

CommonWord Curator

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July/August 2015, No. 6

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Summer series
www.commonword.ca/go/130

Labour Day
www.commonword.ca/go/145

Sunday School Promotion
www.commonword.ca/go/146

Sept 13 - Christian Formation Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/168

Sept 20 - International Peace Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/169

Oct 4 - World Communion Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/170

Oct 25 - Mennonite Heritage Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/171

Nov 1 - Mission Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/172

Nov 8 - Peace Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/173

Nov 29 - First Advent
www.commonword.ca/go/174

Adult Faith Formation Resources



Need help planning your fall adult education program?

CommonWord has 481 loan curriculum options in print and DVD, including 140 Bible studies.

Our materials are divided into 98 themes, including spirituality, peace, global awareness, creation care, parenting, inter-faith dialogue, and Anabaptist/Mennonite identity.

Please contact us – we'll be glad to connect you with materials for your group either for loan or for sale. Or browse www.commonword.ca/go/178

By the Numbers

1334

Items for sale online
(and growing)

Competitively priced
Unique Anabaptist titles

The Curator Online

View these resources
online at
www.commonword.ca/go/175
or click on an item's image
or title.

MAKE THE MOST OF THE CURATOR:



Circulate widely – to librarian, pastor, worship planners, education coordinator, and church administrator.



Invite friends/committee members to subscribe:
www.commonword.ca/go/81.



Submit your own original worship service or congregational event for inclusion here and on the web.



CommonWord Videos

Watch interviews with Jamie Arpin-Ricci and Gareth Brandt (and the full book launch presentations) here:
www.commonword.ca/go/177



Summer Reading List www.commonword.ca/go/148

Will you join us in reading these great titles? Or, let us know what else you are reading – we'd love to hear!

Children's Corner

For library, home, or Sunday morning storyteller

God's Big Story: Bible Story Card Game

Faith Alive Christian Resources.

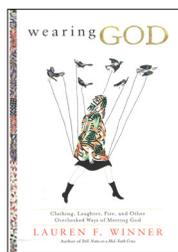
This faith nurture game encourages families to have fun as they learn about God's story together. Start by reading one of the 165 story cards, then roll the colour-coded die to choose one of six ways to explore the biblical story.

\$9.79, boxed set (or borrow)



Buy

Competitive sale prices. Special orders accepted.

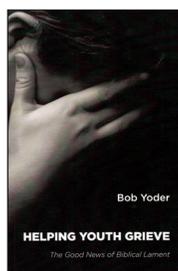


Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God

by Lauren F. Winner, HarperCollins, 2015.

Join the author on a wise and lyrical journey as she tries on overlooked metaphors for how we meet and experience God. Chapters on God as clothing, laughter, flame, food, wine, and a labouring woman reveal God to be much closer and more intimate than we might imagine, opening up the opportunity for experiencing and knowing God more deeply.

\$23.50, hardcover, 286 pp. (or borrow)

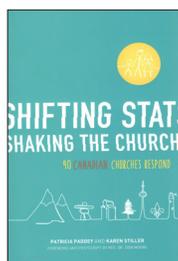


Helping Youth Grieve: The Good News of Biblical Lament

by Bob Yoder, Wipf and Stock Publisher, 2015.

Our culture demands high levels of success and propagates a “feel good” attitude that denies pain, loss, and failure. Churches sometimes contribute the same when associating “being happy” with “true faithfulness” to God. This book portrays a God who yearns to hear the honest cries of our youth.

\$23.25, paperback, 144 pp. (or borrow)

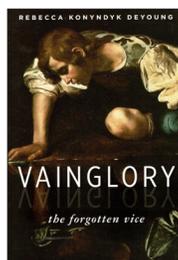


Shifting Stats Shaking the Church: 40 Canadian Churches Respond

by Patricia Paddey; Karen Stiller, World Vision Canada, 2015.

Offers a fresh take and a hopeful outlook on the Canadian church. Hope is found in these 40 stories of churches responding creatively to the shifting landscape.

\$18.99, paperback, 294 pp. (or borrow)

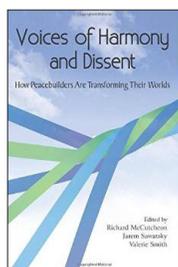


Vainglory: The Forgotten Vice

by Rebecca Konyndyk DeYoung, Eerdmans Publishing, 2014.

Tells the story of this vice, moving from its ancient origins to its modern expressions. She explores its definition in our popular culture and discusses other vices often associated with it, such as hypocrisy and boasting. Finally, she offers personal spiritual and community practices that can help us handle glory well.

\$14.95, paperback, 157 pp. (or borrow)



Voices of Harmony and Dissent: How Peacebuilders are Transforming their Worlds

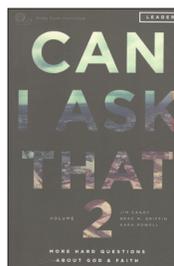
edited by Richard McCutcheon, Jarem Sawatsky, Valerie Smith, CMU Press, 2015.

A resource from the Canadian School of Peacebuilding (CSoP). Each chapter, authored by a different peace leader, explores three dimensions of peacebuilding: stories, tools/strategies, and resources.

\$19.48, paperback, 350 pp.

Borrow

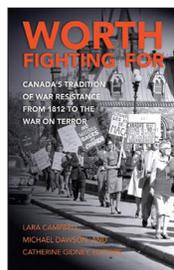
Free shipping for loan books; free return shipping for loan DVDs. All featured loan titles can also be purchased by special order.



Can I Ask That? Volume 2: More Hard Questions about God & Faith

Fuller Youth Institute, 2015.

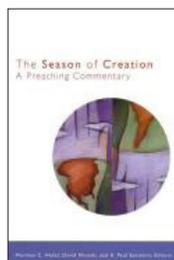
Leader and Student Guides available separately. Six sessions tackle the following tough questions: Is it wrong to doubt God? Is hell real? Why do bad things happen to good people? Why is it so awkward to talk about Jesus with my friends?



Worth Fighting For: Canada's Tradition of War Resistance from 1812 to the War on Terror

ed. Lara Campbell; Michael Dawson; Catherine Gidney, Between The Lines, 2015.

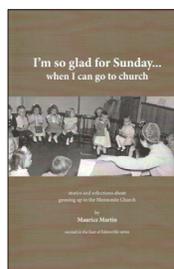
This essay collection is in response to the current acceleration of military commemoration in Canada, and to help recalibrate our understanding of Canadian history by documenting Canada's long tradition of war resistance. Features an essay by Conrad Stoesz, Mennonite Church Canada archivist.



The Season of Creation: A Preaching Commentary

by Norman C. Habel; David Rhoads, Augsburg Fortress, 2011.

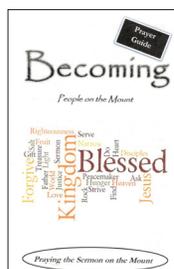
A 3-year (4 Sundays/year) lectionary cycle for observing a Season of Creation. Includes theological and practical introductions, selection of biblical texts and commentary, and worship-leading helps.



I'm so Glad for Sunday... When I Can Go to Church: Stories and Reflections about Growing Up in the Mennonite Church

by Maurice Martin, Riverside Perspectives, 2014.

The sequel to One Mile East of Edensville. Both creative non-fiction accounts offer a picture into the author's childhood familial and church experiences – both the nostalgic and the “gritty”



Becoming People on the Mount: Prayer Guide

Houston Mennonite Church, 2015.

This Prayer Guide invites you to create space to engage the entire Sermon on the Mount in 14 sessions, either alone or in a group.

Download

All of our electronic resources are free to download. These originate from our denominational offices and contacts, congregations, partners, and commissioned writers.



But We Are Afraid

A Sermon by Doug Klassen, MP3 file, Foothills Mennonite Church, 2015.

A sermon for "Many Peoples Sunday." Also an exploration of Acts 11:1-18, where Doug wonders out loud: Is this story encouraging us to reach over the divide between heterosexual and LGBTQ persons?



Challenging Conditions: Exploring the Lives of Subsistence Farmers in the Developing World

by Anna-Marie Janzen; Roberta Gramlich, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, 2015.

A youth activity that explores what life is like for subsistence farmers in the developing world. Emphasis is placed on quality of life, and the effects of issues such as hunger, health, conflict, gender dynamics, environment, and climate change.



Offertory Prayers: A Sampling

by Alissa Bender, Hamilton Mennonite Church, 2015.

"If we speak in the tongues of donors and investors, but do not have love ..." 15 creative congregational prayers for the offering. Includes several for special times of the church year.



The Surprising Story of Jesus: A Children's Story

by Carrie Martens, Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church, 2015.

This is a retelling of several stories of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection from the perspective of Mary Magdalene.



2016 Pastors' Salary Guidelines

ed., Kirsten Schroeder, Mennonite Church Canada.

These Salary Guidelines from Mennonite Church Canada, in consultation with Area Churches, are intended to provide some uniformity across the denomination while allowing for adjustments based on the local cost of living.

Link

We provide hundreds of links to videos and websites.



Jürgen Moltmann Reading Room: Tyndale University College and Seminary

ed. Arnold Neufeldt-Fast, Tyndale, 2015.

The links connect you to Moltmann's writings – in online audio, books, articles, and dissertations, including "Google Books" with significant content preview.



Middle East Refugees Resettlement Initiative

Evangelical Fellowship of Canada.

In co-operation with the Canadian government, EFC leaders are seeking to offer settlement assistance to some of the 10,000 displaced persons from Syria and Iraq that Canada has promised to welcome by 2016. Also includes links to many helpful "refugee sponsorship" resources.



My 22 Best Practices in My 22 Years of Ministry

by April Yamasaki.

What does it take for pastors to not only survive but to thrive in fruitful ministry over the long haul? Read the wisdom April has gathered from her long-term pastoral ministry at Emmanuel Mennonite Church.



The Road to Reconciliation

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, 2015.

What does reconciliation look like in Canada - in the shadow of the residential school legacy? CBC's Duncan McCue reports on the reconciliation process with aboriginal and non-aboriginal Canadians. Learn of the relationship between one white couple (and their Anglican congregation) and one indigenous residential school survivor.

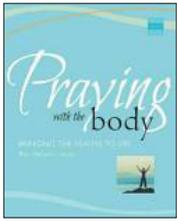


STEP Bible: Scripture Tools for Every Person (STEP)

Tyndale House.

An online Bible study library and browser offered free of charge for all students of the scriptures.

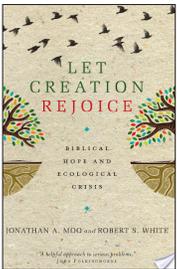
Other Noteworthy Titles



Praying with the Body: Bringing the Psalms to Life
by Roy DeLeon, Paraclete Press, 2009.

In this innovative prayer book, readers are invited to do more than read - they are asked to move in prayer by expressing the Psalms with motion – and in so doing deepen and broaden a relationship with God.

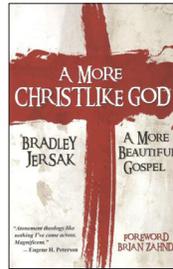
Borrow



Let Creation Rejoice: Biblical Hope and Ecological Crisis
by Jonathan A. Moo; Robert S. White,
InterVarsity Press, 2014.

If the Christian gospel fundamentally reorients us in our relationship to God and the world, then there ought to be something radically distinctive about our attitude and approach to the ecological threats. In short, there ought to be a place for hope.

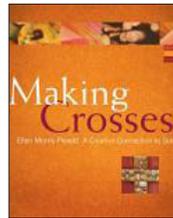
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A More Christlike God: A More Beautiful Gospel
by Bradley Jersak, Plain Truth Ministries, 2015.

If Christ is “the image of the invisible God, the radiance of God’s glory and exact representation of God’s likeness,” what if we conceived of God as completely Christlike—the perfect Incarnation of self-giving, radically forgiving, co-suffering love? What if God has always been and forever will be ‘cruciform’ (cross-shaped) in his character and actions?

Borrow

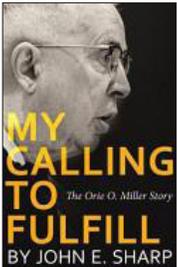


Making Crosses: A Creative Connection to God
by Ellen Morris Prewitt, Paraclete Press, 2009.

Making Crosses introduces a new spiritual practice for those who want to experience God beyond day-to-day prayers. More than analytical thinking, the practice of making crosses offers a way of prayer where understanding comes from doing.

Borrow

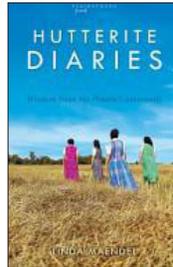
From MennoMedia



My Calling to Fulfill: The Orie O. Miller Story
by John E. Sharp, Herald Press, 2015.

In a century marked by two devastating world wars, the fractious fundamentalist-modernist debate, and growing diversity in the church, learn how one of the Church’s leaders, Orie O. Miller, helped to lead Mennonites from rural isolation to global engagement.

Borrow



Hutterite Diaries: Wisdom from My Prairie Community
by Linda Maendel, Herald Press, 2015.

Maendel offers a rare glimpse into the daily routines and communal faith of her people, the Hutterian Brethren. From stories of working together to bring in the fall potato harvest to laugh-out-loud tales of sisterly love laced with revenge, Maendel invites readers into her Bruderhof, nestled on the prairie of western Canada.

\$14.94, paperback, 165 pp. (or borrow)

48-Hour Contest

Congratulations to Melissa Friesen, Pincher Creek, AB who won a copy of *One Light Still Shines* by Marie Monville

Question: What do you miss most at church during the summer months?

Prize: *Blush: A Mennonite Girl Meets a Glittering World* by Shirley Hershey Showalter

Email your response to: info@commonword.ca with “**July/August 2015 Contest**” in subject line.

