

CommonWord Curator

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Summer 2017, No. 3

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Materials for Mennonite Church Canada
Special Sundays, United Nations Special Days,
and seasonal Church Calendar Days

JUNE 20 – WORLD REFUGEE DAY

www.commonword.ca/go/706

JUNE 21 – NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY

www.commonword.ca/go/764

JULY 30 – INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FRIENDSHIP

www.commonword.ca/go/771

AUG 6 – HIROSHIMA DAY

www.commonword.ca/go/772

AUG 9 – INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

www.commonword.ca/go/764

SEPT 4 – LABOUR DAY

www.commonword.ca/go/145

SEPT 10 – CHRISTIAN FORMATION SUNDAY

www.commonword.ca/go/168

SEPT 10 – SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION

www.commonword.ca/go/146

SEPT 17/24 – INTERNATIONAL PEACE SUNDAY

www.commonword.ca/go/169

SEPT 30 – ORANGE SHIRT DAY

www.commonword.ca/go/764

OCT 1 – WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

www.commonword.ca/go/170

THE Curator ONLINE

www.commonword.ca/go/1223

or click on links in this PDF.

\$0.00

FREE SHIPPING OF LOAN BOOKS
BOTH WAYS, ANYWHERE IN CANADA

MAKE THE MOST OF THE CURATOR:



Circulate widely!



Submit your own
resources to be
listed by CW.

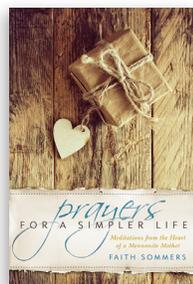
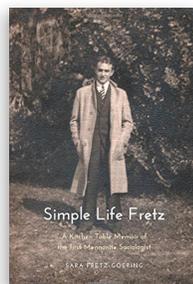
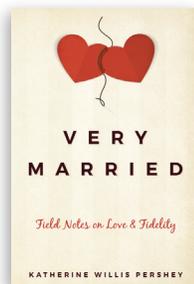
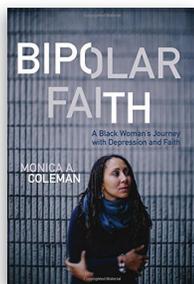


Subscribe to receive
the Curator regularly.

2017 Summer Reading List

Our recommended titles for the lawn chair,
hammock or beach blanket these next months!

www.commonword.ca/go/1213



Tip: These, and other titles, can be bundled together for an extended loan period
with our *Cheaper by the Dozen* program.

4 studies for the coming year

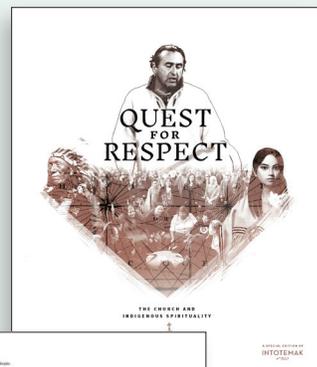
Quest for Respect:

The Church and Indigenous Spirituality

The third volume in the special *Intotemak* series written
in response to the TRC's Calls to Action for churches. Use
for personal reading or group study.

For loan or purchase

- www.commonword.ca/go/1089



Begin Anew:

Christian Discipleship Seminars

A new youth/adult Anabaptist study suitable for
catechism classes or other small group settings.
16 sessions, with accompanying videos and meditations.

For purchase or free download

- www.commonword.ca/go/797



Every Creature Singing:

Embracing the Good News for Planet Earth

A flexible 12-session study by the Mennonite Creation
Care Network, adapted to our Canadian context.

For free download

www.commonword.ca/go/1054



Pathways for Peace and Justice in Palestine and Israel

In response to the 2016 Assembly resolution,
the Mennonite Church Canada Working Group has
compiled a 4-session Script, with accompanying
PowerPoint, and a list of Recommended Resources
for congregational study.

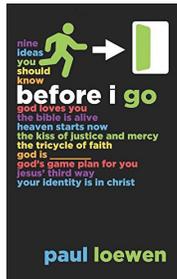
For free download

www.commonword.ca/go/1032



BUY

Competitive sale prices. Special orders accepted.



Before I Go: Nine Ideas You Should Know

by Paul Loewen, CreateSpace, 2017

Loewen shares his "best-of" devotionals after 10 years of youth ministry. These nine ideas will challenge and strengthen anyone asking deep questions about their faith.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/16/19411>

\$10.00, paperback, 136 pp.



(re) union: The Good News of Jesus for Seekers, Saints, and Sinners

by Bruxy Cavey, Herald Press, 2017

A growing movement of truth-seekers and Jesus-lovers believe that a truncated and fragmented version of the good news is masquerading as the full, forceful gospel of Jesus. Cavey unfolds God's message for the world through a dynamic investigation of the most earth-shattering, piety-smashing, life-changing news ever.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/19340>

\$16.99, paperback, 211 pp.



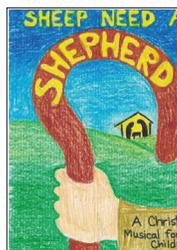
When Did Everybody Else Get So Old? Indignities, Compromises, and the Unexpected Grace of Midlife

by Jennifer Grant, Herald Press, 2017

In an unflinching and spirited look at the transitions of midlife, Grant plumbs the physical, spiritual, and emotional changes unique to the middle years. While acknowledging the complexities, losses, and disappointments inherent in midlife, Grant illuminates the confidence and grace that this season of life can also bring.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/19344>

\$19.95, paperback, 189 pp.



The Sheep Need a Shepherd: A Christmas Musical for Children

by Barry Bergen, 2015

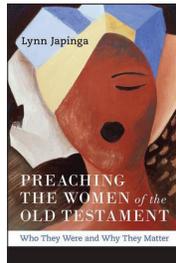
What happens to a group of shepherds who leave their flock in the middle of the night? In trouble with the owner of Sheep R Us, the head shepherd attempts to explain angels and a miraculous birth before taking his boss to the stable to see for himself.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/5/19236>

\$29.00, e-files, 10 pp.

BORROW

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

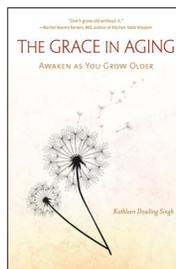


Preaching the Women of the Old Testament: Who They Were and Why They Matter

by Lynn Japinga, Westminster John Knox Press, 2017

Though women played an important role in the Old Testament, their stories remain untold both in the classroom and from the pulpit. Exploring the stories of over forty fierce, faithful, strong and often unnamed women, Japinga contests toxic past interpretations and connects each story to various contemporary issues.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/19232>

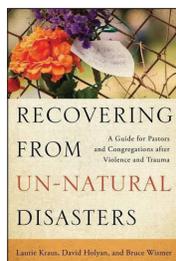


The Grace in Aging: Awaken as You Grow Older

by Kathleen Dowling Singh, Wisdom Publications, 2014

Inviting all those who have ever experienced spiritual longing, Dowling Singh suggests and explores causes and conditions that we can create in our everyday lives to allow awakening to unfold—transforming the predictable sufferings of aging into profound opportunities for growth in clarity, love, compassion, and peace.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/19229>

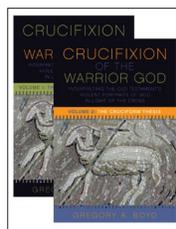


Recovering from Un-Natural Disasters: A Guide for Pastors and Congregations After Violence and Trauma

by Laurie Kraus, et al, Westminster John Knox Press, 2017

As news stories about gun violence, suicides, and sexual abuse become far too common, it's important for pastors and church leaders to learn how to handle un-natural disasters that could or already have occurred within their community. The authors break such disasters into four phases and provide suggestions and resources.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/19301>



The Crucifixion of the Warrior God: Interpreting the Old Testament's Violent Portraits of God in Light of the Cross

by Gregory A. Boyd, Augsburg Fortress, 2017

Reconciling God's violence in the Old Testament with the nonviolent teachings of Jesus in the New Testament has challenged Christians for millennia. Using what he labels a "cruciform hermeneutic," Boyd argues that the Bible's violent depictions of God bear witness to the same self-sacrificial nature ultimately revealed on the cross.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/13/19339>

LINK

We provide hundreds of links to videos and websites.



The Bible Project

by Timothy Mackie & Jonathan Collins

WEBSITE

Short-form, fully animated videos and accompanying podcasts and study guides make the biblical story accessible to everyone, everywhere, with a mission to help people see the Bible as a unified story.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/6/19283>



Wild Church Network WEBSITE

A growing network of congregations who are moving out of buildings and into a direct relationship with the land, water, animals, and through this into a deeper relationship with God.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/6/19308>



Radical Reformation

by Bruxy Cavey, The Meeting House, 2017

ONLINE VIDEO

A five-episode introduction to Anabaptism.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/48/19343>



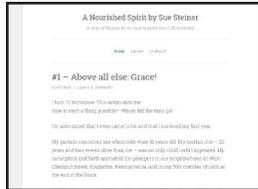
Conchies Speak: Ontario Mennonites in Alternative Service, 1941-46

ed. Lauren Harder-Gissing, Mennonite Archives of Ontario, 2017

ONLINE ARTICLE

Over 2,600 men from Ontario, mostly Mennonites between 21 and 24, joined the Alternate Service during WWII. On the 75th anniversary year this exhibit, showcasing letters, diaries, photographs and recorded interviews, lets them speak.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/6/19393>



A Nourished Spirit: A year of thanks-to-God to mark my 70th birthday by Sue Steiner, 2017

WEBSITE

A spiritual director and retired pastor from Kitchener, Ontario, Steiner gives thanks for the many persons, places, and experiences which have nourished her soul these past 70 years, and continue to do so.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/6/19380>



Fighting with Nonviolence

by Scilla Elworthy, Tedx, 2012

ONLINE VIDEO

How do you deal with a bully without becoming a thug? Elworthy maps out the skills we need to fight extreme force without using force in return and illustrates how nonviolence works by evoking historical heroes and their personal philosophies.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/48/19416>

Resources for

Outdoor Spirituality:



+ more

DOWNLOAD

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



The Parish Paper Series: Ideas and Insights for Active Congregations

Published monthly, The Parish Paper provides research-findings, and practical methods that strengthen the effectiveness of congregations in accomplishing God's purposes through their various ministries.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/52/15388>



Draw the Circle Wide: A Junior Youth Led Worship Service

by Duane Penner, Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship, 2017

A junior youth-led worship service on the theme of love, hospitality, and inclusion.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/43/19171>

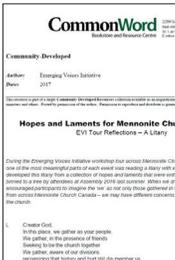


Washington Memo Worship Services

Mennonite Central Committee

Worship resources from the MCC USA Washington Office blog.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/74/19274>

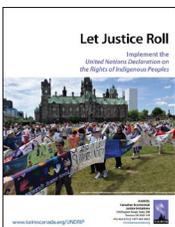


Hopes and Laments for Mennonite Church Canada: A Litany

by Emerging Voices Initiative, 2017

This litany was developed from a collection of hopes and laments that were written on paper leaves and pinned to a tree by attendees at Mennonite Church Canada Assembly 2016, and shared during the Emerging Voices Initiative workshop tour across the country in 2016/17.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/43/19285>



Let Justice Roll: Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Kairos Canada, 2017

A guide for taking action to ensure that the Government of Canada takes the necessary steps to revise federal legislation so that our legal framework is consistent with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/43/19311>



Love is a Verb: A One-Year Spiritual Practices Resource

by Leo Hartshorn, Mennonite Church USA, 2016

Weekly meditations, questions, exercises, actions and spiritual practices focusing first on 1 John's theme of loving one another, followed by the six streams of spirituality, as described by Richard Foster.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/43/19197>

OTHER NOTEWORTHY TITLES

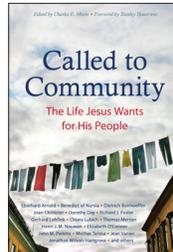


First Nations & Inuit: Traditional Names & Locations Map

by Aaron Carapella, Tribal Nations Maps, 2016

Utilizing the original tribal names and original pre-European-contact homelands for each Nation, this map is a visual reminder of those who have called this land home since time immemorial and can provide a better understanding for the non-Native public.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/35/19235>

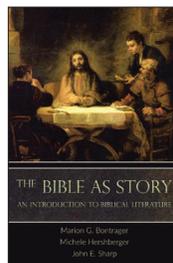


Called to Community: The Life Jesus Wants for His People

ed. Charles E. Moore, Plough Publishing House, 2016

Fifty-two chapters on living in community, written by people who have pioneered life in intentional settings and have discovered in the nitty-gritty what it takes to establish, nurture, and sustain a Christian community over the long haul.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/16/19407>



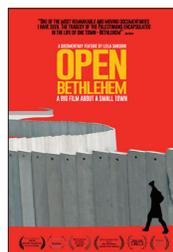
The Bible as Story: An Introduction to Biblical Literature

by Marion G. Bontrager, et al, Workplay Publishing, 2016

The biblical narrative has always been one overarching story of God interacting with people to bring healing from the devastating effects of sin. This book connects the dots between the Old and New Testaments, illustrating how the individual stories form the plot of the single Big Story.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/19401>

NEW DVDS FOR LOAN

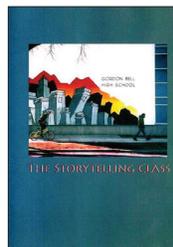


Open Bethlehem: A Big Film About a Small Town

by Leila Sansour, Open Bethlehem, 2013

Spanning seven years in the life of Bethlehem, this documentary reveals a city of astonishing beauty and political strife under occupation. While telling Sansour's story, the film charts the creation of a campaign to compel international action to bring peace to the Middle East.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/18/19192>



The Storytelling Class

Sedna Pictures, 2009

Trying to build bridges, Marc Kuly, a teacher at Gordon Bell High School in Winnipeg, initiates a storytelling project whereby immigrant students share stories with Canadian peers. A visit from Ishmael Beah, former child soldier in Sierra Leone, encourages the students to listen and find the commonality that has so long eluded them.

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/18/19293>

artist spotlight

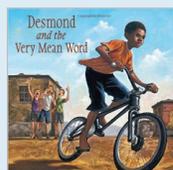


Wildart Photography by Shel Neufeld

CommonWord is pleased to offer beautiful scenic cards designed by Shel Neufeld. He personally shares from his heart on each card and offers a connection point, not only to the subject, but to himself as well.



books for kids



Desmond and the Very Mean Word by Desmond Tutu

Based on a true story from Archbishop Tutu's childhood in South Africa, this title reveals the power of words and the secret of forgiveness. Brought to vivid life in Ford's energetic illustrations, this heartfelt, relatable story conveys timeless wisdom about how to handle bullying and angry feelings, while seeing the good in everyone.

Hardcover \$16.99



Deep Blue Bible Storybook

The *Bible Storybook* contains 146 stories written in language young readers can understand. Plus, the *Bible Storybook* is organized in a way that helps children begin to learn the books of the Bible and practice beginning Bible skills. The illustrations are sure to delight young children. Also includes fun "piggyback" songs and prayers.

Hardcover \$27.99



Beautiful Hands by Kathryn Otoshi and Bret Baumgarten

Little hands can do so many wonderful things: plant ideas; stretch imaginations; and reach for dreams. Parents and educators will enjoy sharing the word play with young readers. Children will revel in the spectacular art created using thumb- and hand-prints.

Hardcover \$20.99



Let's Learn About the Lord's Prayer by Catherine DeVries

Through colorful art and a playful story, preschoolers will learn the meaning of the Lord's Prayer as they join four-year-old Emma for a day of play, prayer, and song!"

Board book \$9.99

CommonWord Curator highlights Anabaptist and related resources for the home and congregation that CommonWord Bookstore and Resource Centre makes available for sale, loan, or electronic download. This newsletter is distributed free to our subscribers and to Mennonite Church Canada congregations 10 times a year.

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CommonWord is a collaboration of Mennonite Church Canada and Canadian Mennonite University. The *Curator* succeeds the Mennonite Church Canada Resource Update, published from 1997-2014.

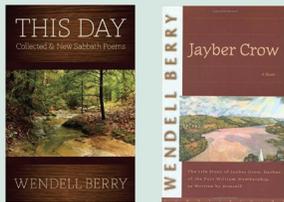
Editors: Arlyn Friesen Epp, Anita Neufeld

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author of the month

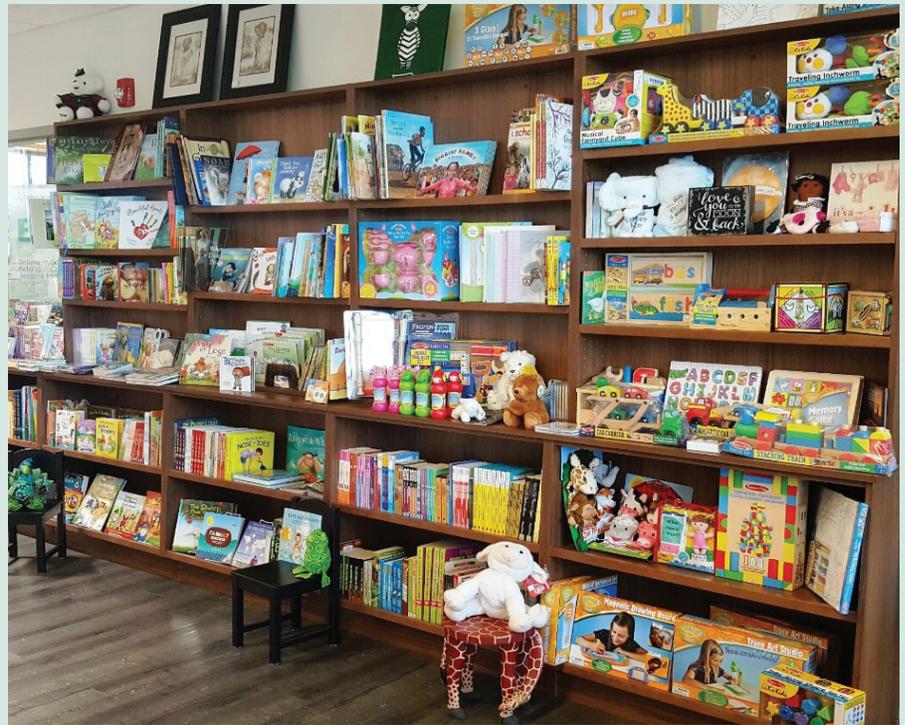
Wendell Berry

Wendell Berry is a conservationist, farmer, essayist, novelist, professor of English and poet. The author of more than 40 works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, Berry has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors. The theme of human responsibility to the earth is present in his many writings.



This Day: Collected & New Sabbath Poems and *Jayber Crow: A Novel* are some of Wendell Berry titles available at CommonWord.

in store spotlight



Our kids section is just one area of our unique store!



Secret Garden Terrarium
Made in India
\$45 | 6830320

The delicate bird perched atop the striking angles of the hexagonal glass terrarium invites you to let nature in. Root your favourite plants in light soil, then place near a window to watch them thrive. From the artisans of Noah's Ark International.

Noah's Ark is forty artisan groups together representing 300 full-time artisans working with metal, wood, jewellery and textiles. Your purchase supports their craft and helps provide a stable income.



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