

CALENDAR

We offer resources for...

- Feb 4 - Church Education Sunday
- Feb 21 - Ash Wednesday
- April 1 - Palm Sunday
- April 6 - Good Friday
- April 8 - Easter

Resource Update

- Highlights faith and church ministry resources that Mennonite Church Canada makes available by loan, sale or electronic download.
- Is distributed 10 times a year by Mennonite Church Canada in its congregational *Equipping* package.
- For a free personal email subscription to the **Resource Update** contact resources@mennonitechurch.ca
- Submissions of a special worship service, litany or celebration are always welcome. Share with us and other congregations!

- Links in the electronic publication are LIVE - just click to enter our website.

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Designer: Grant Klassen

Route to...

- Librarian
- Pastor(s)
- Worship Planners
- Education Coordinator
- Church Secretary

New for Lent

For additional Lent and Easter resources, check www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/132.



Blessed Hunger, Holy Feast At-Home

Booklet, by Elsie Rempel, Mennonite Church Canada, 2006. Worship resource for the family during Lent. Companion to the congregational worship materials in *Leader*, Winter 2006-07 periodical.

Bread and Wine, Orbis, 2003. Daily readings for Lent and Easter by a wide variety of spiritual writers.

Can These Bones Live? By David H. Kehret, Augsburg Fortress, 1999. Twelve dramas that follow the lectionary texts from Ash Wednesday through Pentecost.

Courage for Hallelujahs by Keri K.

Wehlander, United Church, 1997. Prayers, meditations, litanies, intergenerational events and worship services for Lent and Easter.

Eggs and Ashes by Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhill, Wildgoose, 2004. Liturgies, prayers, meditations, monologues written by Iona Community members.

Iona Dawn by Neil Paynter, Wildgoose, 2006. Biblical readings and reflections of the Holy Week by members of the Iona Community.

Lent and Easter Readings from Iona by Neil Paynter, Wildgoose, 2002. Devotional readings from members of the Iona Community.

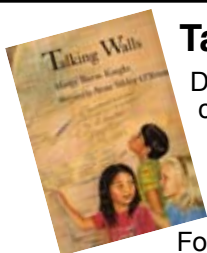
Scripture Out Loud by Marianne Houle and Jeffrey Phillips, Augsburg Fortress, 1999. Twelve dramatic readings that follow the lectionary texts from Ash Wednesday through Pentecost.

Scripture Alive Drama Series, CRC Publications. Intergenerational dramatic readings from scripture. The series includes 3 scripts for Lent and Easter: *It is Finished*, *Why Have You Forsaken Me?*, *The Triumphal Entry*.

Walking the Way of Sorrows by Katerina Katsarka Whitley and Noyes Capehart, Morehouse, 2004. Dramatic monologues and powerful blockcuts for each of the fourteen stations of the cross.

Childrens' Corner

Resources for the church library, home, Sunday School class or Sunday morning storyteller.



Talking Walls by Margy Burns Knight and Anne Sibley O'Brien.

Do you know about walls? Are they visible or invisible? Do they tell stories? Do they need to stay up or come down? Do you build walls? Would you tear them down? Can you imagine a world without walls? Introduces young readers to different cultures and different issues around the world by telling the stories of walls and how they can hold a community together or separate it.

This is a good companion piece to the 2007 Season of Prayer materials.

For additional children's books, check www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/Browse/75

New links worth noting:• **smalltallmusings.blogspot.com**

Bryan Moyer Suderman's blog where he writes "I love to write songs, try them out, and see if people find them useful and want to sing along. These are my musings on the miscellaneous meanderings of a musical ministry."

• **young.anabaptistradicals.org**

Young Anabaptist Radical's blog where they write, "As radical Anabaptists, we'd like to imagine together what it might mean to root our lived faith today (and tomorrow) in the spirit and soil of early Anabaptism. What does this mean politically? What does this mean socially? What does this mean theologically?"

• **www.bikemovement.org/index.php**

Bikemovement is a group of young adults that rode bicycles across the USA from July 10 to August 25, 2006 as an initiative to engage open conversation regarding their visions and perspectives for the church. Includes an electronic forum for continued conversation.

New online catalogue helps:• **Need help navigating the new online system?**

Select "How to Order" - www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/Ordering

• **Aren't sure about our loan policy? Wonder about shipping costs?** Select "Policy & Rates" - www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/Policy

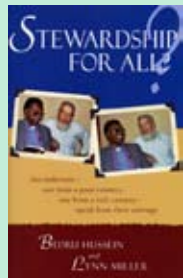
• **Have other questions?** Select "FAQ" - www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/FAQ

• **And, of course, we're only a phone call or email away** if you encounter difficulties. Select "Contact Us" - www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/Contact

Global Anabaptist-Mennonite Shelf of Literature:

Mennonite World Conference chooses one book annually in an effort to develop a common body of literature.

2006 selection: Stewardship for All by Bedru Hussein and Lynn Miller.



This book brings together two authors from two vastly different parts of the world to talk about stewardship. Their Ethiopian and American settings affect what they think the Old and New Testaments say about stewardship.

For a complete list of MWC Global Anabaptist-Mennonite Shelf of Literature, check www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/134

**In on the Action?****Top Rentals in 2006**

A Generous Orthodoxy by Brian McLaren, 2004.

Calls for a radical, Christ-centred orthodoxy of faith and practice in a missional, generous spirit.

Cloth for the Cradle, 2000. Contains a wealth of Advent and Christmas worship resources from the Iona Community.

Fish Eyes: On Stage (DVD), 2001. Both hilarious and haunting, Fish Eyes looks at familiar scriptures through the eyes of Peter and Andrew.

Fun Bible Skits 1 by David Morrow, Faith and Life Resources, 2005. Ready-to-go biblical scripts and activities for kids and congregations.

Let All Within Us Praise: Dramatic Resources for Worship by Patricia Shelly, Faith and Life Resources, 1996. 45 scripture-based reader's theatre scripts and 16 original songs.

Praying All Ways: A Multiple-Intelligences Approach to Prayer by Caroljean Willie. Through a myriad of prayer models, this book invites you to explore new ways to deepen your life of prayer.

Praying with our Feet by Lisa Weaver and Ingrid Hess, Herald Press, 2005. A children's story of a young girl's participation in a walk for peace, along with her parents and members of her church.

Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book, AMBS, 2005. Includes cycles of morning and evening prayers.

Tent of Meeting: A 25-Day Adventure with God by Julie Ellison White, Faith and Life Resources, 2004. A study guide to help youth grow spiritually through a variety of classical Christian disciplines.

The Circle of Life: The Heart's Journey through the Seasons by Joyce Rupp and Macrina Wiederkehr, 2005. Using reflections, poems, prayers, and meditations, the authors invite us to listen carefully and closely to the wisdom of each season.

The Radicals (DVD), 2004. The story of Michael and Margaretha Sattler dramatizing the origins of the Anabaptist movement in Europe in the early 16th Century.

The Secret Message of Jesus: Uncovering the Truth that could Change Everything by Brian McLaren, 2006. What if Jesus was right – but right in different ways than we ever realized?

Words for Worship by Arlene Mark, Herald Press, 1995. Collection of prayers, litanies and blessings to enrich and deepen corporate worship.

A sower went forth... This book is a collection of Jake Pauls' sermons. He has served more than 50 years in pastoral ministry. They engage the church to join a very personal journey from critical self examination - on the basis of solid biblical texts and biblical scholarship - toward confident discipleship in the world. Jake F. Pauls. Mennonite Church Manitoba, 2006



Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What With anxiety intensifying and penetrating more and more areas of our lives, leaders cannot be as anxious as the people they serve. Steinke inspires courage in leaders to maintain the course, unearth secrets, resist sabotage, withstand fury, and overcome timidity or doubts. Peter L. Steinke, The Alban Institute, 2006



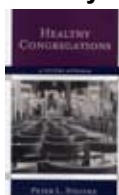
Emily's Story: !Explore (DVD) Emily was a 2006 participant in !Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth at AMBS. The DVD follows her through her journey of being called into this unique program by her congregation. (Applications for participating in !Explore for summer 2007 are due by the end of February 2007. Check www.amb.edu/explore) Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, 2006



Remembering Russia 1914 - 1927: War and the end of Mennonite Tranquility, DVD Winnipeg film-maker Otto Klassen was born in Russia and has spent a lifetime chronicling the Russian Mennonite experience. This DVD offers a historical snapshot of the cataclysmic events leading to the immigration of the Russian Mennonites to Canada in the 1920's. Mennonite Central Committee, 2006



Healthy Congregations: A Systems Approach Steinke takes readers into a deeper exploration of the congregation as an emotional system. Learn ten principles of health, how congregations can adopt new ways of dealing with stress and anxiety, how spiritually and emotionally healthy leaders influence the emotional system, factors that could put your congregation at risk, and more. Peter L. Steinke, The Alban Institute, 2006



How Your Church Family Works: Understanding Congregations as Emotional Systems Drawing on the work of Bowen, Friedman, and his own many years' of counseling experience, Steinke shows how to recognize and deal with the emotional roots of such issues as church conflict, leadership roles, congregational change, irresponsible behavior, and the effects of family of origin on current relationships. Discover why working relationships may be "stuck" in certain behaviors. (2nd edition), by Peter L. Steinke, The Alban Institute, 2006



Living in Colour: Embracing God's Passion for Ethnic Diversity The author carefully unpacks how Christians should think about racial and cultural identity, demonstrating that ethnically diverse communities have always been God's intent for his people. With profound wisdom from his own Native American heritage and experience, Woodley's voice adds a distinctive perspective to contemporary discussions of racial reconciliation and multiethnicity. Includes a study guide. Randy Woodley, InterVarsity Press, 2001.



Nurturing Spirit Through Song: The Life of Mary K. Oyer (Book and DVD) A look at the remarkable life of Oyer and her contributions to church-related music and hymnody. As a teacher, she opened the worlds of music, visual art, and architecture to two generations of students at Goshen (IN) College, and over the years the visual and musical literacy of the church was enlarged. book edited by Rebecca Slough & Shirley Sprunger King, Cascadia Publishing House, 2007. DVD, Mennonite Media Productions, 2006



Pathways to Leadership: Training for Young Leaders ages 9-12; A Manual for Church Planners and Mentors This program has been designed to help your congregational leaders determine the need for a leadership event for junior youth and adult mentors in your congregation, community or region. The objectives of the event: To develop in each junior youth participant a repertoire of leadership skills for use in their congregation and community and to involve each adult participant in actively participating in "their" junior youth's skill development. June Holohan, The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 2006.



Searching for Sacred Ground: The Journey of Chief Lawrence Hart, Mennonite The story of nationally known Cheyenne Peace Chief Lawrence Hart. Hinz-Penner's interest is sparked by hearing Chief Hart speak of the destined intersection of his own Cheyenne people on the plains of Oklahoma with Hinz-Penner's ancestors - the Mennonites called in 1880 to set up schools to educate the Cheyenne people on their Oklahoma reservation. Raylene Hinz-Penner, Cascadia Publishing House, 2007



Food Basket Toolkit This toolkit is for churches, schools and other groups who want to learn about food issues and MCC food projects around the world. Includes a four-session curriculum with DVD and a variety of children's activities. Mennonite Central Committee, 2006



Statistics and Dreams

I'm writing this *Resource Update* as I return to the Resource Centre for a New Year. It's allowed time for some reflection:

I am grateful for:

- The numerous emails of encouragement and calls of appreciation as we work together to resource our congregations and families.
- Steady circulation of resources. We have kept pace with last year's high numbers (a jump of 42% from 2004).
- The 106 MC Canada congregations that I had direct contact with this past year, 60% of whom were from outside Manitoba.
- E-commerce and our partnership with Mennonite Publishing Network.
- With the help of Anita Neufeld, administrative assistant, we made many additional changes to the online catalogue, a significant initiative to make resources accessible in a one-stop location.
- Travels, where I have met some of you during workshops, worship, or around the display table at area church settings.

I look ahead to 2007 and am excited about:

- Emerging partnerships with other Mennonite resource providers in Canada.
- Our growing collection of electronic congregational-produced resources we're calling "From Our Churches."
- The Resource Advocates recently appointed in each of our area churches. They will be meeting in Winnipeg, January 25-27, and be equipped to serve as liaisons between congregations and the Resource Centre. More information will be forthcoming in the next *Resource Update*.
- Continued partnership in your local ministries whether we meet in person, talk by phone or email, or communicate on our website.

God's blessings to you, your family and congregation in this New Year! - Arlyn

From our Press

New from Mennonite Publishing Network

Available from the Resource Centre for a free preview loan.
To purchase, order online
(www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/home)
or call MPN at 1-800-631-6535.

Psalms: Believer's Church Bible Commentary



The influence of the Psalms is immense both in terms of the worship of God's people and in the spiritual experience of countless individuals. This readable commentary aims to help readers find their way through the Psalms, encounter God, and be led into obedience and praise.

James H. Waltner, Herald Press, 2006

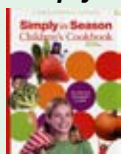
Roundabout. The quarterly newsletter of



Gather 'Round. Distribute to teachers, pastors and church leaders to help them stay informed about Gather

'Round. Download the Winter 2006-07 copy at www.gatherround.org/news/Roundabout.winter.06.pdf

Simply in Season Children's Cookbook: Fun



with Food from Garden to Table This colourful cookbook will help children ages 6-12 make the connection between what they eat, where it comes from, and when it is in season. Mark

Beach & Julie Kauffman, 2006

Simply in Season Leader's Study Guide:



Connect Food and Faith while Exploring the Value of Eating Local, Seasonal Food Based on the seasons and themes in Simply in Season. This leader's guide contains Bible reflections, discussion questions, group activities, and ways to integrate local food into each session. Includes six core sessions and seven optional

ones. Rachel Miller Moreland, Herald Press, 2006

Vacation Bible School 2007: Be Bold! God is



With You This year's Mennonite VBS material challenges children to put their trust in the steadfast love of God. Free sample materials and ordering information at www.mph.org/vbs.

Phone Service

Mennonite Church Canada has moved to an automated phone system (Wednesdays and Fridays). To reach the Resource Centre, press:

"#152"