



Be RESOURCE-ful

The Resource Center Newsletter

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Betty's Byline

GET...STAY HEALTHY!

We're being told that it's far better to take preventive measures to stay healthy rather than wait until illnesses or adverse conditions occur. The same can be said for the health of your church. The old adage, "Better safe than sorry" certainly rings true here. The presbytery's Christian Formation Committee has a GREAT prescription to kick off the Fall season! Join us on Sunday afternoon, September 21, from 2-5:30 PM, at First Presbyterian Church, 140 East Orange Street, Lancaster. Receive a shot of "spiritual botox" that is guaranteed to lift, support, smooth and restore congregational vitality. And it's yours for the taking...FREE, just for the investment of a few hours of your time. What a deal! Besides the opportunity to attend workshops of your choosing, our keynote speaker is someone you won't want to miss: Rev. Brian Clark. He is the founding pastor of Riverside Presbyterian Church, a vibrant 10 year old church outside Washington, D.C. Brian is also General Assembly Council field staff for New Church Development and an NCD coach.

REGISTER NOW...see YOU on the 21st!

PINCHING PENNIES?

Probably dollars is more like it. I imagine it's the rare person - and church - who are not trying to make ends meet with the best financial strategies possible. Good stewardship of ALL our resources: time, talents and money - seems to be even more of a priority than ever. The presbytery, including the Resource Center, is doing some necessary "belt-tightening" in '08-'09. However, the center is here to help make the best possible use of this valuable asset for you and your church. Make it a MUST on your "to-do" list to use the

varied and helpful resources at the center. You will discover that you will, in many instances, save time and money by doing so. You are always welcome to drop in to browse any weekday from 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. If it's more convenient, check out the complete listing of the collection on the presbytery's web site: www.donegalpby.com, click on Resource Center. Resources are listed by subject, title and author, along with a brief description of content. And you can contact me via phone or e-mail for resource requests, information or suggestions. Finally, if your church has resources that are used infrequently that could be housed at the center for others to borrow, please consider this additional opportunity for sharing with others who may not be able to afford their purchase. This is especially true for video or DVD series. The understanding is that your church has the privilege of primary use of the resources if and when needed again. Stewardship at work for the benefit of all!

FREE RESOURCES!

On October 19 - or another Sunday between World Food Day and Thanksgiving - churches across the country are being asked to join together to lift up the voices of hungry people through education, worship, music and prayer. At this time when we are about to choose a new Congress and president, we are reminded of the great inheritance we have received: the gift of citizenship, a resource to use on behalf of all who are in need. Bulletin inserts, special prayers, a sermon study by Rev. Heidi Neumark, and a children's resource are all available free of charge from Bread for the World, 50 F Street NW, Suite 500, Washington D.C. 20001. Call 1-800-822-7323 or visit www.bread.org/sunday.

A HALLOWEEN TRADITION

Trick or Treat for UNICEF: get material at <http://inside.unicefusa.org>





WHAT'S NEW at the CENTER?

Church

JIM AND CASPER GO TO CHURCH - Jim Henderson & Matt Casper Barna 169pp
Frank conversation about faith, churches and well-meaning Christians. An ordinary Christian and an ordinary atheist engage in a remarkable conversation about faith. The 2 visited 12 churches, from fundamental to Pentecostal, mega-churches to house churches, and collected valuable insights into what non-believers see, experience and feel as visitors. (A)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE MANUAL: Resources for Leading the Local Church - Crumroy, Kukawka & Witman Morehouse 528pp
For pastors and lay leaders who could use help with church management tasks: Finances, budgets, personnel matters, care of facilities, and church administration in general. (A)

TO STRENGTHEN CHRIST'S BODY: Tools for Talking About Tough Issues - PC(USA) 48pp
A study guide includes lesson plans for 7 sessions of 1 hour each for use in a variety of settings and age groups: Sunday School class, fellowship group, training for officers, retreat, etc. Identifies and explores basic concepts and tools that can help address the conflict and disagreements that are part of everyday life. Uses prayer, Bible study, discussion and skill building. (Y/YA/A)

Mission

REACHING THE WORLD IN OUR OWN BACKYARD: A Guide to Building Relationships with People of Other Faith and Cultures - Rajendra K. Pillai Westbrook 243pp

Equips readers to connect with peoples from all over the world and find common ground from which to share your faith. Tools and techniques are proven to reach out to individuals, building confidence in one's ability to befriend people of other cultures, and to talk to them about the Good News of Jesus Christ. (A)

Theology

ANSWERING ISLAM: The Crescent in Light of the Cross - Norman L. Geisler & Abdul Saleeb - Baker 366pp
Covers the fundamental beliefs of Islam clearly and fairly. Explains how Christians can respond to them, presenting the claims of Christ to Muslims in persuasive and loving ways.. A lucid, comprehensive theological analysis and critique of Islam from a Christian perspective. Provides an invaluable tool for understanding the most serious challenge to Christianity in the modern world. (A)

TEN THOUSAND MUSLIMS MEET CHRIST - Abe Ghaffari, Ed. Iranian Christians, International 79pp
Since the 1978-79 Islamic Revolution in Iran, Iranian Muslims are currently the most open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ of all Muslim people. A dozen testimonies in this book represent the spiritual journey of thousands of Iranians who convert from Islam to Christianity today. (A)

AMISH GRACE: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy - Donald K. Kraybill, Steve M. Nolt & David L. Weaver-Zercher Wiley 237pp
The remarkable response of the Amish community to the horrific shooting of 10 schoolgirls at Nickel Mines PA in October, 2006, is told in this incredible story of this community's reaction to this senseless shooting. Explores its profoundly counter-cultural practice of forgiveness. (YA/A)

