

Discipleship Resources

Advent Guide, Presbyterians Today – An 8-page booklet of daily meditations, prayers and Scripture readings, published in the November issue and available to order separately. www.pcusa.org/today

Biblical Themes in Children's Literature, Presbyterians Today a 10-part series of Bible studies (adult level) with discussion guides (grades 5-8 level), by MaryAnn McKibben Dana, associate pastor of Burke (Va.) Presbyterian Church. Available for ordering in PDF format with accompanying discussion guides as they are published monthly. www.pcusa.org/today

Lenten Devotional Guide, Presbyterians Today

A booklet of daily meditations, prayers and Scripture readings, published in the January/February issue and available for ordering separately. www.pcusa.org/today 2008 Lenten guide, 68-270-07-017; 2009 Lenten guide 12116 08 012

Lifelong Faith: the theory and practice of lifelong faith formation (journal) through Lifelong Faith Associates, LLC. Find more information at lifelongfaith.com

Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study and Children's Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study, Mission Interpretation team, General Assembly Council, 2009. www.pcusa.org/missionyearbook

Presbyterians Today – the 48-page, full-color *general-interest magazine of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, published 10 times a year. *Presbyterians Today* offers news, information about the church, stories about people and mission, articles about what Presbyterians believe, book and film reviews and more. Individual subscriptions, \$19.95; church plans also available. www.pcusa.org/today

Professing our Faith: A Confirmation Curriculum. Louisville, KY: Congregational Ministries Publishing, 2005.

This confirmation curriculum presents lessons that teach youth the Biblical foundations and theology of the Apostles' Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer. Additionally, this curriculum invites young people to explore the meaning of their baptism and their participation at the Lord's Table, and to learn about church polity, stewardship, spiritual practices, worship, and mission. There is a Leader's Guide, a 35-session student book and an 8-session student book. The 35-session study includes sessions for use at Christmas and Easter and it is designed for use during a school year. The 8-session format can be used as a stand-alone confirmation program. PDS # 623007-08.

Steward-Living as Disciples in Everyday Life. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2000.

This is a 12-week study resource for small groups. It is grounded in Biblical understandings of the role of steward as the faithful response of Christian disciples. Each session begins with Old and New Testament Scriptures and then explores the ways in which we live our faith in the ordinary, daily routine of our lives. The study offers the following resources:

1) Training Manual and Leader's Guide, ISBN-10: 0-68709-914-6, 2) Training Video, ISBN-10:0-68709-934-X, 3) Participant's Manual, and Session Videos, ISBN/UPC: 0-68709-964-1.

When God's People Travel Together; Volume 1, - A Trip Leader's Planning Guide; Volume 2: Reflecting and Acting on Mission Trip Experiences; Volume 3: Bible Studies for Mission; World Mission and the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, ministries of the General Assembly Council. PDS 2435807014, 3-volume set

Bass, Diana Butler & Stewart-Sicking, Joseph, *From Nomads to Pilgrims: Stories from Practicing Congregations*. Herndon, VA: Alban Institute, 2006

"Including stories from a variety of faith traditions across the U.S., this book explores how intentional congregations develop, how they negotiate the demands of interpreting traditional Christian practices in a postmodern culture, and how these practices lead to congregational and personal transformation. Each chapter is an instructive case study, illustrating a unique expression of the vitality experienced by a congregation that intentionally reclaims a traditional Christian practice." . ISBN# 1-56699-323-7

Bass, Diana Butler, *Christianity for the Rest of Us*. New York, NY: Harper San Francisco, 2006.

This hopeful book, which includes a study guide for groups and individuals, reveals the practical steps that leaders and laypeople alike are taking to proclaim an alternative message about an emerging Christianity that strives for greater spiritual depth and proactively engages the needs of the world. ISBN: 978-0-06085-949-7

Bass, Dorothy C. & Richter, Don C., Ed., *Way To Live: Christian Practices for Teens*. Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 2002. Through teen-friendly language and relevant examples, this resource uses stories and ideas that make Christian practices come alive. Practices such as forgiveness, work, play, stuff, justice, prayer, food, and time are discussed as ways to nourish a more meaningful life offered by Jesus Christ. Great for youth ministry and small group study, this book is perfect for individual use too. Find even more stories and conversations plus a Leader's Guide at www.waytolive.org, a web site for youth and youth leaders. ISBN# 0-83580-975-7

Bass, Dorothy C., ed., *Practicing our Faith*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 1997. This book explores the stuff of everyday life, placing ordinary activities in a biblical and historical context, and discovering in them opportunities to realize God's active presence in life. Practices include: Honoring the body, Hospitality, Household economics, Saying yes and saying no, Keeping Sabbath, Testimony, Discernment, Shaping communities, Forgiveness, Healing. ISBN: 978-0-78793-883-3

Beasley, Gabrielle, *Interactive Sessions for Faith in Action: Understanding Development Ministries from a Christian Perspective*, Louisville, KY; World Mission, a Ministry of the General Assembly Council, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PDS 74 400 00 023

Broyles, Anne, et. al., *Soul Tending*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2002. This book offers a practical way for senior high youth and young adults to study spiritual disciplines while strengthening relationships among participants. Forty-three sessions give participants plenty of material to choose from for a spiritual life retreat, an occasional session, a seasonal study for Lent or Advent, a short-term option, or a weekly covenant group." ISBN#10: 0-68703-079-X

Caldwell, Elizabeth F., *Leaving Home with Faith*. Cleveland, OH: Pilgrim Press, 2002. This book will be useful for parents of adolescents, pastors and educators, family members and other caring adults who view the Christian faith as the focal point where adolescents, parents/family, faith, and the church intersect. Each chapter deals with a specific perspective of adolescence, making this book ideal for use in a short-term class for parents. Includes discussion questions and brief Psalm reflections, which affirm the essential relationship between Bible study and growth in the life of the Christian faith. ISBN-13: 978-0-82981-504-7

Caldwell, Elizabeth F., *Great Ends of the Church: Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God*. Louisville, KY: Witherspoon Press, 2006. Each chapter of this book focuses on Biblical texts and a connection with one of two recent confessions of our church, The Confession of 1967 and A Brief Statement of Faith. On each chapter, the author identifies challenges that this "end" often presents. She then shows how faith is shaped in the process of meeting these challenges and responding to the end's mission in the context of hope. This book is great for both individual and group study. ISBN 1-57153-061-4

Caldwell, Elizabeth Francis, *Making a Home for Faith*. Cleveland, OH: Pilgrim Press, 2000. This book offers guidance to parents and caregivers who want to take an active role in the faith development of their children. By modeling their own faith, parents can encourage their children's faith. Designed for use by individuals and groups, the book includes reflection questions in each chapter to foster dialogue in a variety of settings.

Cloyd, Betty Shannon, *Parents and Grandparents as Spiritual Guides: Nurturing Children of the Promise*. Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 2000. The author explores the simple ways parents and grandparents can introduce children to the presence of God and nurture them spiritually during daily, routine activities. This book includes biblical models of spiritual guides along with insightful stories from children, Christian educators, and the author's own family experience. ISBN 10: 0-83580-923-4
Daniel, Lillian, *Tell it Like it is*. Herndon, VA: Alban Institute, 2006.

In this little booklet, the author provides some helpful information about confirmation for new Presbyterians and leaders of confirmation classes. She explains the importance of confirmation in the church and the roles of those involved. ISBN 13: 978-0-66450-284-3

Dean, Kenda Creasy & Foster, Ron, *Godbearing Life*. Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 1998. This lively spiritual primer is specifically designed to nurture the spiritual life of the youth leader. The authors rechart a course for youth ministry through the classical spiritual disciplines of the church, identifying the ways that young people are most likely to encounter God. ISBN10: 0-83580-858-0

Dykstra, Craig, *Growing in the Life of Faith: Education and Christian Practice*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005. In this new edition of his popular book, Craig Dykstra explores the contributions of the traditions, education, worship practices, and disciplines of the Reformed Christian community in helping people grow in faith. This new edition includes a study guide, a new foreword by Dorothy Bass, and a new preface by the author. The book is ideal for clergy, Christian educators, and all who are interested in finding guidance in their quest for a genuine encounter with God. ISBN 13: 978-0-66450-033-7

Eason, Steven P., *Making Disciples, Making Leaders: A Manual for Developing Church Officers*. Louisville, KY: Geneva Press, 2004. This book offers a unique model for selecting and training church officers that is grounded in spiritual discernment and development. It begins with a Biblical understanding of leadership, moves into consideration for how to train a nominating committee to select leaders according to the Biblical vision, and then offers a step-by-step plan for a training event with three components. ISBN 13: 978-0-66450-263-8

Foss, Michael W., *From Members to Disciples*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2007.

Studying the book of Acts takes us back to the future. It shows the church how to trust in the active presence of God and inspire people to move from being mere members to bold disciples. As members become disciples of faith, they experience the unstoppable power of disciplined growth and divine purpose in Christian living. This 6-session study of the book of Acts would be great for sessions and/or adult study groups. ISBN 10: 0-68746-730-6

Gee, Martha Bettis, *For Your Children: Creating Communities of Faith in our Families*. Louisville, KY: Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, 2005.

Family relationships are places where God's love can be reflected and faith can be shared. Drawing from the concept that families serve as a small-group ministry for the children present, this resource offers tools for pastors and educators as they serve in ministry with these small groups. PDS # 70-270-05-033.

Hardel, Dick, *Blest be the Pie that Binds*. Minneapolis, MN: Youth and Family Institute of Augsburg College, 2001. This book is filled with family faith stories and activities to nurture faith. It is for godparents, uncles & aunts, grandparents, and parents as well as people who are in family ministry. Each chapter is a short family faith story, devotional story, or observation about parenting. With each chapter there are four or five family activities. ISBN 1- 88940-742-9

Hardel, Dick & Stehlin, Deb., *Faith Talk with Children Cards*. Minneapolis, MN: Youth and Family Institute of Augsburg College, 1998. These cards are designed for faith conversations by parents and other adults with children between the ages of 3 and 10. The faith sharing cards focus on four areas: Memories, Wonder, Actions, and Growing Together and call for a more active response from the children and adults.

Knisely, Stephen, *Faith In Action: Understanding Development Ministries from a Christian Perspective*, Louisville, KY; World Mission, a Ministry of the General Assembly Council, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). PDS 74-400-00-022

McGregor, Wynn, *Way of the Child - Leader's Guide And Sessions*. Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 2006.

This program is a part of the "Companions in Christ" series and helps children learn and experience spiritual practices that will lead them into a deeper awareness of God's presence in their lives. The Leader's Guide includes 5 chapters on the spiritual nature of children and theory of faith formation as well as 39 sessions to use with groups of children. The sessions are in modules grouped in these themes: God's Love and Care, Prayer, Advent and Epiphany, Acts of Love, Lent, Easter, Parables, and Meaningful Scriptures. It is also designed for short-term use and can be adapted for day camp, Vacation Bible School, and other gatherings of children throughout the year. Other pieces include a Resource Booklet, Family Booklet, music CD, and promotional DVD. ISBN 10: 0-83589-847-8

Parks, Sharon Daloz, *Big Questions Worthy Dreams*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2000.

The "twenty-something" years of young adulthood are increasingly recognized as critical but puzzling. Building on the foundation she established in her classic work, "The Critical Years," the author urges thoughtful adults to assume responsibility for providing strategic mentorship during this important decade in life. She also reveals the ways young adults are influenced not only by individual mentors but also by mentoring environments. . ISBN: 978-0-78794-171-0

Peluso-Verdend, Gary E., *Paying Attention*. Herndon, VA: Alban Institute, 2005

In this book, the author issues a clarion call to congregational leaders to refocus their church's attention on the core matters of Christian faith, the Word, the example of Christ, and an intentional embrace of theology and spiritual practice to renew the

congregation's vision and to center itself again on God's call. With study questions at the end of each chapter and an imagined conversation between people practicing theology in their congregation, this book provides an invaluable companion in a congregation's journey toward purposeful, attentive faithfulness. . ISBN# 1-56699-308-3

Strommen, Merton P. & Bruning, Charles, *Faith Talk Cards*. Minneapolis, MN: Youth and Family Institute of Augsburg College, 1995. This set of 192 faith-sharing cards is designed for caregiving adults and young people (ages 11 & up) to be in conversation about faith. From four areas - Etchings, Values, Memories, and Actions - people will share stories of God's faithfulness. These cards are great for church committee meetings, retreats, youth events, family devotion time, confirmation, and church school, just to name a few.

Strommen, Merton P. & Hardel, Richard A., *Passing On The Faith*. Winona, MN: St. Mary's Press, 2000. This book not only gives the research, but also presents a radical conceptual model and shows what youth and family ministry looks like in a congregation. It presents a new paradigm of home and congregation as partners in teaching and nurturing faith. It also connects home and congregation with community to transform culture through Christ. ISBN 13: 978-0-88489-606-7

Thompson, Marjorie J., *Family: The Forming Center*. Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 1996. The disintegration of family life is being blamed for all manner of social ills, and we are seeking a spiritual center as the solution. In this revised and expanded edition, Marjorie J. Thompson offers a vision of the family as the primary place of spiritual formation for children. Neither a how-to book nor a political polemic, this book envisions families as faith builders. ISBN 10: 0-83580-980-3

Webb-Mitchell, Brett, *School of the Pilgrim*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007. This important work encapsulates a new understanding of faith development in the context of pilgrimage and examines how traditional human developmental theories have been used to categorize individuals instead of celebrating their unique characteristics, which reflect their creation in the image of God. The author puts forth a challenge to the church to work toward a broader educational mission to be a community of Christ's pilgrim people, in which change and growth are discussed in the rhetoric and practice of pilgrimage. ISBN 13: 978-0-66422-744-9

Weber, Rob, *Beginnings: An Introduction to Christian Faith*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2003. This kit includes four videocassettes and one DVD for this 9–12 week small group study about basic Christian beliefs. It is intended for adults hungry for an intentional walk with God that encourages a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and targets inquirers, explorers, seekers, and new church members. In each two-hour session, participants will share a meal, watch a short video segment, develop the spiritual disciplines of Christian conversation and study of Scripture, engage in meaningful discussion and reflection, explore Christian faith and teachings, and grow in depth of experience through the small group. Video segments range from 16– 20 minutes long. Other resources include a Director's Manual, Participant's Guide, Small Group Leader's Guide, and "Along the Way: A Participant's Companion". ISBN 13: 978-0-68707-299-6

Wigger, J. Bradley, *Power of God at Home*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2003. This book provides both a biblical model and practical suggestions for helping the entire family become aware of God's presence in everyday life. The author thoughtfully reveals the powerful formative influence of family life and shows that homes are the places where some of the deepest, most important learning takes place. This book offers parents a wise blend of storytelling, biblical interpretation, and suggestions for family practice. ISBN: 978-0-78795-588-5

Yust, Karen Marie, *Real Kids Real Faith*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2004. Drawn from a three-year study of children's spirituality as well as the best in theological tradition and literature, this book provides insight and a variety of helpful tips for nurturing children's spiritual and religious formation. The author challenges the prevailing notion that children are unable to grasp religious concepts and encourages parents to recognize children as capable of genuine faith. . ISBN: 978-0-78796-407-8

Websites:

<http://www.akaloo.org>
<http://d365.org/todaysdevotion>
<http://congregationalresources.org>
<http://www.easumbandy.com>
<http://www.faithink.com>

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<http://generationsofffaith.org>

<http://www.lifelongfaith.com>

<http://www.pcusa.org/curriculum>

<http://www.pcusa.org/education>

<http://www.pcusa.org/ideas>

<http://www.pcusa.org/spiritualformation>

<http://www.pcusa.org/splash>

<http://www.pcusa.org/theology>

<http://www.pcusa.org/theologyandworship>

<http://www.pcusa.org/witherspoonpress>

<http://www.pcusa.org/worship>

<http://www.practicingourfaith.org>

<http://search-institute.org/assets>

<http://www.spiritualdevelopmentcenter.org>

http://synodresourcecenter.org/edu/sunday_school curriculum

<http://youthandfamilyinstitute.org>

<http://waytolive.org>

Evangelism Resources

Curriculum Resources

Caring Evangelism: How to Live and Share Christ's Love, Stephen Ministry.

This highly effective 16-hour course is designed to help Christians share their faith with others naturally and comfortably. The course's resources include a leader's guide, administrative handbook, participant manual, and the book *Me, An Evangelist? Every Christian's Guide to Caring Evangelism*, William McKay, 1992. Get details from www.stephenministries.org/coursesandmore/default.cfm/750. You do not need to be a subscriber to Stephen Ministries to purchase these materials.

The Case for Christ: A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus, Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 1998.

Strobel uses his legal training and journalistic background to interview fourteen top scholars about the evidence for Jesus. He asks readers to serve as the jury in the case, deciding for them where the evidence leads them. Each chapter closes with questions for reflection/discussion and a list of additional readings. While not teaching students how to be evangelists, this resource provides them with user-friendly content for their witness. DVD and student resource books are also available.

The Case for Faith: A Journalist Investigates the Toughest Objections to Christianity, Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 2000.

As with *The Case for Christ*, Strobel confronts some of the top scholars in Christianity with what he sees as the eight most common objections to Christianity: 1) Since evil and suffering exist, a loving God cannot; 2) Since miracles contradict science, they cannot be true; 3) Evolution explains life, so God isn't needed; 4) God isn't worthy of worship if he kills innocent children; 5) It's offensive to claim Jesus is the only way to God; 6) A loving God would never torture people in Hell; 7) Church history is littered with oppression and violence; and 8) I still have doubts, so I can't be a Christian. Each chapter closes with questions for reflection/ discussion and a list of additional readings. This book, as well as *The Case for Christ* is immensely readable and interspersed with provocative illustrations from real life.

Faithful Witnesses: A Course in Evangelism for Presbyterian Laity, Richard Stoll Armstrong, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1987.

A 12-session evangelism-training course for congregations. This course offers a clear, step-by-step approach to faith sharing that is scripturally sound, consistent with Reformed theology, and sensitive to all people. PDS # 70-280-96-156 for the Leader's Guide; # 70-280-96-153 for Participant's Book.

Going Public with Your Faith: Becoming a Spiritual Influence at Work, William Carr Peel and Walt Larimore, M.D., Zondervan, 2003.

Available through Christian Book Distributors as a curriculum set with DVD/Video, book, one leader's guide and one participants book. Winner of *Christianity Today's* 2004 Book Award and the Silver Medallion Award. Views evangelism as an "organic process" in which each Christian is just one link in a chain of witnesses to Christ. Identifies one's work place as your own particular mission field, a place ripe for trusting relationships.

The Good News Story, Evangelism and Church Development, National Ministries Division, PC(USA), 2001.

A bible study guide with four one-hour sessions (that can be extended to 90 minute sessions to provide more time for discussion) that can be used for weekly class, special course, or a retreat. The emphasis of this study is on the *Good News Story* that we are called to know, tell, be, and share. This new guide is an adaptation of material developed by Ann Weems for the former Evangelism Program of the Program Agency of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

PDS # 72310-01-002

How to Talk About Jesus Without Freaking Out, Jim and Karen Covell and Victorya Michaels Rogers, Multnomah, 2001.

Book with study guide. Simple model of sharing your own faith through what you know best—what your faith has meant to you. Emphasizes hearing their story, sharing yours and Christ's. The goal of this book is to give people confidence to share, not to convert. That's the Spirit's job!

Meeting Your Neighbor: Multiculturalism in Luke and Acts, Sherron Kay George, Gower National Creative Co. for the Office of Evangelism and Racial and Cultural Diversity of the National Ministries Division of the General Assembly Council, PC(USA), 2000. Ten lessons for biblical study using Luke and Acts to cause participants to reflect upon issues of mission and evangelism, especially within the context of multiple cultures. Each lesson includes questions for discussion and reflection. PDS # 72305-00-001.

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Places of Promise, Finding Strength in Your Congregation's Location, Deborah Bruce and Cynthia Woolever, Westminster/John Knox Press, 2008.

The authors use research to reveal how location influences congregational life, and how every congregation can achieve strength and effectiveness in its present location if it focuses on what's important to the community. A leader's guide is available for free download from www.pcusa.org/uscongregations/pdf/leaderguide.pdf

Spiritual Vitality through Cooperative Ministry, Diana A. Stephen, Small Church and Community Ministry Office, Evangelism and Church Growth, PC(USA), 2008.

This resource defines cooperative ministry as: "Several congregations in a particular geographical area that covenant together to envision that area as the place in which Christ is calling them to cooperatively plan and engage in ministry and mission. While each congregation maintains its own session..., the covenant requires the participating congregations to share ideas, energies, leadership and resources." This booklet includes a five-session Bible study and an outline for a discernment retreat. PDS # 23316-08-001

General Resources

A Passion for the Gospel: Confessing Jesus Christ for the 21st Century, Mark Achtemeier and Andrew Purves, eds. Westminster/John Knox Press, 2000.

The editors have included essays and sermons by some of the best known evangelical voices in the Presbyterian Church today: Craig Barnes, Elizabeth Achtemeier, Joseph Rightmyer, Jim Logan, Scott Sunquist, Mark Achtemeier, Theresa Froelich, Andrew Purves, Charles Partee, Catherine J. S. Purves, Stephen Crocco, Jeffrey Bullock, Earl Palmer, Clayton Bell, Margaret Kim Peterson, Peter Barnes, Mary Holder Naegeli, Jack Haberer, Sherron George, and Jim Singleton. The book comprises five sections, each devoted to a major theological issue: Confessing Jesus Christ, Word and Sacrament, the Christian Life, Living as Christians, and the Church. Each section contains two essays and two sermons.

Beyond the Ordinary: Ten Strengths of American Congregations, Cynthia Woolever and Deborah Bruce, Westminster/John Knox Press, 2004.

Taking an intricate look at vitality and health in congregations based on information gathered from the 2001 U.S. Congregational Life Survey, the authors conclude that congregations have ten strengths, and that by building upon these strengths, congregations can transform their futures.

Choosing Church: What Makes a Difference for Teens, Carol E. Lytch, Westminster/John Knox Press, 2004.

This well-researched study explains what attracts teenagers to church and keeps them there. It provides a helpful description of the most effective ways that congregations and parents can build a faith in early teens that is not anti-institutional and that helps them value the church.

Evangelism Is..., Clinton Marsh, Geneva Press, 1998.

Marsh contends that the congregation is at the heart of evangelism. Every activity in a congregation's life proclaims the gospel. Affirming the work of the Holy Spirit, and using the teaching of Jesus as a model, Marsh advocates an approach to evangelism driven by love. Marsh offers practical suggestions and deals with the "motive, the message, and the method" of evangelism in a clear and useful manner. This is a book for lay leaders, pastors, study groups, and church boards.

The Great Pursuit: The Message for Those In Search of God, Eugene Peterson, NAV Press, 2007.

Extracts of Eugene Peterson's *Message Bible* (Ecclesiastes, Job, Habakkuk, Jonah, a selection of Psalms, and the Gospels of Mark and John) with added conversational commentary on the text from Randall Niles (director of operations for www.allaboutGod.com). Designed as a give-away, this is for anyone just starting their spiritual walk or those with questions about how Christianity fits into a 21st century framework.

How Shall We Witness?: Faithful Evangelism in a Reformed Tradition, Milton J. Coalter and Virgil Cruz, eds., Westminster/John Knox Press, 1995.

The question of how to evangelize responsibly has often confused and even divided the Christian community. *How Shall We Witness?* is an account of one Christian family, the Reformed and Presbyterian tradition, seeking to heed Christ's commission to witness in and to the world. Contributors to this book look at a broad spectrum of issues dealing with the search for a faithful evangelism. In the process, they suggest scriptural, theological, and educational foundations for a revived witness with integrity. They distinguish between sincere theological scruples about the character of evangelism and misguided inhibitions that generate unnecessary ambiguity and controversy throughout the Christian community.

Living the Vision, Mission Interpretation & Promotion for Evangelism and Witness, Ministries of the General Assembly Council. This is a series of pamphlets available through PDS. Some contain questions for reflection/ discussion and/or retreat outlines, as well as lists of additional resources. Each pamphlet deals with specialized concerns for evangelism which include:

A Faith Established Governor, PDS # 72-300-01-001

A Vision for Native American Ministry, PDS # 72-450-04-001

Becoming a Multicultural Church, PDS # 72-341-04-001. A DVD is also available to supplement this resource. Cost is \$10.

PDS 72-341-04-002. English, Korean, and Spanish language videos are also available for \$10.

PDS # 72-341-04-033 (English), # 72-341-04-005 (Korean), # 72-341-04-004 (Spanish)

Commitment to Evangelism, PDS 72-343-05-006

Congregational Transformation, PDS 72-301-04-001, or download in .PDF format from

www.pcusa.org/transformation/resources.htm

Core Values, PDS # 72-306-04-001

Developing Strategies and Guidelines for Korean New Church Development, PDS # 72-440-00-001

Health, Vitality, and Growth in African American Congregations, PDS # 72-420-01-001. Also may be downloaded in PDF

format from www.pcusa.org/blackcongregations/pdf/livingthevision.pdf

Hispanic Ministries, PDS # 72-306-01-001

Metropolitan/Urban Ministry, PDS # 72-344-06-001 (also available in Spanish)

New Church Development, PDS # 72-306-01-001

Preparing Members for Evangelism, PDS # 72-399-05-002

Rural Ministry: Church and Community, PDS # 72-309-00-001

Small Church Ministry, PDS # 72-308-00-002

Urban/Metropolitan Ministry, PDS # 72-313-03-001

Welcoming Immigrants and Their Gifts, PDS # 72-490-00-001

Rising to the Risk: Stories of Small Congregations Embracing the 21st Century, Small Church Series Book #2, a collaboration of the Evangelism and Church Development Program Area, National Ministries Division, and the Synod of the Sun, PC(USA), 1998. An inspiring read for church leaders who think small congregations can't do mission and evangelism. This resource contains stories of real small congregations who did mission and evangelism with wondrous results. PDS # 72308-98-001.

Rural Evangelism: Catching the Vision, K.E.Ruffcorn, Augsburg Fortress, 1994.

Rural congregations face a distinctive challenge when it comes to evangelism. They may know their neighbors too well. This can be a problem when those same people constitute one's entire sphere of acquaintances. *Rural Evangelism* is not a primer on evangelism, but rather attempts to refocus the evangelistic ministry of rural churches into a vibrant and active arm of the church. Focuses on the Holy Spirit's role in evangelism while dealing with rural struggles in evangelism.

Speaking of God: Evangelism As Initial Spiritual Guidance, Ben Campbell Johnson, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1991.

Ben Campbell Johnson combines evangelism and spiritual guidance in order to offer a theological foundation, practical suggestions, and a positive model for sharing faith. Johnson calls for the recovery of evangelism in ministry and encourages ministers to become models of personal evangelism for laity.

Starting New Churches: A Process of Discernment, Evangelism and Church Growth mission area of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This DVD resource is for church development committees of presbytery, churches that have a desire to start a new church, and individuals led to start a new church. You can find this and more tools for new church development at www.presbygrow.net.

Mission Resources

Embracing God's World: Involving the Congregation in Mission, 2nd ed., Mission Education and Promotion Office of the Congregational Ministries Division, PC(USA), ISBN-10: 1571530681. Available through Marketplace. Comprehensive guide to developing mission-based ministry in a congregation. This is an essential tool for mission and outreach committees. It provides strategies for shaping your church's mission program as well as steps for planning and interpreting mission and service projects.

Foolishness to the Greeks: The Gospel and Western Culture, Lesslie Newbigin, Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1986.

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Newbigin attempts to look at modern Western culture through the eyes of an outsider and asks the question, "What would it mean to confront this culture with the gospel?" The real question becomes, "How can biblical authority become a reality for this culture?" This book launched the gospel and culture movement and still asks us questions that are as pertinent for us today as they were twenty years ago.

The Gospel in A Pluralist Society, Lesslie Newbigin, Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1989.

How does the gospel relate to a pluralist society? What is the Christian message in a society marked by religious pluralism, ethnic diversity, and cultural relativism? Should Christians who encounter today's society focus on evangelism or dialogue? These are the kinds of questions tackled by Newbigin in his follow up to *Foolishness to the Greeks*. There is much in this book to cause church leaders and lay people to ask new questions of them.

The Missional Church in Context: Helping Congregations Develop Contextual Ministry, Craig van Gelder, ed., Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2007.

The Gospel in Our Culture Network carries on the work begun by Lesslie Newbigin. This book carries forward and brings clarity to the missional church conversation begun in *The Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America* (1998). At its simplest perspective, the missional church is one in which mission and evangelism are not things we *do* but who we *are* in response to our relationships with God and each other, recognizing that all we are and all we do is God's work, not ours (*missio dei*). This book, and others from the Gospel in Our Culture Network offer pastors and those with a heart for doing God's work valuable insights into the cultural changes needed within the church to effect true transformation of people's lives.

Teaching Mission in a Global Context, Patricia Lloyd-Sidle and Bonnie Sue Lewis, eds., Westminster/ John Knox Press, 2002.

The book is a collection of eleven essays about the practice of mission. The first section, titled "Feet First", is about the way in which Christian practices, many of them taken for granted, shape mission. The next section deals with the issue of transformation in mission work and the related concerns of mutuality, solidarity, and marginality. The third section takes up the situation of the relation of Christianity to other religions. Finally, the last four essays take up spirituality as an inward and outward event, doing mission in the context of North America, and finally the development of a new theological identity based on the image of God as a missionary God.

Places to Watch for New Resources

Highlights from the Worldwide Ministries Division. This twice-yearly publication helps keep you informed about Presbyterian worldwide ministry.

To order, contact PDS at (800) 524-2612.

Mission Mosaic the newsletter published by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. To subscribe visit www.pcusa.org/pda.

<http://presbygrow.net>

<http://www.pcusa.org/goodnews/>

Justice Resources

Child Advocacy (www.pcusa.org/children)

Children and Violent Video Games

This booklet educates adults about potentially harmful effects of violent video games on children and youth. It includes the rating system for games and suggestions for choosing games. It can also be downloaded from the above site.

PDS # 7265106001

National Observance of Children's Sabbath Manual, Children's Defense Fund:

A Multi-Faith Resource for Year Round Advocacy

This manual, published annually, serves as a guide for faith communities to engage in child and family advocacy work during the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths Weekend and year-round. Included are resources for worship, education, direct service/activities and social justice initiatives for congregations. PDS: 1881985512

Rifner, Lois and Smith, Susan. *We Won't Let It Happen Here! Preventing Child Abuse in the Church, 2nd edition*

This book provides a training model to assist those who work in the church in learning about child abuse, keeping their children safe, and responding when child abuse happens. A third edition will be available by mid 2009.

The United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children (www.pcusa.org/children/peace.htm)

This material presents a detailed picture of the nature, extent and causes of violence against children and suggests ways to prevent and respond to it. Children and young people all over the world were actively involved in this study, sharing their experiences of violence at regional consultations. In addition to the primary study, there is also a child-friendly version of the study available, as well as activities for learning and taking action for children and young people.

Enough For Everyone (www.pcusa.org/enough)

The four projects of Enough for Everyone seek to address fair trade, sweatshops, debt and credit, and energy efficiency. Information on *The Presbyterian Coffee Project* (www.pcusa.org/coffee); *Electric Stewardship* (www.pcusa.org/energy); *Sweat-Free T-Shirts* (www.pcusa.org/sweatfree); *Oikocredit* (www.pcusa.org/oikocredit); *Eco-Palms* (www.pcusa.org/palms); *Global Marketplace* (www.pcusa.org/globalmarketplace), can be found at these websites.

Environment (www.pcusa.org/environment)

At One with Creation

This short video portrays the beginning of the world as a reflection of God's love using computer-generated images and animation; reviews how we have misused God's creation; and suggests ways for living in harmony with creation. A study guide is included. PDS # 22793200

Carol Johnston. *And the Leaves of the Tree are for the Healing of the Nations: Biblical and Theological Foundations of Eco-Justice, 2nd ed.* Environmental Justice Office, PC(USA), 2006

A paper commissioned by the National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Working Group published jointly with the former Environmental Justice Office of PC(USA) originally published in 1997. This paper provides an excellent theological and biblical foundation for eco-justice, providing fresh and insightful interpretations of key biblical passages mainly in the Old Testament, but covering a few important New Testament texts as well. PDS # 72433-06-001

God's World, Our Home is an ecumenical packet that includes worship and theological resources; educational materials on a variety of environmental and economic justice issues; program ideas for congregations; and a resource list.

PDS # 7264097002

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Hope for a Global Future: Toward Just and Sustainable Human Development (1996 General Assembly)

This study paper addresses global poverty, overpopulation and over-consumption, theological and ethical foundations and recommendations. It includes a study guide. PDS #OGA96013

Keeping and Healing the Creation prepared by the Presbyterian Eco-Justice Task Force.

The resource provides background on the eco-justice crisis and a biblical theology and ethics to keep and heal God's creation. PDS # 33189101

Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice (1990 General Assembly)

This study paper provides a profile of the environmental crisis with biblical affirmations and ethical norms for response. A study guide is included. PDS #OGA90002

Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice

This 15-minute video may be used alone or as a helpful companion piece to the "Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice" General Assembly report. Positive responses of faithful people are set amid scenes of the beauty of nature, contrasted with examples of environmental damage and social injustice. PDS # 33190001

www.pcusa.org/washington/issuenet/enviro.htm

In addition to updates on ecology and environmental issues facing Congress, this website includes quarterly bulletins focusing on the issues.

www.webofcreation.org

Downloadable resources found here include *The Green Congregation Program and Manual*

Hunger (www.pcusa.org/hunger)

A Fast That Lasts

This kit provides resources for a 24-30 fasting retreat for youth. PDS #7436002309

"Hunger No More" (www.hungernomore.org) maintained by Bread for the World Institute

An online downloadable resource this resource has six sessions of material designed to help open up discussion of ideas related to hunger, poverty and powerlessness in the United States and the developing world; the causes, solutions and the roles we might play. Written for adults and youth, there are also materials for children that can be offered with, or separately from, the adult/youth sessions.

Is There Enough for Everyone?

This is a five session Bible-based children's curriculum on hunger with lessons for preschool through upper elementary age, which can also be used, in a broadly graded format. PDS #7436099324

Just Eating: Practicing Our Faith at the Table: Readings for Reflection and Action. Participants Book and (downloadable) Leader's Guide

This seven-session curriculum, written by Schrock, Jennifer Halteman in collaboration with Advocate Health Care, Church World Service and Presbyterian Hunger Program, explores the relationship between the way we eat and the way we live. Using scripture, prayer and stories from the local and global community it examines aspects of our lives with food including: the health of our bodies; the access others have to food; the health of the earth, which our food choices influence; and the ways we use food to extend hospitality and enrich relationships. PDS #7436505362

Making Poverty History

This 28-page booklet produced by the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Church World Service is a collection of simulations, skits and worship activities on hunger and poverty. Activities relate to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG): Hunger and Poverty, Education, Health, Environment/Water and Partners in Development. PDS #74360-07-364

www.pcusa.org/hunger/opensource.htm

Open Source is a library of workshop presentations on many pressing local and global issues related to hunger and poverty. These include power point presentations, handouts and scripts on such subjects as hunger and poverty, food and faith, climate change, eco-justice, free trade, etc.

Justice (www.pcusa.org/pw/justice)

Definitions and Guidelines on Inclusive Language

This booklet seeks to clarify on what “inclusive language” means and how it might be integrated into the life of the church. PDS #7042001003

Links is the electronic newsletter of Presbyterian Women’s Justice and Peace Committee. Past issues include topics such as: Enough for Everyone; Israel and Palestine; Reproductive Health and Women’s Rights; Violence against Women and Children.

Well Chosen Words.

This brochure explains why inclusive and expansive language is important and suggests ways to express the fullness of God’s presence including guidelines for speaking and writing. PDS #7283905003, or it can be downloaded at www.pcusa.org/womensministries/history-theology/inclusivelanguage.htm.

Peacemaking (www.pcusa.org/peacemaking)

Gee, Martha Bettis. *For Your Children: Creating Communities of Faith in Our Families*. Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, 2005. Drawing from the concept that families serve as a small group ministry for the children present, this resource offers tools for pastors and educators as they serve in ministry with these small groups. It includes an introductory workshop, rituals for everyday times and liturgical seasons, prayers and conversation starters. PDS #70-270-05-033.

Guidelines for Communal Discernment. Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. 2008

This resource presents guidelines, steps and tools, to assist groups, large and small, to engage intentionally in a decision making process that nurtures community, is rooted in prayer and Scripture, deepens listening, weighs options and seeks consensus. PDS #2435808007

Peace Knows No Season. This intergenerational study explores what peace is; what peacemaking is; what peacemakers do; and how we respond to God’s call to live as peacemakers through Bible study, activities, prayer, song, poetry and more. Participants will envision peacemaking ministries for individuals and congregations and design/identify prayers, banners, songs and more for use in the congregation’s life. PDS #70-270-05-036

Striking Terror No More: The Church Responds to Domestic Violence.

This book includes material on different types of domestic violence, lesson plans for study, and worship resources. PDS #157153069X

To Strengthen Christ’s Body: Tools for Talking about Tough Issues.

This 7-session study identifies and explores basic concepts and tools that can help address conflict and disagreements. Through prayer, Bible study, discussion and skill building, participants will consider ways to approach conflict that increase the possibility that the experience will be enlightening, constructive and creative by the grace of God. PDS #24-358-08-01

When We Are All Strong Together: Understanding Gender Discrimination, Building Gender Justice.

This 160-page study and advocacy guide on women’s issues addresses women’s human rights, violence against women, women and the media, women’s health, girls and women and economic justice. (www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/un/resources.htm)

Peacemaking studies

For a number of years, the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program has produced short terms studies for adults, children, youth, and intergenerational groups. They include the following titles:

Building a Culture of Peace Begins with Children. 6 sessions written for children in grades 3-6, though can be adapted for use with younger children and intergenerational groups. PDS #7—270-00-02

Coming Home to the Table: An Intergenerational Peacemaking Resource. 5 sessions. PDS #70-270-99-002

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Eating and Drinking with Jesus: Table Manners for Peacemakers. 5 sessions for adults/youth. PDS #70-270-99-001

Facing Racism: In Search of the Beloved Community. 5 sessions for youth. PDS #70-270-98-002

Following the Leader: Peacemaking with Children in a Violent World. 4 sessions for adults/ youth who work with children. PDS #70-270-02-011

God's Good World: A Peacemaking Resource for Children, 5 sessions for grades 4-6. PDS: 70-270-97-002

God's World, Our Home: A Peacemaking Resource for Youth. 5 sessions. PDS #70-270-04-011

Living for a Change – Toward a Culture of Peace. 5 sessions on Romans. PDS #70-270-00-001

Living the Gospel of Peace: Tools for Building a More Inclusive Community, 6 sessions for adults PDS #70-270-04-014

Peacemaking in a Violent World. 5 sessions for adults. PDS 70-350-95-289

Rebuilding: Peacemaking in Nehemiah. 5 sessions for adults. PDS: 70-350-96-287

The Shalom of God in the Midst of the Empire: A Peacemaking Bible Study on Isaiah. 6 sessions for adults, PDS #70-270-06-001

Steps along the Way: Living as Peacemakers in a Violent World. 8 sessions for adults. PDS #70-270-03-011

Whoever Welcomes a Child: An Intergenerational Peacemaking Journey through the Gospel of Matthew. 5 sessions. PDS #70-270-05-004

Newsletters related to peacemaking

Peacenotes, quarterly publication of Peacemaking Program, www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/pubs

Threads of Justice publication of the Office of Women's Advocacy, <http://www.pcusa.org/womensadvocacy/thread-justice>

Presbyterian Health Education And Welfare Association (www.pcusa.org/phewa)

Disability concerns (www.pcusa.org/phewa/pdc.htm)

Bolduc, Kathleen Deyer. *A Place Called Acceptance: Ministry with Families of Children with Disabilities.* Bridge Resources, 2001. This handbook helps congregations look for ways to welcome all God's children, including those with physical, mental or behavioral disabilities. PDS # 095652

Congregational Audit of Disability Accessibility and Inclusion

This resource assists congregations in taking seriously the call for the church to be the full embodiment of the household of God and a "house of prayer" for all peoples, including those with disabilities. It will help congregations consider specific areas on which to concentrate their efforts. Downloadable document at above website.

Friendship Ministries (www.pcusa.org/friendship)

Friendship Ministries provides consulting services to help start programs for people with cognitive impairments and Christian formation materials designed for people with cognitive impairments. Their purpose is to share God's love with persons with cognitive impairments and enable them to become an active part of God's family. Resources include Bible Studies; Life Studies; Seasonal Studies and Supplementary Resources. Materials are inter-denominational, easy to use, and sensitive to different ages and learning styles. *Free Information Packet*: PDS #9781562127534;

Introductory Kit with sample Bible Studies material and program guide: PDS #301010

Living into the Body of Christ: Towards Full Inclusion of People with Disabilities. (2006 General Assembly)

This study paper considers a biblical and theological rationale for total inclusion of persons with disabilities into the body of Christ as it looks at the historical commitment of our denomination to justice and inclusion of those with disabilities highlights the challenge facing us as we seek to be the fully inclusive body of Christ in the world today. A study guide is included. PDS #OGA06091

The Ten Commandments of Communicating with People with Disabilities. Program Development Associates

(<http://disabilitytraining.com/tcd.html>)

This 26-minute video can be helpful to church groups to increase sensitivity to persons with disabilities. Though somewhat expensive, it can be borrowed from PHEWA, 1 (888) 728-7228, ext. 5807.

Mental illness (www.pcusa.org/phewa/resources/resources-psmin.htm)

Honest Talk about Serious Mental Illness, video

This four-segment video will help youth understand the difference between normal highs and lows and more serious signs of mental illness as it explores causes and effects of depression, anxiety, manic depression and schizophrenia. It also looks at the important role of family, community and congregation in supporting persons with serious mental illness. A Leader's Guide (PDS #095302) is available at additional cost. PDS #095301

Serious Mental Illness: Seeking a Comprehensive Approach

(Can be downloaded at www.pcusa.org/ascwp/pdf/smi_seeking_response.pdf.)

This four-session study for personal and group discussion and reflection challenges readers to think about ways people living with mental illness are included and/or excluded from participating in the work of the church and society.

PDS # 6860006002

Racial Justice (www.pcusa.org/racialjustice)

Barndt, Joseph R. *Dismantling Racism: The Continuing Challenge to White America*. Augsburg Press, 1991.

This book focuses on the task of how we can work to bring racism to an end and build a racially just, multicultural society. ISBN 0806625767. A second book by Barndt, *Understanding and Dismantling Racism: The 21st Century Challenge to White America*, reframes the issue for the context of the new century. ISBN: 0800662229

Becoming the Beloved Community: People of Faith Working Together to Eradicate Racism, Presbyterian Women, 2007.

This DVD is designed to encourage meaningful dialogue about racism and to equip people of faith to work together to eradicate racism and bring about the beloved community that God intends. The DVD has four 15-minute segments. The accompanying study guide includes questions for reflection and dialogue. PDS: # PWR06120

Breaking the Bonds: A Workshop on Internalized Racial Oppression. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 2004.

Breaking the Bonds is an internalized racial oppression resource. Facilitators lead individuals through a process that will help them to get in touch with the negative messages they have internalized about themselves and others over the years from the oppressive system of racism. (www.elca.org) Item #9786000174453

Kujawa-Holbrook, Sheryl A. *A House of Prayer for All People: Congregations Building Multicultural Community*. Herndon, VA: Alban Institute, 2002.

This book focuses on six congregations from different denominations, geographical regions and settings and shows the joys and struggles in the congregations' intentional pursuits of a more diverse and just community. ISBN: 1566992826

Law, Eric H. F. *Living the Gospel of Peace: Tools for Building More Inclusive Community.*

Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 2004.

This six-session study teaches communication guidelines, mutual invitation, community bible study, and power analysis and explores how to use these tools to build community in the face of racism and other factors that divide us.

PDS # 7027004014

Lee, Chang-Ren, *Facing Racism: In Search of the Beloved Community.* Louisville, Ky.: Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, 1998.

This five-session study for youth was developed to help youth confront racism and work to build the "beloved community." PDS #7027098002

Stroupe, Nibs and Caroline Leach. *O Lord, Hold Our Hands: How a Church Thrives in a Multicultural World*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2003.

This book is part history of a local congregation, part testimony to the practice of faith, part manifest of an evangelical response to racism. ISBN: 0664226981

Troubling the Waters for the Healing of the Church: A Journey for White Christian from Privilege to Partnership. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. 2004

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This resource has been developed for white congregations to help members understand the role “white privilege” and internalized white superiority have had in shaping attitudes, belief systems, and cultures, their own and those of church and society. It seeks to equip persons with tools that will aid them in addressing and breaking the cycle of socialization that perpetuates racism. There are 18 sessions. (www.elca.org) Item #6-0002-2031-6

Self Development of People (SDOP) (www.pcusa.org/sdop)

Self Development of People Community Book.

This free resource provides basic information about SDOP, along with answers to the questions most frequently asked their work, including the application process, examples of partnerships and applying for funding. PDS # 74350-06-005

Self-Development of People International Brochure tells about SDOP's involvement in different areas of the world, including the Dominican Republic, where SDOP is currently especially involved. PDS # 25422-07-009

Stories that Make a Difference

This free resource contains twelve stories about recent SDOP projects in the US and around the world.

PDS # 25422-07-003

Stewardship Resources

Models for Stewardship Campaigns

Confident Steward 2.0. General Assembly Council, PC(USA), 2005.

This group of 8 CDs provides congregations with a calendar, links to guidance, and downloadable examples of materials for a year-round stewardship program of education, interpretation, and commitment. Each CD contains a single commitment program and all available themes. You may purchase all 8 CDs at a discounted price and receive two free Stewardship Manual's. PDS #7253094001

Giving: Growing Joyful Stewards in Your Congregation. Ecumenical Stewardship Center, 2008.

This magazine is published annually by the Ecumenical Stewardship Center. It includes articles on finances and discipleship, reviews of current stewardship resources and guidelines for planning an annual stewardship emphasis in a local church.

<http://www.stewardshipresources.org/Resources/tabid/96/Default.aspx>

Logos Mission-Based Stewardship Guide. Norman, Jana & Turley, Paul, Logos Productions, Inc., 2006.

This guide equips congregational leaders and stewardship committees with basic tools for effective and meaningful financial leadership. It includes ideas to help the team discern mission priorities for their congregation, involve the congregation in the stewardship campaign, and stimulate ongoing dialog by following progress throughout the year. Includes reproducible worksheets, assessments and communications.

New Beginnings: My Opportunity for Giving. Wilkes, Paul, 2005. Available from Logos Productions, Inc.

This kit contains resources for a three-week process to lead a congregation through deep, prayerful consideration how to become stewards of time, talent, and treasure. Includes Leader's Guide, Instructional DVD, Resource CD, sample forms.

New Consecration Sunday, Revised Edition. Miller, Herb, Abingdon, 2007.

Directed toward raising the level of stewardship rather than raising the church budget, this resource focuses on the question, "What is God calling me to do?" rather than, "What does the church need in order to pay its bills?" This edition features a CD-ROM that includes the audio overview of the program as well as a PowerPoint presentation and editable letters and communication tools. Program Book ISBN: 978-0-687-64437-7

Websites:

PCUSA Stewardship Site: <http://www.pcusa.org/stewardship>

This website includes resources for selecting a theme, choosing the right kind of campaign for your congregation, stewardship worship resources, and articles on being a good steward.

Ecumenical Stewardship Center: <http://www.stewardshipresources.org/Resources/tabid/96/Default.aspx>

Offers congregations the opportunity to purchase resources such as letterhead, commitment cards, bulletin covers and inserts for an annual stewardship theme.

Studies on Financial Stewardship for Adults and Youth

Abundance. Peterson, John W., Abingdon Press, 2001.

Seven chapters offer Bible verses and discussion questions about a life of joy, material abundance, over-indulgence, living simply, money, ways in which we are handled by our stuff, and ethics. Students will wrestle with personal finances, seeking always to discern the will of God. ISBN-10: 0687091438; ISBN-13: 978687091430

Ask, Thank, Tell. Lane, Charles R., Augsburg Fortress, 2006.

This book is designed especially for use in congregational planning and study. The author makes the case that there is little in life today that can help people grow in relationship with Jesus more than intentional biblical stewardship.

ISBN-10: 0806652632; ISBN-13: 9780806652634

Choices: Living and Learning In God's World. PCUSA.1997.

"Choices" is a comprehensive stewardship education program for youth of all ages built around eight themes that explore the full meaning of stewardship as a life of discipleship. PDS# 7037097200

Giving Together: A Stewardship Guide for Families. Wehrheim, Carol A., Westminster John Knox Press, 2004.

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In this book, the author presents a concise, accessible resource to help families understand the importance of stewardship: in the family, congregation, community, and world. Including both a participant's section and a leader's guide, this resource is ideal for group or family study. ISBN-10: 0664226892, ISBN-13: 9780664226893

Living the Good Life on God's Good Earth. Koetje, David S., ed., FaithAlive Christian Resources, 2006.

This ten-session study is a compelling invitation to live out our calling as caretakers of God's good earth in our daily living. Chapters discuss the impact of environmental stewardship on the way we live, the homes we live in, the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the energy we use, the plants we grow, the work we are called to do, what we do for rest and enjoyment. Chapters include questions for reflection and discussion.

Passing the Buck. (We Believe: Real Faith Real Life Series) Nobel, Jody Schultz, CMP, 2006.

This is a six-session group study on finances and stewardship for young adults. PDS #641600

Price of Faith: Exploring Our Choices about Money and Wealth. Cross, Marie T., Geneva Press, 2002.

This book presents a holistic definition of stewardship and examines what money and wealth mean for us in our participation in the life of the church and in our personal expressions of faith. Ten session plans are included that will help move adults to a new understanding of stewardship. ISBN-10:0664502164, ISBN-13: 9780664502164

Rich. (NOOMA) Bell, Rob. Zondervan Publishing House, 2006.

We're constantly bombarded with images of the latest styles of everything and it's easy for us to feel like what we have doesn't cut it. But to most people in the world, what we have would be more than enough. Maybe what we have is enough and God has blessed us so that we can bless and give to others. Includes a discussion guide. ISBN-10: 0310269164, ISBN-13: 9780310269168

Simply Enough, Campolo, Tony & Claiborne, Shane, Alternatives for Simple Living, 2007.

This DVD has six 10-12 min. video segments to be used with adults and senior high youth. Sessions include discussions on lifestyle, food, celebrations, stuff, money and justice. Study guide included.

Steward - Living As Disciples in Everyday Life. Abingdon Press, 2000.

This is a 12-week study resource for small groups grounded in Biblical understandings of the role of steward as the faithful response of Christian disciples. Each session begins with Old and New Testament Scriptures and then explores the ways in which we live our faith in the daily routine of our lives. The kit includes: Training Manual and Leader's Guide, Training Video, Participant's Manual and Session Videos. ISBN-10:0687099447, ISBN-13: 9780687099443

The Stewardship Game. Tri-Sector Leadership, www.tri-sector.org, Art Wells at 800-883-4263, artwells@tri-sector.org.

This is a half-day workshop where church leaders play a board game to enhance their understanding of financial skills, make financial decisions that affect their church's success as defined by its mission, plan financially and strategize to reach congregational goals. Churches can have their own trainers trained to lead the game in their congregation, or they can contract with outside leadership to facilitate the game for them.

The Whys and Hows of Money Leadership: <http://www.congregationalresources.org/ShowOne.asp?RID=9610&TC=47>

This is an online curriculum for pastors, created by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Worship & Stewardship Resources

Stewardship Companion. Mosser, David N., Westminster John Knox Press, 2007.

The author of this book draws one passage from each week in the three-year lectionary cycle to provide a brief reflection on how that passage can be used to teach and preach about stewardship. ISBN-13: 9780664229931

Stewardship of Gift & Task. Turley, Paul & Norman, Jana, Logos Productions, 2006.

Stewardship of Bread. Norman, Jana & Turley, Paul, Logos Productions, 2007

These two booklets include worship resources to support the stewardship theme represented by their title. The guides, with a CD, include images for use in worship, reflections on art, suggestions for worship setting, scripture passages, contemporary music prayers, testimonials, children's messages, sermon starters, and quotes.

Stewardship Services. (Just In Time Series) Mosser, David N., Discipleship Resources, 2007.

Understanding the concept of stewardship in a broader context as management of our God-given gifts, this book provides material for

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twenty-four services including: suggested liturgies, prayers, Scripture passages, and sermon briefs. ISBN-10: 0687335167, ISBN-13: 9780687335169

Stewardship with Children

Let the Children Give. Halverson, Delia, Discipleship Resources, 2007.

This book is packed with creative activities for children surrounding the issue of stewardship. It instructs adults on how to demonstrate stewardship in everyday, practical ways. ISBN-10:0881775010, ISBN-13: 9780881775013

Miss Fannie's Hat. Karon, Jan, Puffin Books, 1998.

When Miss Fannie's preacher asks her to donate one of her many hats to the church auction, choosing which one to part with is no small task. This children's book reminds us that we are never too old (or too young) to give. ISBN: 0140568123

Powerxpress: Living God's Word: Money and Time. Abingdon Press, 2005.

This curriculum, written for use in workshop rotation Sunday School uses the Bible story included in 1 Peter 4:8-11 and Mark 12:41-44. With these lessons, children will learn that as good stewards, we are to take care of the gifts God has given us and use them to serve others; there are many ways for us to use our talents, time and money to serve God; giving gifts of our time and talents is worth just as much to the church as giving gifts of money or possessions; and all that we have comes to us as a gift from God. ISBN-10: 0687007305, ISBN-13: 9780687007301

Further Reading on Financial Stewardship

Beyond Money: Becoming Good and Faithful Stewards. Dick, Dan R., Discipleship Resources, 2006.

This book details how Christian discipleship and stewardship are interwoven in our personal faith journeys. Readers will consider the connection between stewardship and discipleship in new ways. ISBN-10: 0881774669, ISBN-13: 9780881774665

Beyond the Collection Plate. Durall, Michael, Abingdon Press, 2003.

This book seeks to answer the following questions: How can churches counteract the consumerist mentality in society in ways that lead to simpler living and more sacrificial giving? How can churches tell which stewardship practices and programs are genuinely helpful, and which are seriously outdated? How can we build a strong bond between the day-to-day lives of parishioners and their charitable giving? ISBN-10: 0687023157, ISBN-13: 9780687023158

Big Book of Presbyterian Stewardship. Barnett, Elaine W.; Gordon, Laura S.; Hendrix, Margaret A., Geneva Press, 2000.

This book deals with the full scope of financial issues in practical, clear, and easy-to-understand language. It offers new angles of vision and fun resources for people without any financial background or experience. Each chapter deals in a creative and practical way with some significant monetary or stewardship issue in the life of a local congregation. ISBN-10: 0664501575, ISBN-13: 9780664501570

Creating Congregations of Generous People. Durall, Michael., Alban Institute, 1999.

In this book, the author argues convincingly that annual pledge drives inadvertently perpetuate low-level and same-level giving in congregations. This book will help clergy and lay leaders initiate and sustain effective stewardship programs. ISBN-10: 1566992206, ISBN-13: 9781566992206

Free of Charge: Giving and Forgiving in a Culture Stripped of Grace. Volf, Miroslav, Zondervan, 2005.

This is a book of deep spiritual theology that teaches about the fundamentals of stewardship/Christian life through examples from the author's personal experiences, theology, and literature. This book will not only inform but also inspire. ISBN-10: 0310265746, ISBN-13: 9780310265740

Growing up Generous in Giving. Roehlkepartain, Eugene C. et al., Alban Institute, 2000.

Based on a two-year project by Search Institute, a nonprofit research and education organization that specializes in the healthy development of children and adolescents, the book recognizes and highlights the roles of various congregational leaders (not only youth leaders) in shaping the attitudes of young people regarding giving and serving. ISBN-10: 1566992389, ISBN-13: 9781566992381

How Much is Enough?. Simon, Arthur, Baker Books, 2003.

This book is a biblically based examination of faithful Christian discipleship in a consumer culture. The author discusses what it means to hunger for God in an affluent culture. ISBN-10: 0801064082, ISBN-13: 9780801064081

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Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don't Give Away More Money. Smith, Christian, Emerson, Michael O., & Snell, Patricia., Oxford University Press Inc., 2008.

The authors find that on the whole Christians in America give only about 1% of their income to churches and charities. Their interpretation for this sobering fact is insightful and reveals the relationship of American consumerist culture and the American churches among other important factors. ISBN-13: 9780195337112

Revolutionizing Christian Stewardship for the 21st Century. Dick, Dan R., Discipleship Resources, 2002.

The central message of this book is that Christian stewardship begins with God at the center. ISBN-10: 0881772127, ISBN-13: 9780881772128

Stewardship in African-American Churches. Amerson, Melvin. Discipleship Resources, 2006.

In this book, the author looks closely at financial stewardship traditions within African-American churches. While recognizing traditions of African-American churches, the author points to new ways of stewardship, including electronic transfers and creative endowments. ISBN-10: 0881774529, ISBN-13: 9780881774528

That's What My Mother Taught Me. Mather, Herb, Discipleship Resources, 2001.

Stewardship leaders will find help in the stories of 100 people identified as generous givers, as well as clues for ways to build new giving systems that invite generous giving as a faith response both today and in the future. ISBN-10: 0881773298, ISBN-13: 9780881773293

Unfettered Hope: A Call to Faith Living In an Affluent Society. Dawn, Marva J., Westminster John Knox Press, 2003.

Because affluent persons don't know what to value-how to choose what's important and weed out the rest-we remain dissatisfied with what we have and are compelled to want more. The author of this book demonstrates, however, how Christians can organize their lives to live in ways that allow them to love God and neighbor and, in the process, alleviate the despair in their lives and in the lives of others in the world. ISBN-10: 0664225950, ISBN-13: 9780664225957

Vocation Resources

2005 Clergywomen's Experiences in Ministry: Realities and Challenges

Includes statistical analysis of clergywomen's experiences and personal stories from the women surveyed. The report highlights the need for further analysis of all clergy and draws attention toward women's enduring struggle in the ministry.

<http://www.pcusa.org/acwc/reports.htm>

A Litany for Recognizing Young People Who Are Leaders in Ministry. Office of Certification and Christian Vocation.

<http://www.pcusa.org/christianvocation/pdf/litany.pdf>

"Awakening the Call: A Guide for Educators, Youth Leaders, Pastors and Church Leaders to help young people discern a call to ministry" Gina Yeager, Congregational Ministries, Presbyterian Youth Connection.

A guide for conducting a conversation with a young person considering or showing potential for a call to church leadership.

Calling to Educational Ministry

Created in two sections, this resource provides guidance for educator search committees as well as educators seeking a congregational call. Includes suggested interview questions and compensation guidelines. To be revised and re-printed in late 2008 but currently available in a downloadable format at www.pcusa.org/christianeducators

Callings: Twenty Centuries of Christian Wisdom on Vocation. William Placher, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 2005.

Resource gathers select passages on work and vocation from the greatest writers of Christian history. While the vocational questions faced by Christians have changed through the centuries, the book demonstrates how the distilled wisdom of these saints, preachers, theologians, and teachers remains relevant to Christians today.

ISBN-10: 0802829279; ISBN-13: 978-0802829276

Career and Calling: A Guide for Counselors, Youth, and Young Adults. Ginny Ward Holderness and Forrest C. Palmer Jr., Louisville, KY: Geneva Press, 2001.

"What is the first thing God is calling you to be and do in the future?" God calls individuals to both a lifestyle and a career, but one's career may change throughout a lifetime. Good career counseling should help people know themselves as well as help them choose a career. ISBN-10: 0664222323; ISBN-13: 978-0664222321

Committee on Ministry Advisory Handbook

The Committee on Ministry Handbook is an advisory handbook, a guide for COM work to be used alongside the Book of Order. This is a compilation of resources and best practices for Committees on Ministry that represents the cumulative wisdom of many COMs in many places. PDS # OGA-07-052

"Does Faith have a Place in our Work?" Summer 2007 *Windows*, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Articles on the theology of work from a Eucharistic perspective; work as a calling; a working mother's perspective on pastoral vocation; how college students often develop a sense of vocation; and why seminary students would profit from a deeper knowledge of labor justice issues.

Educator Certification Handbook

Handbook with detailed description of the process for educators to become Certified Christian Educators, Certified Associate Christian Educators, or Enrolled Educational Assistants.

PDS #OGA-07-053 (\$5.00) or downloadable for free at www.pcusa.org/christianeducators

["Heeding the Call: PC\(USA\) Urged to Recover 'Culture of Discernment' of Christian Vocation"](#) Jerry Van Marter in "News" (Presbyterian News Service), October 13, 2006.

Is It I, Lord?: Discerning God's Call to Be a Pastor. James O. Chatham, Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.

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An excellent introduction to the mystery of how God calls people into ministry. Reader-friendly and down-to-earth presents questions for anyone who feels called by God and offers insight into the process of declaring a vocation in ministry. ISBN-10: 0664226728; ISBN-13: 978-0664226725

Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation. Parker J. Palmer, San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 1999.

Palmer shares insights gained from darkness and depression as well as fulfillment and joy, illuminating a pathway toward vocation for all who seek the true calling of their lives. ISBN-10: 9780787947354; ISBN-13: 0787947350

Listening Hearts: Discerning Call in Community. Suzanne G. Farnham, Joseph P. Gill, R. Taylor McLean and Susan M. Ward, New York, NY: Morehouse Publishing, 1991.

Listening Hearts addresses the challenge of remaining faithful and attentive to God's call and tells how a faith community can be a source of support. ISBN-10: 0819215635; ISBN-13: 978-0819215635

On Calling a Pastor

Manual for Pastor Nominating Committees and Search Committees seeking new pastoral leadership. Contains information about the call process, establishing and organizing a PNC, entering a CIF on line, screening PIFs, interviewing, extending a call, and installing a pastor. PDS # OGA-07-090

Preparation for Ministry Advisory Handbook

Provides moderators, presbytery staff, and applicants with an overview of the process and resources, its intentions and goals. PDS # OGA-07-095

"The Nautical Theory of Vocational Discernment" John Williams in *The AColyte: A Journal of Faith, Doubt, and Other Things at Austin College*, May 2006.

Vocational discernment is the process of building and testing out sails until you find the one that most effectively catches the wind (Spirit) that blows through your life.

"Transforming Families" Office of Theology and Worship, PCUSA.

The 216th General Assembly (2004) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved the policy statement "Transforming Families." It is commended to the free Christian conscience of all congregations and the members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for prayerful study, dialogue, and action.

Vocation: Discerning Our Callings in Life. Douglas J. Schuurman, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 2004.

Schuurman argues Christians must recover the language, meaning and reality of life as vocation, and his book helps do just that. It examines the theological and ethical dimensions of vocation. ISBN 0802801374 ISBN 978-0802801371

Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens. Dorothy C. Bass and Don C. Richter, Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 2002.

"I want a way to live that keeps me involved in what God is doing in me and in the world around me. Do you know a way to live that is like that?" Eighteen Teens and 18 adults tackle this question in *Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens*. Their different points of view and personal stories make living a Christian life real. ISBN-10: 0835809757;

ISBN-13: 978-0835809757 See also: <http://www.waytolive.org>

What Am I Supposed to Do with My Life? Asking the Right Questions. Douglas J. Brouwer, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 2006.

Presents a personal, spiritual response to the vocational questions people ask and locates our true purpose in following Jesus' greatest commandment: love God and love your neighbor. ISBN-10: 0802829619; ISBN-13: 978-0802829610

["What Are Families For?"](#) *Ideas for Church Leaders*, Spring 2005.

The vocation of the family is a specific living out of this basic Christian vocation, so there is reciprocity at the heart of family life.

Websites

PCUSA Ministry and Vocations: <http://www.pcusa.org/navigation/ministryvocations.htm>

Includes resources and links related to vocation within the church. Contains a 24 page bibliography of additional books related to vocation (<http://www.pcusa.org/christianvocation/pdf/bibliography.pdf>).

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[Church Vocation](#)

[Association of Presbyterian Church Educators \(APCE\)](#) <http://apcenet.org/>

The mission of APCE is to connect, enrich, empower and sustain persons serving in educational ministry in the Reformed family of Churches.

[Presbyterian Leadership Search Effort \(PLSE\)](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/christianvocation/plse.htm>

A ministry of the PC(USA) that seeks to connect young people to programs of the church and the world in the midst of exploring the questions, "Who is God calling me to be?" and "How can I use the gifts God has given me?"

[Preparation for Ministry](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/prep4min/>

This site includes resources for those going through the ordination process.

[Young Adult Interns](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/nvo/youngadultinterns/yai.htm>

This leadership development program provides young adults with the opportunity to experience the expression of mission at the General Assembly level of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

[Project Burning Bush](#) <http://www.projectburningbush.org/>

A program for high school youth considering ministry as a vocation.

[Summer Youth Institute of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary](#) <http://www.summeryouthinstitute.org/>

To provide young people a Christian community where they can be challenged to move beyond their comfort zone in order to grow in faith, engage in academic theological study, explore ministry as a vocation and learn about Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

[Vocational Exploration at Presbyterian Seminaries](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/prep4min/vocationalexploration.htm>

This site contains information for those who are interested in visiting a seminary to help make decisions in the discernment process.

Mission and service in the nation and the world

[Mission Volunteers USA](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/nvo/missionvolunteers/missionvolunteers.htm>

Share your skills in ministries of service throughout the United States.

[Young Adult Volunteers](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/msr/youngadult.htm>

The Young Adult Volunteer Program offers exciting opportunities in Christian service for young adults. The Young Adult Volunteer Program has 18 sites in the United States and abroad and requires a commitment of one academic year.

[One Door](#) [http://onedoor.pcusa.org/\(201a3d55uvwyrou40ha4ufb4\)/user/pages/index.aspx](http://onedoor.pcusa.org/(201a3d55uvwyrou40ha4ufb4)/user/pages/index.aspx)

Where does God lead you? Create a profile, search opportunities and apply for service around the globe.

Peace and justice ministries

[Peacemaking – Young Adult Network](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/ya/ya.htm>

The Young Adult Network connects young adults to each other and links young adults to other justice oriented agencies within the Presbyterian Church.

Racial ethnic and women's ministries

[National Network of Presbyterian College Women](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/nnpcw/>

We are young women in college connected by our belief in God, seeking to understand what it means to claim a Christian faith that empowers women.

[Racial Ethnic Young Women Together](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/rewt/>

We are young women, rooted and connected by our Christian faith, gender, cultural and age identities.

[Presbyterian Women](#) <http://www.pcusa.org/pw/>

Committed to nurture faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

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College-age ministries

[Association of Presbyterian Colleges and Universities](http://www.apcu.net/) <http://www.apcu.net/>

An independent, not-for-profit organization that exists to strengthen the mission of colleges and universities related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

[Collegiate Ministries](http://www.pcusa.org/collegiate/) <http://www.pcusa.org/collegiate/>

Collegiate Ministries supports the work of over 1,300 higher education ministries serving on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Ministries with youth

[Ministries with Youth](http://www.pcusa.org/youthministry/) <http://www.pcusa.org/youthministry/>

This site focuses on events concerning youth workers in the church.

[Presbyterian Youth Workers Association](http://www.pywa.org/) <http://www.pywa.org/>

Connecting, upholding, and inspiring Presbyterian youth workers as they faithfully serve the triune God among young people.

Camp and conference ministries

[Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association](http://www.pccca.net/) <http://www.pccca.net/>

Seeking to provide a common voice and shared vision for camp and conference ministry in the Presbyterian Church.

Ecumenical

[Asian American Discipleship for Vocation Empowerment Nurture & Transformation](http://www.aadvent.org/) (AADVENT) <http://www.aadvent.org/>

This project, which runs from 2005-2009, will seek to encourage, support and challenge new generations of Asian American young adults to consider and pursue their Christian vocation.

[Fund for Theological Education](http://www.thefund.org/) <http://www.thefund.org/>

FTE offers support to help gifted young people explore and respond to God's calling in their lives.

[Youth Theological Initiative](http://www.candler.emory.edu/YTI/) <http://www.candler.emory.edu/YTI/>

YTI is a center for research and the theological education of youth and youth ministers.

[Program for Theological Exploration of Vocation](http://www.ptev.org/) <http://www.ptev.org/>

In May 1999, Lilly Endowment Inc. invited a group of outstanding colleges and universities to design programs to assist students in examining the relationship between faith and vocational choices, provide opportunities for gifted young people to explore Christian ministry, and enhance the capacity of a school's faculty and staff to teach and mentor students effectively in this arena.

[New Wilmington Missionary Conference](http://nwmcmission.org/default.aspx) <http://nwmcmission.org/default.aspx>

The New Wilmington Mission Conference (NWMC) looks to deepen the missionary spirit, seeking fulfillment of the Great Commission.

Formula of Agreement Church Websites on Vocation:

United Church of Christ:

<http://www.askthequestion.org/default.htm>

Videos and a question and answer section related to sense of call to ministry.

Reformed Church in America:

<http://www.rca.org/NETCOMMUNITY/Page.aspx?pid=1907&srcid=2225>

Opportunity listings and support services for those called to church vocations.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

<http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Vocation/Become-a-Leader.aspx>

Articles and questions and answers about leadership in the church.