

## CALENDAR

### Summer:

Assembly Sunday – [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/238](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/238)

Camp Sunday – [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/267](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/267)

Vacation Bible School – [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/82](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/82)

Summer worship – [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/259](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/259)

### Fall:

Labour Day – [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/257](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/257)

Sunday School Promotion – [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/256](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/256)

## 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](mailto: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: Katharina Nuss

### Route to...

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

## God's People Now!

Face to Face with Mennonite Church Canada



Robert J. Suderman

### God's People Now: Face to Face with Mennonite Church Canada, by Robert J. Suderman.

In 2006, Robert Suderman, General Secretary of Mennonite Church Canada, visited more than two hundred congregations of MC Canada on what he called a "listening tour." In this book Suderman presents what he heard. Relying heavily on direct, unedited quotes from more than 300 hours of face-to-face meetings with the grassroots of Mennonite Church Canada, Suderman offers a glimpse of the denomination's needs, wants, and concerns.

➔ **Preview the first 20 pages of this book at [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/245](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/245).**

Sale copies will be available in late June – and at the Assembly. To pre-order, call Kathy Shantz at Mennonite Publishing Network, 1-800-631-6535.

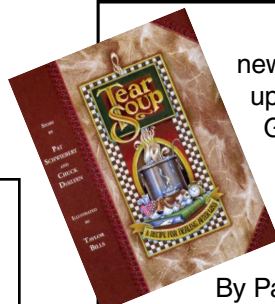
**NEW!**

## MC Canada Assembly Materials

- **Registration and Report Book** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/68](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/68)
- **2006-07 Audited Financial statements** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/266](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/266)
- **Assembly Sunday worship materials** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/238](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/238)
- **Faith and Life Committee resources** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/263](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/263)
- **2006 Assembly Minutes** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/264](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/264)
- **Discernment Themes:**
  - **Creation care** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/79](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/79)
  - **Peace/Militarization** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/184](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/184)
  - **Young Adults in the Church** [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/189](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/189)

## Children's Corner

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



**Tear Soup: A Recipe for Healing after Loss.** In this richly illustrated new book, Grandy has just suffered a big loss in her life, and so she is cooking up her own unique batch of "tear soup." *Tear Soup* gives you a glimpse into Grandy's life as she blends different ingredients into her own grief process. Her tear soup will help to bring her comfort and ultimately help to fill the void in her life that was created by her loss.

"Cooking Tips" to use in dealing with grief are also included after the story. By Pat Schwiebert and Chuck Deklyen; illustrated by Taylor Bills, GriefWatch, 1999.

➔ **For additional children's books, see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/168](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/168)**



## In on the Action?

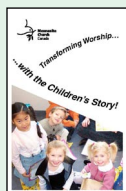
### April's Top Requests

**Gifts of Many Cultures: Worship Resources for the Global Community.** A diverse anthology of original prayers, poetry, stories and readings for sermons, invocations, calls to worship, from across the world. Edited by Maren Tirabassi and Kathy Wonson Eddy, Pilgrim Press, 1995.

**Remembering Russia: 1914-1927: War and the end of Mennonite Tranquility.** This DVD offers a historical snapshot of the cataclysmic events leading to the immigration of the Russian Mennonites to Canada in the 1920's. By Otto Klassen, 2006.

**Nooma: Rich.** A DVD that examines "what is enough?" Featuring Rob Bell. Zondervan Publishing, 2006.

**Affluenza DVD.** A fantastic look at one of the greatest social maladies of our time: over consumption and materialism. Includes study guide. Bullfrog Films, 1997.



**Transforming Worship ...With the Children's Story**, by Elsie Rempel. The children's story can be that part of the worship service where we focus on children as an integral part of the worshiping family of God; inviting them to open their hearts and wills to the loving heart and will and story of God. By using sound theology and clear communication strategies we connect well with children and also help adults to worship more fully.

➔ Download at [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/268](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/268)



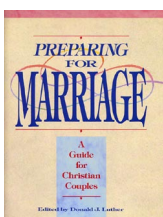
Also, check out our **online children's story** collection, including stories for the Sundays in June.

➔ Download at [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/126](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/126)

## New Resources

For a complete list of new acquisitions, check [www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/NewResources](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/NewResources)

### Marriage



**Preparing for Marriage: A Guide for Christian Couples.** How can two people who are engaged to be married explore their expectations, potential areas of conflict, and the meaning and challenges of marriage? This workbook provides helpful guidance, useful inventories, places to jot down responses, and

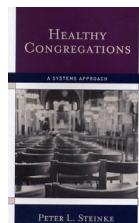
discussion starters that will help a couple learn more about themselves, their relationship, and their hopes for the future. By Donald Luther, Augsburg Fortress.



**Lasting Marriage: The Owner's Manual.** Based on the premise that relationships need the same kind of care and maintenance we give other valued possessions, this "manual" looks at premarital preparation, relationship maintenance, and sustaining a healthy marriage during the childrearing years. By Harvey Yoder, Herald Press, 2007.

➔ For other marriage resources, see - [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/278](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/278)

### Family Systems Theory

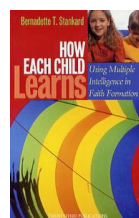


**Healthy Congregations: A Systems Approach.** Steinke takes readers into a deeper exploration of the congregation as an emotional system. Learn ten principles of health, how congregations can adopt new ways of dealing with stress and anxiety, how spiritually and emotionally healthy leaders influence the emotional

system, factors that could put your congregation at risk, and more. By Peter Steinke, Alban Institute, 2006.

➔ For more resources on Family Systems Theory, see - [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/280](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/280)

### Multiple Intelligences

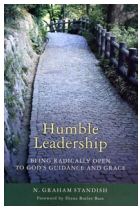


**How Each Child Learns: Using Multiple Intelligence in Faith Formation.** What can you do about the child in your Sunday School class who is always humming a tune or just can't sit still? How do you reach the thinker, the poet, and the artist with the basic teachings of the faith and insure that their experience of God is

positive and nurturing? This book shows how the theory of multiple intelligence can be used to creatively teach religion to children. By Bernadette Stankard, Twenty-Third Publications, 2003.

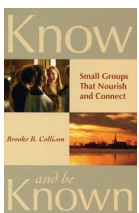
➔ **For more resources on multiple intelligences, see - [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/85](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/85)**

## Pastoral Leadership, from the Alban Institute



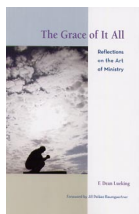
### Humble Leadership: Being Radically Open to God's Guidance and Grace.

Standish offers advice on how to gain greater humility and sustain it in the face of the pressures all leaders face. He discusses self aware leadership, wherein you understand your personality type; the need for prayerful discernment; overcoming divisiveness to be a unifying force; being spirit-led; and being effective through the practice of humility in all things. By N. Graham Standish, Alban Institute, 2007.



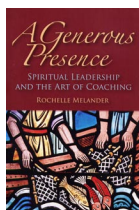
### Know and be Known: Small Groups that Nourish and Connect.

The book's rationale for developing a small group program in a church is simple: as small groups nourish personal relationships and connectedness, they also nourish churches. These small groups are not organized to accomplish a task. The point is not to tie members down to another committee meeting; rather, the focus is on building interpersonal relationships. By creating these close bonds between members, the congregation as a whole becomes stronger and better able to carry out the mission God has called it to in the world. By Brooke B. Collison, Alban Institute, 2007.



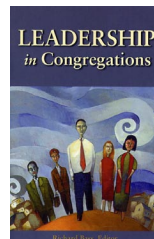
### The Grace of It All: Reflections on the Art of Ministry.

This is an invitation to a conversation on the pastoral life. The author shares the fruits and foibles of his 50 years in parish ministry. *The Grace of It All* offers a glimpse of a larger vision for one's life and ministry that comes not from within but from God. By F. Dean Lueking, Alban Institute, 2007.



### A Generous Presence: Spiritual Leadership and the Art of Coaching.

A collection of story-driven essays about the philosophy, tools, and work of coaching that is designed to support all spiritual leaders in deepening and enriching their personal and professional relationships. By practicing the coaching tools Melander offers, spiritual leaders will be better equipped to guide those they work with toward accepting the past, creating a life vision, and setting goals for the future. By Rochelle Melander, Alban Institute, 2007.



**Leadership in Congregations.** This new book in Alban's Harvesting the Learnings Series gathers the collected wisdom of over 10 years of Alban research and reflection on what it means to be a leader in a congregation, how our perceptions of leadership are changing, and exciting new directions for leadership in the future. This volume gathers in one place a variety of essays that approach the leadership task and challenge with insight, depth, humour, and imagination. Edited by Richard Bass, Alban Institute, 2007.

➔ **We have all recent (and many past) Alban titles in our collection. See [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/276](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/276)**

## Website Window

Anabaptist Online Resources

**Preview before you buy:  
Borrow items produced by Mennonite resource providers, from the Resource Centre:**

Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/33](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/33)

Canadian Mennonite University  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/271](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/271)

Cascadia Publishing  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/34](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/34)

Good Books  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/35](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/35)

Korea Anabaptist Press  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/272](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/272)

Mennonite Central Committee  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/36](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/36)

Mennonite Disaster Service  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/273](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/273)

Mennonite Foundation  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/274](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/274)

Mennonite Media  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/37](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/37)

Mennonite Mutual Aid  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/38](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/38)

Mennonite Publishing Network  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/39](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/39)

Mennonite World Conference  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/40](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/40)

Pandora Press  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/41](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/41)

SmallTall Music  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/42](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/42)

## 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](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/home))  
or call MPN at 1-800-631-6535.



**Sing the Story: Hymnal A Worship Book Supplement II.** Uses the seasons of the church year from Advent to Pentecost to tell the story of the life, ministry, death, resurrection and reign of Jesus Christ through song and word.

Also coming soon: *Sing the Story Accompaniment Resource* and *Sing the Story CD*.



**With Heart & Hands.** A collection of 18 arrangements of hymns from *Sing the Journey* and *Sing the Story*, the two supplemental volumes to *Hymnal: A Worship Book*. The scores are designed for piano offertories, preludes and other performed music in worship.



**Close to Home.** A pamphlet series addressing difficult issues (addictions, compulsive behaviours, mental disorders, experiences of abuse) from an Anabaptist perspective. For your church foyer, pastoral visitation, gifts to loved ones, small group discussion-starters.



**Wrestling with God: Devotional Readings for Men.** For men who want to get in touch with God inside the struggles of their lives. It contains five articles on the spiritual life and 52 short devotionals based on the stories of biblical men, from Genesis to the letters of Paul. Written prayers and reflection questions make the book handy for personal and group use. Faith and Life Resources, 2007.

## CATALOGUE TOOL TIPS

**Our congregation is hoping to invite an MC Canada speaker for a resource event. Is there a listing of preachers or workshop leaders?**

Yes!

- Type [guest speaker] in the keyword field. This brings forward our Speakers' Bureau
- Or, click [advanced search] and from the drop-down list under "Resource Type," select [Resource Person]. This gives a listing of people who are available to give leadership in a variety of capacities.
- Or, click [MC Canada resources] and then select [Speakers' Bureau].



For other frequently asked questions, check [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/169](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/169)

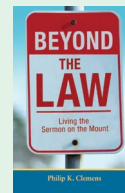
**Freely You Have Received, Freely Give.** New Canadian Women in Mission 13-session study guide, now published by Faith and Life Resources, 2007.



**Vacation Bible School 2007: Be Bold! God is With You.**

This year's Mennonite VBS material was recently ranked 1<sup>st</sup> choice in The Episcopal Teacher magazine - [www.vts.edu/ftpimages/95/misc/misc\\_41316.pdf](http://www.vts.edu/ftpimages/95/misc/misc_41316.pdf). Free sample materials and

ordering information at [www.mph.org/vbs](http://www.mph.org/vbs). Faith and Life Resources, 2007.



**Beyond the Law: Living the Sermon on the Mount.**

A layperson's guide to discovering how God lives and moves among ordinary people. By focusing on themes of righteousness, community and blessing, Clemens illustrates how the Sermon on the Mount opens new avenues of discipleship when received not as law but as Jesus' generous welcome to people from all walks of life. By Philip K. Clemens, Herald Press, 2007.



**Viviendo las Primicias: Dando a Dios lo Mejor de Nosotros.**

God calls us to "firstfruits living". This means returning to God the best part of God's gifts to us. Giving God the firstfruits of our income, our time, our entire lives, we spread God's new way through society like yeast transforms dough. A 2007 Spanish translation of an earlier book by Lynn A. Miller, Herald Press.

## Announcements

### Spring Cleaning?

The Resource Centre can be your repository for last Sunday's special litany, last month's unique worship service, or last season's creative drama. We are often asked for current, tested resources from our congregations: youth services, poetry, drama, litanies, readers' theatre, music, intergenerational ideas. Please help us out! Email ([resources@mennonitechurch.ca](mailto:resources@mennonitechurch.ca)) your copy of a special service or celebration and we'll pass it on!

### Summer Schedule:

Please note that Arlyn will be at the **MC Canada Assembly** in Abbotsford, July 3-6 and will then be taking holidays. Anita will also be taking holidays in July. The Resource Centre will remain open for walk-in traffic, but will be staffed only on a partial basis in July.