



Be RESOURCE - ful



The Resource Center Newsletter

Presbytery of Donegal, 1851 Charter Lane, Lancaster PA 17601

Phone: 717-392-4835

e-mail: betty@donegalpby.com

Betty B. Duncan, Director

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BETTY'S BYLINE

A Prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord, please give me...

- * A few friends who understand me and yet remain my friends
- * Work to do, which has real value, without which the world would feel the poorer
- * A mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be not blazed
- * An understanding heart
- * A sense of humor
- * Time for quiet, silent meditation
- * A feeling of the presence of God
- * Patience to wait for these things
- * Wisdom to know them when they come.

- W. R. Hunt

A new year has arrived with all its problems and predicaments... and all the possibilities and potential for wonderful things to happen! Make the most of what God has given you. And if you need a little help along the way, give the RESOURCE CENTER a try.

IT'S TIME...

to make a commitment to attend the 2010 Youth Triennium, July 20-25, at Purdue U. A registration form is enclosed with this newsletter. Please fill it out and return it to the Presbytery Office, along with \$100 as a down payment toward the registration fee. Do not send in any registrations to Louisville. The presbytery will gather all the forms and the fees and send them together as a group to the Triennium registrar. This applies to both youth and

adult advisors. (Feel free to make as many copies of the form as you need)

CALLING ALL HISTORIANS

The Presbyterian Historical Society is offering a local church history seminar on April 22-25, at Stony Point Center, Stony Point, NY. There will be workshops on Presbyterian history, oral history, writing a congregational history, managing congregation records, disaster preparedness, and celebrating a congregation's anniversary. For more info or to get an application packet please contact the society at 425 Lombard Street, Philadelphia PA 19147, call 215-627-2852, or on the web at refdesk@history.pcusa.org

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES...

this summer for youth at Montreat, our denomination's conference center in Montreat, NC. One youth conference will be held from June 6-12, and the other from August 1-7. The theme is "In These Waters". An entire youth group or individual young people in your congregation are encouraged to check out the possibilities for an exciting week in NC. Contact Montreat at 800-669-5054 or on the web at youth@montreat.org for more info.

* And much closer to home, please consider sending your children and youth to CAMP DONEGAL for a truly memorable experience!

RECYCLE...REQUEST

Here is an opportunity to **recycle** resources you and/or your church no longer need or have a use for. Take advantage of the center's BOOK SWAP, a place to

bring books, CDs, DVDs, and other resource materials. You can swap them for "good stuff" others have contributed, or simply donate it /them for the center's potential use. Bring items to the center at the presbytery office or to the next presbytery meeting. With tight budgets the name of the game, the center is taking suggestions and **requests** from you, our "customer", for the purchase of resources, rather than making educated guesses about which resources will be most useful to you

WHAT'S NEW AT THE CENTER?

Theology

THE WRITE STUFF: Crafting Sermons That Capture and Convince - Sondra B. Willobea, 123pp - Westminster/John Knox
Explore the joyful process of crafting effective sermons with clarity and wit. Shows how to capture and keep listeners' attention and how to increase the impact with vivid language. Examples, exercises and reflections offered. (A)

GOD'S TAPESTRY: Reading the Bible in a World of Religious Diversity -W. Eugene March, 113pp - Westminster/John Knox
Aimed at pastors, teachers and laypersons. Helps reader develop theological clarity about how to live in a religiously diverse society. Shows the importance of communicating to people effectively for positive change. The need to revisit the Bible in light of this new context, and reconsider if and how it can help us as we approach the issues of diversity and pluralism. (A)

GREAT PSALMS OF THE BIBLE - J. Clinton McCann, Jr., 150pp - Westminster/John Knox
A guide through a dozen of the best-loved psalms of the Old Testament, along with some lesser-known gems. Shares an

understanding of the original meanings, and considers ways that our life of faith today can be enriched through these scriptural treasures. Contains study questions for groups or individuals. (A)

PREACHING FROM MEMORY TO HOPE
Thomas G. Long, 152pp - Westminster/John Knox (A)

Calls for a bold, joyful approach to preaching with love, courage, confidence and clarity. Proclaim God's past, present and future to a spiritually disoriented age. Carefully crafted and powerfully insightful.

THE LIFE OF PRAYER: Mind, Body and Soul - Allan Hugh Cole, Jr. 139pp
Westminster/John Knox
Practical, discerning, engaging book. Leads reader into thinking about prayer in a way that is both substantial and accessible. For both beginners and those hoping to deepen their prayer lives. (A)

THE WILL OF GOD: Answering the Hard Questions - James A. Howell, 105pp
Westminster/John Knox
This honest discussion considers a number of issues relating to God's will, how it is known, how it is done, and how we respond when bad things happen and we feel God is absent or turned away. Offers ways of recognizing the true things to which we can hold in the midst of hard times. (A)

QUESTIONS OF TRUTH: 51 Responses to Questions About God, Science and Belief - John Polkinghorne & Nicholas Beale, 186pp - Westminster/John Knox
Accessible, informative and authoritative. An ideal starting point for those new to the field and a great stimulus to discussion for those who are already initiated. An important contribution to the dialogue between science and religion. (A): A



MORE VOICES, Westminster/John Knox
288pp (I)
225 songs that enable faith communities to unite in relevant and uplifting congregational songs. Theologically balanced, refreshing and inspirational music. Includes global and contemporary music with a variety of tunes, rhythms, lyrics and musical instruments to delight and challenge. Indexes enable exploring the richness and depth of the collection.

THE MANNER AND CUSTOMS OF BIBLE TIMES - Ralph Gower, 349pp
Moody Publisher
Since the Bible was written in a culture and land vastly different from ours, it is essential that we understand the manners and customs of that time in order to fully understand Scripture, giving us a clearer understanding of God's Word. 250 photos and illustrations. (I)

Church

HISTORY OF RELIGION IN THE UNITED STATES - Clifton E. Olmstead, 628pp
Prentice Hall
Successful amalgamation of theological orientation and sociological interpretation with an unusually complete coverage of the period from the Civil War to the dawn of the atomic age. (A)

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP FOR CHURCH OFFICERS - Joan S. Gray, 122pp
Geneva Press
A handbook for church leaders looking for a deeper relationship with God as they serve the Church. Equips them to act as spiritual leaders alongside their pastors. Provides resources for dealing with interpersonal relationships and identifies ways in which churches can create an atmosphere that supports spiritual leaders of elders and deacons. (A)

Education/Nurture

Good Mourning: Getting Through Your Grief - Allan H. Cole, Jr. 102pp
Westminster/John Knox
Concise, thoughtful book that offers an array of down-to-earth steps to guide one through the experience of loss - from grief to mourning. Concrete suggestions on prayer, Scripture reading and worship - all essential to healing. (A)

A HISTORY OF SERVICE: A Legacy of Love - John D. Killian, Retirement and Senior Care Services (A)
This history honors those who have preceded in this ministry of Presbyterian Homes, whose commitment and contributions of time, talent and treasure have shaped the values and mission that inspire us today. Honors those who continue to serve, plan and nurture the organization's ministry today and into the future.

SOUL SEARCHING: A Movie About Teenagers and God - DVD 77 min.
Revelation Studios (Y/A)
Looks at teenagers from around the country to get into their lives and get at the core of their beliefs - what they really think about God and religion, what their hopes and aspirations are, and what are the effects of religion in their lives. Comes in several versions. Study guide included.

Social Justice

PIECE WORK/PEACE WORK: Working Together for Peace in Sudan, 80pp
PC(USA)
4 session study for children in grades 1-6, with a closing intergenerational session. Explores situations facing Sudan's children. Learn about the country and its challenges, and identify how we can respond. Activities include games and art projects. Intergenerational session can be used on its own. (C/I)

