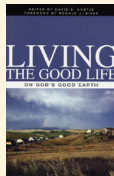




MC Canada Assembly Discernment Themes: Resources for your perusal before Abbotsford 07.

Creation Care



Living the Good Life on God's Good Earth. This adult study (10 seminars) is a compelling invitation to live out our calling as caretakers of God's good earth in our dailyw living. Includes study guide. Ed., David Koetie, Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2006.

➔ **For more creation care resources, see**
www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/79

Peace/Militarization



Second Mile: A Peace Journey for Congregations. Invites congregations and small groups to enter a journey of worship, study, action and reflection that will help them become active signs of Christ's peace in a broken world.

➔ **For more peace resources, see**
www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/184

Young Adults in the Church



They Like Jesus but not the Church: Insights from Emerging Generations. Explores six of the most common objections emerging generations have about the church. Each chapter raises the objection, provides a biblical response, and gives examples of how churches are addressing this objection. By Dan Kimball, Zondervan, 2007.

➔ **For more young adult resources, see**
www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/189

CALENDAR

We offer resources for...

May 27: Pentecost
www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/164

July 8: Assembly Sunday
www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/238

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.

Editor: Arlyn Friesen Epp

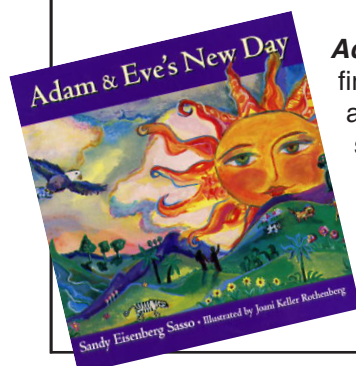
Designer: Katharina Nuss

Route to...

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

Children's Corner

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



Adam and Eve's New Day. This is the story of Adam and Eve's first test of trust and faith - how they learn to get through the night and not be afraid of the dark. Your child will delight in turning the sturdy pages to see and explore Adam and Eve's world in the Garden of Eden. By Sandy Eisenberg Sasso; illustrated by Joani Keller Rothenberg, Skylight Paths Publishing, 2006.

➔ **For additional children's books, check**
www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/168



In on the Action?

March's Top Requests

God's Story, Our Story. An introduction to the Christian faith from an Anabaptist perspective. Great catechism resource. By Michele Hershberger, Faith and Life Resources, 2003.

Children and Prayer: A Shared Pilgrimage. Demonstrates how the adult can model the life of prayer for children while at the same time help them grow in their own unique prayer life with God. By Betty Shannon Cloyd, Upper Room Books, 1997.

An Inconvenient Truth: A Global Warning DVD. A wake-up call that cuts through myths and misconceptions to deliver the message that global warming is a real and present danger. Paramount Pictures, 2006.

Making Disciples: Preparing People for Baptism, Christian Living and Church Membership. A catechism teaching manual. By April Yamasaki, Faith and Life Resources, 2003.

Praying All Ways: A Multiple Intelligences Approach to Prayer. A fresh perspective on the many ways we can pray. By Caroljean Willie, Harcourt Publishers.

Fun Bible Skits 1: Ready-to-go scripts and activities for kids and congregations. A good resource for congregational worship, Sunday school or mid-week children's programs. By David Morrow, Faith and Life Resources, 2005.

Read the Book: A Reading Record for the Whole Bible. A chart designed for youth to make the full reading of the Bible as interesting, fun, and un-bewildering as possible. Faith and Life Resources, 2006.

The Prayer Path: A Christ-centred labyrinth experience. A multi-media labyrinth experience. Group Publishing, 2000.

Library Hint:

Attention Church Librarians:

I trust you see the Resource Centre (www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre) as an extension of the important work that you do locally! Can you help bridge this relationship for your congregation, by:

- Directing borrowers to our online catalogue when your church library may not have the requested title.
- Regularly announcing your library's "partnership" with the wider church's Resource Centre library— in your bulletin, newsletter, church website (with link), etc.
- Making available these *Resource Updates* for borrower's perusal and keeping.

MC Canada's Resource Centre complements your church library in these ways:

- Our entire collection is available to peruse online.
- We have all Mennonite Publishing Network titles for loan (to preview) and for purchase (e-commerce).
- The shipping of loan books is free – both ways.
- All MC Canada materials are available for free download.

Thank you for nurturing this partnership!

Did you attend one of these recent conferences?

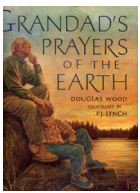
We have related resources!

Refreshing Winds at Canadian Mennonite University. See our Marva Dawn collection at www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/210

Pastor's Week at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary. See our Rodney Clapp collection at www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/214

MCEC School for Ministers at Conrad Grebel University College. See our Reginald Bibby collection at www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/212

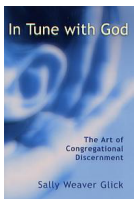
Children and Death:



Grandad's Prayers of the Earth. There are many ways to pray, says Grandad as he walks with his grandson in the woods. Although the boy is never sure that he hears the prayers himself, being with Grandad seems to make the world seem just right. Then one day, Grandad is gone and the boy is heartbroken. Now, more than ever, he needs to hear Grandad's prayers of the Earth and to find the words to make his own prayers. Will the world ever seem just right again? By Douglas Wood, Candlewick Press, 1999.

➔ **For more children's resources on death, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/220**

Gift Discernment:

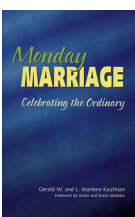


In Tune With God: The Art of Congregational Discernment. Is God calling us to start a daycare in our neighbourhood? Whom shall we call as our next pastor? May we serve communion to believers who are not yet baptized? How does our congregation describe its mission? This book helps congregations

learn how to make decisions in healthy ways - focused on God's purposes, and growing in truth and love. Works best in a congregational study setting. By Sally Weaver Glick, Herald Press, 2004.

➔ **For more gift discernment resources, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/81**

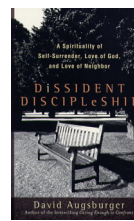
Marriage Enrichment:



Monday Marriage: Celebrating the Ordinary. In this uplifting portrait of Christian marriage, experienced family counselors Gerald and Marlene Kaufman encourage spouses to discard unrealistic pop-culture fantasies of what marriage ought to look like, and to see it as a covenant between imperfect people living in the real world, the world that begins on Monday morning. By Gerald and Marlene Kaufman, Herald Press, 2005.

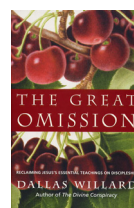
➔ **For more marriage enrichment resources, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/226**

Discipleship:



Dissident Discipleship: A Spirituality of Self-Surrender, Love of God, and Love of Neighbour. Augsburger discerns two dominant strains of spirituality in the modern church. The first is focused on self-growth and self-enlightenment, and the second is focused almost entirely vertically by encouraging a deeper

personal relationship with God. While there is a need for care of self and a deeper relationship with God, Augsburger shows that churches must nurture a third type of spirituality that combines the best of the other two types and adds to them a horizontal commitment to love of neighbour manifesting itself in service. By David Augsburger, Brazos Press, 2006.

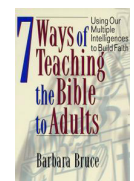


The Great Omission: Reclaiming Jesus' Essential Teachings on Discipleship. Often Christians have responded to Jesus' Great Commission by making "Christians," not "disciples." This, according to Willard, has been the church's "Great Omission." He calls on believers to restore what should be the heart of Christianity - being

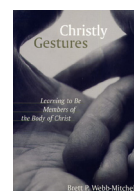
active disciples of Jesus Christ. By Dallas Willard, HarperCollins, 2006.

➔ **For other discipleship resources, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/230**

Education:



7 Ways of Teaching the Bible to Adults: Using Our Multiple Intelligences to Build Faith. This book shows teachers of adults how to use styles of learning to enhance the student's experience and enrich their own teaching. A chapter is devoted to each of the seven styles: verbal, independent, social, visual, physical, musical and logical. By Barbara Bruce, Abingdon Press, 2000.

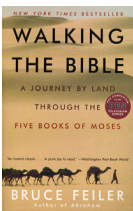


Christly Gestures: Learning to Be Members of the Body of Christ. Christian education must not only nurture the minds and spiritual lives of church members but also educate their bodies into the "Christly gestures" — performing acts of faith that imitate Jesus and embody the

gospel in daily life. By Brett P. Webb-Mitchell, Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2003.

➔ **For other Church Education resources, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/178.**

Spiritual Geography:



Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land through the Five books of Moses. Both a heart-racing adventure and an uplifting quest, *Walking the Bible* describes one man's epic odyssey – by foot, jeep, rowboat, and camel – through the greatest stories ever told. From crossing the Red Sea to climbing Mt. Sinai to touching the

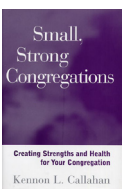
burning bush, Bruce Feiler's inspiring journey will forever change your view of some of history's most storied events. By Bruce Feiler, HarperCollins, 2001. Also see other new Feiler titles, *Abraham* and *Where God was Born*.

➔ **For more resources on spiritual geography, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/224**

Small Church ministry:



The Indispensable Guide for Smaller Churches. Ray expands on such subjects as communal theology, theories and tools for understanding smaller churches, worship, education, and finance. By David R. Ray, Pilgrim Press, 2003.



Small, Strong Congregations: Creating Strengths and Health for Your Congregation. Written to be a hands-on guide, this resource offers practical suggestions for creating mission and service, self-reliance and self-sufficiency, worship and hope, teams and leaders, space and facilities, and giving and generosity. By Kennon L. Callahan, Jossey-Bass, 2000.

➔ **For more small church ministry resources, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/216**

➔ **Also see rural congregations, www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/218**

Vacation Bible School:



2007 VBS Curriculum: Be Bold! God is With You. Mennonite Publishing Network's curriculum that challenges children to put their trust in the steadfast God whose message is always the same: "Do not be afraid, for I am with you." Each day's worship time introduces a new Bible

story through lively drama and singing. Ten interactive "Courage Connection" stations provide hands-on learning and fun to reinforce the theme.

➔ **For more Vacation Bible School resources, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/82**

Safe Church Policies:

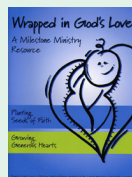


Screening Volunteers: MC Canada Policies.

Volunteers are a vital and core component of church life. Some volunteer positions carry a particularly high level of trust and responsibility, and involve working with those who are more vulnerable, such as children and youth. In today's society, all organizations, including churches, are being held accountable for the proper recruitment and screening of these volunteers. Includes downloadable Screening Guide, Job Description form, Reference Check form.

➔ **For more safe church policy resources, see www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/Browse/981**

Wrapped in God's Love: A Milestone Ministry Resource.



Celebrating milestones along life's journey strengthens and nurtures the faith of the individual and the congregation. This guide highlights a variety of moments in a child's faith journey (from birth to age 18) and helps mark those "rites of passage" as "receiving" and "giving" events. Each milestone is celebrated as the reception of God's blessing and as an opportunity for responding in stewardship and gratitude.

A sample copy is enclosed in this (May 2007) Equipping package, or can be borrowed from the Resource Centre.

CATALOGUE TOOL TIPS

As my congregation's bulletin designer, I am aware that Mennonite Church Canada runs regular church announcements which I wish to include in our bulletin. How do I find them?

- Type [church announcements] in the keyword field. This lists the current month's *Prayer, Notes and News*.
- Or, click [MC Canada Resources], then [Newsletters/Periodicals] to locate the *Prayer, Notes and News*.

For other frequently asked questions, check www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/169