

CommonWord Curator

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March 2015, No. 2

WORSHIP RESOURCES

March 29 – Palm Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/69

April 2 – Maundy Thursday
www.commonword.ca/go/70

April 3 – Good Friday
www.commonword.ca/go/71

April 5 – Easter
www.commonword.ca/go/72

May 3 – Many Peoples Sunday
www.commonword.ca/go/73

May 10 – Mothers' Day
www.commonword.ca/go/74

May 24 – Pentecost
www.commonword.ca/go/75

By the Numbers

167 Likes

on our new Facebook page


[www.facebook.com/
commonwordbookstoreandrc](http://www.facebook.com/commonwordbookstoreandrc)


We're just starting...
come join the conversation!


the Curator Online

View these resources
online at
www.commonword.ca/go/85
or click on an item's image or
description.

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.

Come Lord Jesus, be our Host

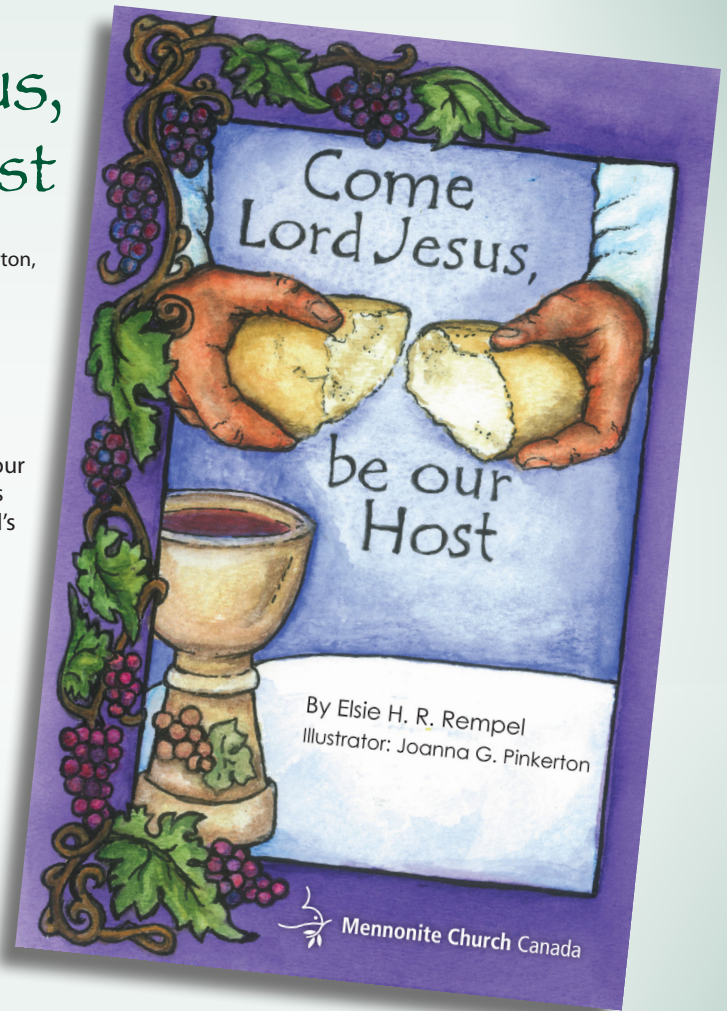
by Elsie Rempel and Joanna G. Pinkerton,
Mennonite Church Canada, 2015.

What do we believe about
communion?

By providing reflections, tools,
sample litanies and discernment
processes, this book will guide your
congregation through the waters of
change that surround the Lord's
Table. Each chapter also includes
doodle graphics and stimulating
discussion questions.

Engaging this six-session study
guide will help congregations
celebrate communion faithfully
in ways that respect Christian
tradition, honour Jesus as host,
and help form and celebrate
faith for all ages and stages.

Download -
www.commonword.ca/go/84



Many new Lenten materials available for Holy Week worship services here
www.commonword.ca/go/87

Children's Corner

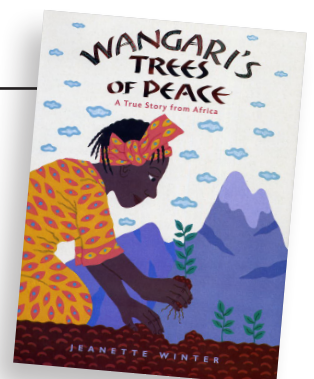
For library, home, or Sunday morning storyteller

Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa
by Jeanette Winter, Harcourt, 2008.

As a young girl growing up in Kenya, Wangari was surrounded by trees. But years later when she returns home, she is shocked to see whole forests being cut down, and she knows that soon all the trees will be destroyed. So Wangari decides to do something and starts by planting nine seedlings in her own backyard. And as they grow, so do her plans...

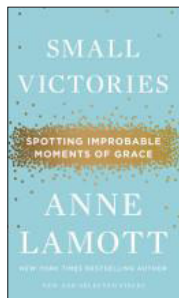
A true story by an inspirational environmentalist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

\$14.95, hardcover, 16 pp. (or borrow)



Buy

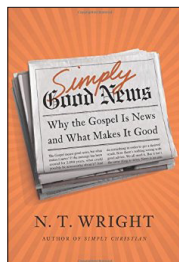
Competitive sale prices. Special orders accepted.



Small Victories:
Spotting Improbable Moments of Grace
by Anne Lamott, 2014

Lamott writes about faith, family, and community in essays that are both wise and irreverent. In her trademark style, she writes of forgiveness, restoration, and transformation, how we can turn toward love even in the most hopeless situations, how we find the joy in getting lost and our amazement in finally being found.

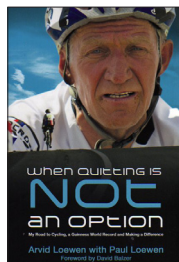
\$21.99, hardcover, 286 pp. (or borrow)



Simply Good News:
Why the Gospel is News and what makes it Good
by N. T. Wright, 2015

Many people think the message of the gospel is that if we believe in Jesus we will be saved from hell and be transported to heaven after we die. But what if that is not what the Bible actually teaches? What if the good news Jesus came to announce is much bigger, much better, and includes much more than merely what happens after we die?

\$22.75, hardcover, 189 pp. (or borrow)



When Quitting is Not an Option: My Road to Cycling, a Guinness World Record, and Making a Difference
by Arvid and Paul Loewen, 2014

When Arvid set out on a 40 km bike ride only to give up after 30 km, his future as a cyclist seemed bleak. Yet, more than 15 years later, Arvid was racing alongside the world's most elite ultra-marathon athletes. This is his story of failure, courage, disappointment, triumph, and laughter – and a few life lessons along the way.

\$21.50, paperback, 308 pp. (or borrow)



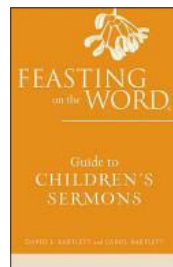
Mother of the Year and other Elusive Awards
by Kalyn Falk, 2013

Kalyn throws open the doors into the world she shares with her autistic son, Noah. While she is frank about experiencing the darkness of grief and worry, her story is remarkable for exposing the laughter, the deep connection with others, and the optimism that so obviously buoy her.

\$15.75, paperback, 141 pp.

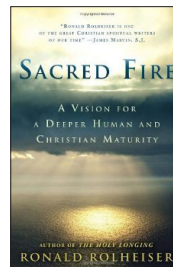
Borrow

Free shipping for loan books; free return shipping for loan DVDs.



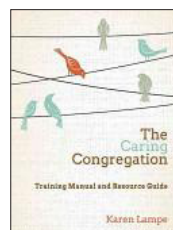
Feasting on the Word:
Guide to Children's Sermons
by David L. Bartlett and Carol Bartlett, Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.

Equips church leaders and children's ministry volunteers to deliver children's sermons that are free of gimmicks and simplistic conclusions, that welcome children into the family of faith, and that give a foundation in God's good news for all people. Also includes sample Bible stories for use in the children's time.



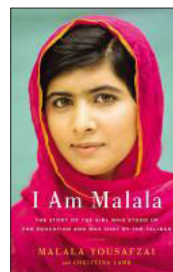
Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Maturity
by Ronald Rolheiser, Random House, 2014.

With his trademark acuity, wit, and thoughtfulness, Rolheiser shows how identifying and embracing discipleship will lead to new heights of spiritual awareness and maturity.



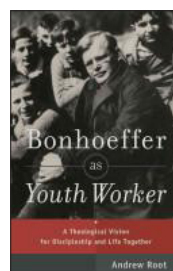
The Caring Congregation:
Training Manual and Resource Guide
by Karen Lampe, Abingdon Press, 2014.

A manual with all the necessary resources to help pastors organize their congregations for care and equip people to listen, visit, comfort, and encourage congregants. A practical guide for Congregational Care Ministers that focuses on prayer, the theology of care, establishing boundaries, learning to listen, visitation etiquette, and support through the final days of life.



I am Malala: The Girl who stood up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban
by Malala Yousafzai, Little Brown, 2013.

The remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.

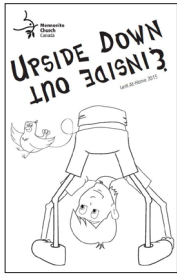


Bonhoeffer as Youth Worker: A Theological Vision for Discipleship and Life Together
by Andrew Root, Baker Publishing Group, 2014.

Root presents Bonhoeffer as the forefather and model of the growing theological turn in youth ministry. By linking contemporary youth workers with this epic theologian, the author shows the depth of youth ministry work and underscores its importance in the church. He also shows how Bonhoeffer's life and thought impact present-day youth ministry practice.

Download

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



Upside Down, Inside Out: Lent At-Home Devotional by Elsie Rempel.

A family resource for the weeks of Lent. Includes worship ideas, pondering questions, prayers, activities – all suitable for the home. Follows the texts and themes of *Leader* magazine.



Loosing the Flame: 2015 AMBS Pastors' Week Sermon by Meghan Good, 2015.

What is an Anabaptist Christian? Good, in this audio file, invites Mennonites to be midwives rather than owners of the Anabaptist vision.



O que é um Cristão Anabatista? (What is an Anabaptist Christian?) Portuguese Translation

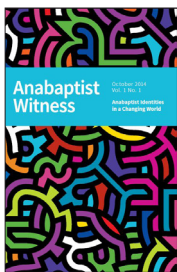
Existem pessoas de todas as partes do mundo que se desiludiram com formas de cristianismos institucionais ou comprometidos politicamente. Por outro lado, há um interesse crescente em aprender mais sobre o anabatismo e outras tradições da igreja livre, que tem chamado a um retorno radical à fé do Novo Testamento.



Remembering: A Peace Sermon by Michele Rizoli, Toronto United Mennonite Church, 2014.

A 3-part sermon by Rizoli, pastor at Toronto United Mennonite Church:

- Remembering the Victims of Violence
- Remembering Who We Are
- Remembering We Live by a Different Story



Anabaptist Witness, Vol 1, No 1: Anabaptist Identities in a Changing World edited by Jamie Pitts and Jamie Ross, AMBS, 2014. Online journal.

The essays in this first issue explore Anabaptist and Mennonite identities – how they have evolved and how they might help us live into our communities and the work God calls us to do.

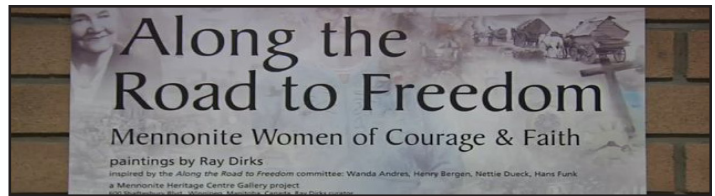


Mennonite Church Canada Future Directions Task Force Report

Entitled *God, Mission and a People*, this paper is meant for discussion at Area Church annual gatherings in 2015, as well as other group and individual settings. Feedback from these conversations will be assembled at the time of discussion and forwarded to the Task Force.

Link

We provide hundreds of links to videos and websites.



Honouring the Past: Along the Road to Freedom Exhibit online video

Ray Dirks' art exhibit at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church, *Along the Road to Freedom*, honours Mennonite women's faith and perseverance while refugees and immigrants to Canada.



Islam: Empire of Faith

Online videos, PBS, 2000.

- Part One (53:54 min) - Prophet Muhammad and the Rise of Islam;
- Part Two (53:12 min) - The Awakening;
- Part Three (52:57 min) - The Ottomans.



Called within the Storm

Blog, by Norm Dyck, Listowel, 2015.

Norm writes, "God continues to call me to stretch my horizons beyond the headlights of what I can see in the immediate of life's journey and dream the big impossible dreams that God calls all followers of Christ to dream." A new blog from a Mennonite Church Canada pastor.

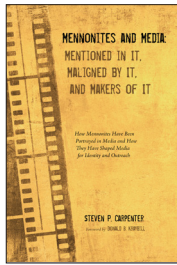


Online Reading Rooms

edited by Arnold Neufeldt-Fast, Tyndale University College and Seminary.

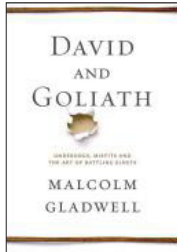
Extensive resource pages (on many faith and church-related topics) designed to help make biblical-theological resources available to those without easy access to a theological library. Many of the links connect you to scanned, published books and articles made available by Google Books (often 75% of content).

Other Noteworthy Titles



Mennonites in Media: Mentioned in It, Maligned by It, and Makers of It
by Steven Carpenter, Wipf and Stock, 2015.

Anabaptists and Mennonites have often been the subject of media scrutiny: sometimes admired, at other times maligned. This book chronicles and analyses dozens of fascinating media references, dating from the early 1500s through the present.
Borrow

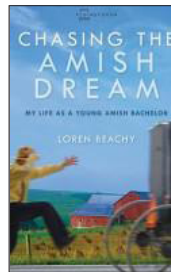


David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants
by Malcolm Gladwell, Little Brown, 2013.

Gladwell challenges how we think about obstacles and disadvantages, offering a new interpretation of what it means to suffer from any number of apparent setbacks – by offering us the *real* story of what happened between the giant and the shepherd.

\$25.99, hardcover, 305 pp. (or borrow)

MennoMedia



Chasing the Amish Dream: My Life as a Young Amish Bachelor
by Loren Beachy, Herald Press, 2014.

With the witty warmth of small-town storytellers like Garrison Keillor and Jan Karon, Beachy invites readers into his life as a creative, wise, and wisecracking Old Order Amish schoolteacher and auctioneer.

\$13.25, paperback, 190 pp. (or borrow)



Christian, Muslim, Friend: Twelve Paths to Real Relationship
by David W. Shenk, Herald Press, 2014.

Shenk lays out 12 ways that Christians can form authentic relationships with Muslims, characterized by respect, hospitality, and candid dialogue.

\$14.99, paperback, 187 pp. (or borrow)

Looking for a unique and inspiring retreat or workshop for your church or youth group?

Since 2011, Theatre of the Beat has been bringing its unique, critically-acclaimed style of faith-based, social justice theatre to communities across Canada and the United States. The fun-loving traveling beatniks who brought you "Gadfly," "Forgiven/Forgotten," and "Bicycle Built for Two" are excited to be hitting the road with a van-load of creative and inspiring workshops/retreats for all ages!



Choose a workshop and/or a play for your youth event, school classroom, camp setting or conference.

For more details, see www.commonword.ca/go/86

48-Hour Contest

The contest is back! Submit your answer within 48 hours of receiving your electronic copy, and you'll be eligible for a prize!

Question: What would you like featured on our new CommonWord Facebook page?

Email your response to: info@commonword.ca with "**March 2015 Contest**" in subject line.

Prize: *Swords to Ploughshares* by Lisa Weaver and Amanda Huston

