, stories about cancer survivors, and prayers. Ivory 12/30/07 Age: A 136 pages

GROWING COMPASSIONATE KIDS: HELPING KIDS SEE BEYOND THEIR BACKYARD (BK3896)

In Growing Compassionate Kids, you'll find biblical methods for teaching children and teens compassion toward people who live without voice, hope, or Christ. Johnson includes ideas for incorporating social outreach into family life, biblical rationale for introducing children and teens to God's call to help their neighbors, reflection questions, personal and family devotions, and practical ideas for volunteering as a family. Full of ideas, Growing Compassionate Kids also provides a resource list of events, organizations, publications, videos, and web sites. White w/red printing 12/31/07 Age: A 164 pages

HIGH IMPACT AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCHES (BK3876)

In High-Impact African-American Churches, researcher George Barna and Pastor Harry Jackson, Jr. combine their research, knowledge and experience to describe what these churches do that is changing lives. Their critical insights into the historical African-American experience and its current ministry practices will show you the transferable concepts that will help your ministry, regardless of its location or ethnicity, lead people to greater spiritual maturity. Red/gold/black spine 12/31/07 Age: A 268 pages

HOSPITALITY RISKING WELCOME STUDY AND REFLECTION GUIDE (BK3941)

What does it mean to give and receive welcome? What can we learn from this practice? Why is it risky? In this study, David O. Jenkins helps us to understand why hospitality is basic to our lives as Christians. Topics include: Receiving Welcome; Risking Welcome; Risking Worship; Risking Justice. As part of the study, you will read from this book, reflecting on the ideas presented and recording your thoughts and responses. Then, in weekly group meetings, you will share your thoughts and hear the insights of others. This study is from the series Living the Good Life Together. Brown booklet 12/30/07 Age: A 72 pages

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE IN THE CHURCH (BK3921)

A solid introduction to questions about language use. This book considers the major issues about God-language and people-language. 12/31/07 Age: A 114 pages

JUST IN TIME SERIES - PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK SERVICES (BK3951)

Ready-to-use lectionary-based worship and preaching resources for

Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Includes three options for Palm Sunday services including procession suggestions with special emphasis on participation by children. Also includes two suggested services for each lectionary year (A, B, and C), six services for Holy Thursday and three services for Good Friday. Gold/white 12/30/07 Age: A 84 pages

LEARNING DISABILITIES AND THE CHURCH (BK4007)

A practical manual that helps churches better serve the needs of children and youth with unique learning needs. Most churches are set up for a "one size fits all" approach to ministry and worship. But what about the child or youth who is wired to process information and learn differently? This book provides encouraging, vital information about learning disabilities, ideas and strategies for accommodating learning challenges, discussion questions, helpful websites, and more. 2/29/08 Age: A 80 pages

MY NAME IS CHILD OF GOD ... NOT THOSE PEOPLE: A FIRST-PERSON LOOK AT POVERTY (BK3869)

This personal and provocative look at poverty in America is shaped around the author's own engaging stories, song lyrics, and poems, including the well-known Call Me Child of God ... Not Those People. The story of her growing up in a large Irish Catholic working-class family in Minneapolis, Minnesota, draws together the experiences of living in poverty, the role of the church and music in her life, and the many remarkable people who populated her life and the lives of her family. 12/31/07 Age: A 176 pages

PRAYING IN COLOR : DRAWING A NEW PATH TO GOD (BK3881)

This new prayer form can take as little or as much time as you have or want to commit, from 15 minutes to a weekend retreat. "A new prayer form gives God an invitation and a new door to penetrate the locked cells of our hearts and minds," explains Sybil MacBeth. "For many of us, using only words to pray reduces God by the limits of our finite words." A DVD to lead workshops is also available. 12/31/07 Age: MHYAS 103 pages

SILENT NO MORE (BK3979)

In Silent No More Findley shares his personal impressions and experiences in dealing with American Muslims, their communities, and issues and events that figure prominently in their concerns and consciences. Age: A 323 pages

SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL : THE STORIES BEHIND A HALF CENTURY OF THE SONGS OF BILL AND GLORIA GAITHER (BK3968)

In this book, Gloria Gaither shares the personal stories and events that inspired over a hundred of the songs she and her husband, Bill have written. White/green 12/30/07 Age: A 307 pages

STARTING A PRAISE BAND (BK4011)

Looking for the opportunity to bring a change of music in your sanctuary? Does the idea of drums, keyboards, and electric guitars seem like something you want to try? Starting a Praise Band is indispensable as you take those first steps to introduce contemporary music—emotive and experiential—in your church. 2/29/08 Age: A 60 pages

STUDYING CONGREGATIONS: A NEW HANDBOOK (BK3997)

This new handbook for seminarians and clergy professionals places

the congregation itself, rather than individual scholarly disciplines, at the center of congregational analysis. *Studying Congregations: A New Handbook* is a thoroughgoing revision and update of the leading textbook in the field (*A Handbook for Congregational Studies*). Using a comprehensive systems approach to congregations, this volume enables readers to analyze the ministries, stories, and processes that are at work in congregations. It provides techniques for studying the congregation as well as a framework for understanding the nature of the congregations. 2/29/08 Age: A 256 pages

SUICIDE: PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, POSTVENTION (BK3948)

Once every minute someone tries to commit suicide. Sixty or seventy times a day these attempts succeed. Suicide, now in an updated and expanded edition, provides information on suicide statistics and gives advice on how to recognize the warning signs of a potential suicide attempt, how to intervene when a suicide has been attempted, and how to comfort families and friends who have lost a loved one to suicide. This edition contains a discussion of euthanasia and living wills and a list of crisis/intervention centers around the United States. With suicide a major killer of people of all ages, this book is an invaluable resource for professionals and anyone touched by this tragedy. White 12/30/07 Age: A 151 pages

TAKE BACK YOUR KIDS: CONFIDENT PARENTING IN TURBULENT TIMES (BK4000)

In his book *Take Back your Kids*, William Doherty shows you how in *Take Back Your Kids* a timely, yet timeless, confidence-building book that backs up fresh insights with personal experience and advice parents can rely on. 2/29/08 Age: A 158 pages

THE DANCING STEWARD: EXPLORING CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP LIFESTYLES (BK3947)

In these financially and spiritually "tight" times, our inability to give is more than just a reflex of greed. In his spirited exploration of the reasons why we find it difficult to relinquish our personal resources, Chris Levan introduces us to the three intertwining steps of "letting go": solidarity, relinquishment, and expectancy. Complete with questions and suggestions for experiential learning, *The Dancing Steward* is a unique and valuable guide into the heart of Christian stewardship lifestyles. Purple 12/30/07 Age: A 171 pages

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO HOLLYWOOD (BK4016)

This new book in the *Gospel according to . . .* Series will thrill movie buffs and casual fans alike. In an engaging style, author Greg Garrett looks at the theological elements in dozens of classic and new classic Hollywood films, including a discussion about what the new openness to spirituality in the movies might mean for the future of American cinema and American religion. Tan 2/29/08 Age: A 173 pages

TO CELEBRATE: RESHAPING HOLIDAYS AND RITES OF PASSAGE (BK3911)

Encouraging joy, spontaneity, justice and concern for nature, this edition of the *Alternative Celebrations Catalogue* is for people who are not satisfied with the models of celebration offered by a consumer society. Included are the celebration experiences of people with widely varying backgrounds and perspectives. White 12/31/07 Age: A 224 pages

TOKENS OF TRUST : AN INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN BELIEF (BK4015)

Engaging the classic statements of the Nicene and Apostles' creeds, Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams guides readers through the central elements of Christian faith. White w/trees 2/29/08 Age: A 159 pages

TOXIC FAITH LIBERAL CURE (BK4004)

Toxic Faith: Liberal Cure is an answer to those who claim that liberalism is immoral and is somehow destroying the values of this country. It also seeks to provide a careful and rational response, in a specifically Judeo-Christian context, to many of the most vocalized and divisive current issues: patriotism, war, abortion, homosexuality, poverty, and the environment. 2/29/08 Age: A 151 pages

TRUE TO OUR NATIVE LAND : AN AFRICAN AMERICAN NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY (BK3897)

This pioneering commentary sets biblical interpretation firmly in the context of African American experience and concern. Cutting-edge scholarship that is in tune with African American churches calls into question many of the canons of traditional biblical research and highlights the role of the Bible in African American history, accenting themes of ethnicity, class, slavery, and African heritage as these play a role in Christian scripture and the Christian odyssey of an emancipated people. Black/brown book jacket 12/31/07 Age: A 566 pages

WHAT I BELIEVE: KIDS TALK ABOUT FAITH (BK3866)

Six students aged twelve to thirteen candidly discuss their feelings about their religious belief. A Hindu; a Buddhist; a Jew; a Christian; a Muslim; and a Native American describe in their own words a little bit about themselves and their interests, their views on God and prayer, the ways in which they worship, and the impact that religion has on their daily lives. 12/30/07 Age: EA 32 pages

WHITE MAN'S BURDEN, THE (BK3956)

William Easterly's *The White Man's Burden* is about what its author calls the twin tragedies of global poverty. The first, of course, is that so many are seemingly fated to live horribly stunted, miserable lives and die such early deaths. The second is that after fifty years and more than \$2.3 trillion in aid from the West to address the first tragedy, it has shockingly little to show for it. We'll never solve the first tragedy, Easterly argues, unless we figure out the second. This book is recommended reading for the Millen Development Goals. Orange spine 12/30/07 Age: A 436 pages

WITH A VOICE OF SINGING : ESSAYS ON CHILDREN, CHOIRS, AND MUSIC IN THECHURCH IN HONOR OF RONALD A. N (BK3969)

These essays honoring the work of Ronald A. Nelson present a broad view of many aspects of church music. Church musicians working in a variety of denominations can readily benefit from the insights and information contained herein. This volume is a tribute by the many people who have had the good fortune to associate with Nelson, and it makes one eager to explore further his music. White w/blue print on spine 12/30/07 Age: A 184 pages

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY-BEGINNINGS (BK3901)

This youth Bible study will help youth apply Scripture to the critical issues that youth face today. 12/31/07 Age: MH 48 pages

CD Descriptions

THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES OF CHILDREN (CD84)

Since 1992, Gary Chapman's bestselling book *The Five Love Languages* has helped more than 300,000 couples develop stronger, more fulfilling relationships by teaching them to speak one another's love language. Now Chapman teams with Ross Campbell, author of best-seller *How to Really Love Your Child*, to help parents speak their child's love language. Each child, like an adult, expresses and receives love best through one of five different communication styles. This truth can work against parents who speak different love languages than their children. However, when properly prepared, moms and dads can use this information to help them meet their children's deepest emotional needs. A leader's guide for group study is included. 2/29/08 Age: A 165 tracks

THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES OF TEENAGERS (CD85)

The Five Love Languages of Teenagers contains very practical guidance on how to express the teen's primary love language, how to teach them appropriate responsibility, and how to properly handle both parental and teen anger. It is a tangible resource for stemming the tide of violence, immorality, and despair engulfing many teens today. A leader's guide for group study is included. 2/29/08 Age: A 195 tracks

DVD Descriptions

DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS DISK 1 (DV203)

Marcus Borg shares his understanding of the death and resurrection of Jesus and their meaning to the early church in this faith-stretching series. Borg helps us make sense of the events surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection that may have puzzled us. He directs the viewer away from doctrines and toward relationship through Jesus with God. This disk contains three sessions: 1. What happened on Good Friday? 2. What happened at Easter? 3. Jesus is Lord. 3 x 17-23 min. ea. Leader's Guide. Age: A 60 mins

DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS DISK 2 (DV204)

Marcus Borg shares his understanding of the death and resurrection of Jesus and their meaning to the early church in this faith-stretching series. Borg helps us make sense of the events surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection that may have puzzled us. He directs the viewer away from doctrines and toward relationship through Jesus with God. This Disk contains sessions 4, 5, & 6. 4. Jesus is the Way. 5. Jesus as Sacrifice. 6. Jesus, God's Love Revealed. Length: 3 x 17-23 min. ea. Leader's Guide. Age: A 60 mins

HOMELESS IN PARADISE (DV199)

Homeless in Paradise follows the intimate journey of four fascinating people who are homeless. As they survive on the streets, Rick, Donna, Simon, and Faye struggle with addiction and mental illness, while receiving support from a city in crisis. Experiencing homelessness through their eyes, we will come to understand a political and social system that draws controversy from all sides of the political arena. 2/29/08 Age: HA 50 mins

OPENING OURSELVES TO GRACE (DV192)

Opening Ourselves to Grace explores the basic practices of Christian faith and life from a Wesleyan tradition. Containing both a

DVD and a CD-ROM with video content and written resources, this product includes: A four-chapter video presentation on Wesley's understanding of spiritual practice; A six-week Bible study based on the video; A discussion guide to help group leaders. Through this study you'll experience the historic spiritual disciplines — perhaps for the first time — to help you grow in your love of God and neighbor. 12/31/07 Age: A

PRAYING IN COLOR THE WORKSHOP DVD (DV186)

Everything you need to know to lead your own *Praying in Color* workshop, featuring author Sybil MacBeth. Segments include: Arrival of participants and introduction to the practice; Getting Started; Beginning to Pray; Bringing your prayer time to a close. The book "Praying in Color" is also available. 12/31/07 Age: MHYAS 17 mins

RAISING HEALTHY KIDS FOR PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN (DV201)

Communication about sexual health begins at birth. These parents and young people tell how they discuss sexual health. Experts offer insight and skills to help families start and continue these conversations. Program #1 For parents of young children Addresses setting limits, labeling body parts, how babies are made, self-touch appropriate/inappropriate touch and more. 2/29/08 Age: A 25 mins

REVOLVING DOOR, A (DV200)

He is youthful, attractive and likeable, and lives in a world sometimes fogged by delusion and mania. This is the inside look at 33-year-old Tommy Lennon, struggling to deal with the dual diagnosis of mental illness and drug addiction. The intimate film focuses on Tommy and his family's frustration, helplessness, courage and resilience. A head injury while surfing may have been the catalyst that turned Tommy's life upside down. For 10 years, he is stuck in a revolving door of homelessness, drug abuse, mental institutions and jails. Will Tommy and his loving family learn to deal with a constantly shifting reality? 2/29/08 Age: MHA 39 mins

SEQUICENTENNIAL KICKOFF BANQUET EPISCOPAL DIOCESE 2007 (DV205)

This DVD covers the opening banquet for the Episcopal Diocese of MN, October 26, 2007. Bishop James Jelinek and Garrison Keilor are the speakers. 2/29/08 Age: A

Video Descriptions

SPIRIT AND NATURE (VD4107)

In this program, Bill Moyers goes to a conference where Sallie McFague, Native American elder Audrey Shenandoah, a rabbi, an Islamic scholar, and other religious leaders confront the world's environmental crisis and search for a new human ethic toward the earth. Our need to see nature as sacred is stressed throughout the program. Modern science is criticized for separating the divine from the natural world. Intriguing questions concerning our stewardship of the earth are raised by the Dalai Lama, who espouses a philosophy of compassion for all living things. This is a provocative program about theology and nature. This is a two part series, but the RCC only has part one. 12/31/07 6/20/07 Age: A 50 mins

Resources for Cultivating Spiritual Vitality This Lent

The Resource Center for Churches provides excellent sources for celebrating Lent at your church or at home. Check out some of their recommendations this year.

For adults:

Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society Today, 120 min. DVD with CD-Rom containing printable material, published by Living the Questions (2006). Ideal for Advent and Lent, five sessions: "The Way Out," "The Decalogue," "Countering Caesar," "An Act of Imagination," and "On Not Doing God Any Favors."

Death and Resurrection of Jesus, two VHS tapes (approx. 120 min. total) with leader's guide, published by UMCom Productions (2000). Marcus Borg shares his understanding on the meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus to the early church in six segments: "What happened on Good Friday?" "What happened at Easter?" "Jesus is Lord," "Jesus is the Way," "Jesus as Sacrifice," and "Jesus, God's Love Revealed."

Give Us This Day: Lenten reflections on baking bread and discipleship, book (123 pages) by Christopher Levan, published by Seabury Books (2007). Meditations for every day in Lent (each beginning with scripture verse and prayer) and recipes for baked goods, from pancakes to challah.

Jesus File: Tracking the Messiah, two DVDs (104 min. total) published by Films for the Humanities (1998). These programs chart Jesus' life within the context of his times: "Preparing the Way for Jesus," "From Carpenter to Preacher," "Jesus Gathers a Following," "The Last and First Days of Jesus."

Living the Questions 2.0: An Introduction to Progressive Christianity, three DVDs (seven 20-min. sessions each; three hours total), published by Living the Questions (2007). Creates an environment where participants can explore what's next for Christianity.

Saving Jesus, DVD, readings, and guided discussion (twelve sessions at 90 to 120 hours each) published by Living the Questions (2006). A small-group exploration of Jesus for the third millennium.

For children:

Puzzle Club Easter Adventure, 30 min. VHS tape with parent's guide, published by Envoy Productions (1998). Young detectives have to decide between finding a lost cat and caring for their ill adviser.

The Last Supper, 30 min. VHS tape published by CCC of America (1999). Portrays the apostles entering Jerusalem for Passover, Judas's betrayal, and celebration of the Last Supper.

Veggie Tales: An Easter Carol, 49 min. DVD published by Big Idea (2004). Cavis and Millward (Bob and Larry) and an angel named Hope must convince Ebenezer Nezzzer that Easter is about more than candy, explaining why millions of Christians celebrate Easter.

For all ages:

Matthew, two DVDs (120 min. total) published by the International Bible Society (2004). Powerful and entertaining, word for word from the NIV, filmed in Tunisia, Morocco, and South Africa.

Many new Lenten resources have been ordered and are starting to arrive now. These are especially good for discussion groups or Sunday school classes.

To borrow a resource, contact the center at info@resourcesforthejourney.org or telephone (888) 293-9901 (toll free) from greater Minnesota or (612) 870-0861 from the Twin Cities area. The staff will gladly reserve one of these or another resource for you. The center has books, DVDs, reference works, choir anthems, and even a labyrinth available for loan.





Resource Center for Churches

122 W. Franklin Avenue, Room 2
Minneapolis, MN 55404

612-870-0861 or 888-293-9901 (toll free)

Email: info@resourcesforthejourney.org

Website: www.resourcesforthejourney.org

Your Partner in Ministry

The Resource Center for Churches partners with congregations in ministry by providing print and audio-visual resources, consultation services, training, and networking to facilitate the journey of faith.

It is an ecumenical ministry of the: Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota; Minnesota Annual Conference United Methodist Church; Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ; Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area; Synod of Lakes and Prairies (PCUSA).

Staff

*Ginger Stemme, Director
Sally Vanderwerf, Resource Assistant*

Board

Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota: Bronwyn Clark Skov, Joanie Delameter, Minnesota Annual Conference, United Methodist Church: Victoria Rebeck, Gloria Roach Thomas, Diane C. Olson; Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ: Glen Herrington Hall (Secretary); Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area: Jan Snell; Synod of Lakes and Prairies (PCUSA): Diana Barber, Norma Spurgin (Vice-President) and At-Large: Ron Cottone (President), Disabilities Awareness Ministries

ATTENTION VIDEO USERS:

The great news is that we have been gifted and granted some extra money to expand our media holdings. This will be a year-long project.

We do not anticipate purchasing VHS format in the future, because it is old technology. Players are difficult to purchase already. We are replacing "classic" titles with DVD as we find them available .

Your challenge is to make sure your church is prepared with a good quality DVD player that will play multiple types of DVD's. You will also find it necessary to test each DVD on your player before the moment of presentation.

The church world has not settled on only one format, and has certainly not wholly supported the Blue Ray format most recently favored by Hollywood. In the meantime, we still have some great programs on VHS for you to use.

TAKE THE CHALLENGE:

In the article on page one, we think about Jesus making wine as a creative accomplishment that he had the right to share. I hope that as you read the article, you realize how much I love to have people share. I just think we need to follow certain protocols relating to copyright and ownership issues.

I urge people to use their own creativity. Most people can do more than they think. We have easy access to dozens of camera devices to make your own slides and movies. Since you may not assume every picture posted on the Internet is yours to grab and use, you may want to start your own library of shots. And feel free to share them, if you desire!

We are happy to provide you with resources for which we have arranged public performance rights. We do this as often as possible.