

The Union



www.synodresourcecenter.org "Uniting churches with the latest resources" 715-833-1153



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We are just about done....!

Hi to all,

The hot days of summer are certainly here. Makes one think back to the freezing days of winter and remember how we disliked that, too! Be sure to stay cool and don't over-do when you're outside.

We are just about done with the work of re-coding the books from the Presbyterian Resource Center that closed last February in Appleton. It has been a tremendous effort by our volunteer, Delores Harrison and myself to get this done. There are some great resources that are a marvelous addition to your Resource Center. Be sure to go on-line or come in and browse to see what's new! There's excellent adult studies as well as youth, children and special items.

Something new just in from the ELCA is a two-disc collector's edition of Davey and Goliath Volume 1. This is the first of what will be the re-release of the complete set of the "classic" Davey and Goliath episodes and specials by Starlight Home Entertainment (www.starlightfilmgroup.com). If you would like to take a look at this fun production, let us know, we'll send it out. Then, if you want it, it can be purchased at Augsburg Fortress, Best Buy, and Blockbuster.

You probably all know about the Soul Support event that was scheduled for August 1 & 2. The group traveled to Duluth to take in

the excitement there. It was one of the largest groups ever of synod secretaries and bookkeepers. They toured the Northeast Minnesota Synod Offices, watched an Omni Theater presentation, and just had a good time being together. If you have never been a part of Soul Support gatherings, make plans to go NEXT year!

We are getting requests for Sunday school materials and for us to come to an education committee meeting with a tub of resources for teachers/committee members to browse. It's fun to make connections, answer questions and talk about what's available for teaching. If YOU would like us to come to your teacher/education meeting, call the Center, 715-833-1153 and schedule a time.

We have lots of new things in the Center because of the Presbyterian Center closing. Really some excellent resources that will help you in your planning, teaching - whatever you are doing in your congregations. Adult Bible studies, women's programs, youth materials - we've got 'em all. Check the on-line catalog or come in and browse. We'll be glad to help you find what you're looking for.

As always, thanks for your continued support of the Resource Center. Be sure to remind your pastor, Councils and members that we are in need of financial support to keep your Resource Center operating.

"The Union" e-mailed during the year-www.synodresourcecenter.org- by the Northwest Synod of WI Resource Center located at 1005 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703.

*Center hours: 9:00am to 5:00pm daily; special times by appointment
www.synodresourcecenter.org*

*Phone-715-833-1153;
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*Rev. Greg Kaufmann, director;
Bonnie Weber, assistant director;
Diane Kaufmann, Delores Harrison, Tim & Gay Fehr, & Howard Weber, volunteers.*

Some new resources.

All of these are new-to-the-Center videos that are excellent Bible studies—personal or small group. You're going to enjoy presenting these or being part of the class.

A set of 18 videos called "Faces on Faith" by various speakers who talk about what faith means to them in their lives;

A set of 6 videos by Dr. Kenneth Bailey on Women in the New Testament;

Another set of 14 videos by Dr. Bailey called "Jesus, the Theologian" on the parables;

"Faith and Reason" videos are available by various speakers on various topics;

"The Historical Jesus—A Middle Eastern View is a video with Dr. Harry Wendt, from Crossways interviewing Dr. Kenneth Bailey;

"Religions of the World - Buddhism, Catholicism, Protestantism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism" is a six-video set;

"A Clear View of Jesus' Birth" is a four video set by Dr. Kenneth Bailey;

From the Faith Lesson series: On the Death and Resurrection of the Messiah. Contains 2 videos, Leader and Participant guides;

"An Ordinary Day with Jesus" contains a video, leader and participant guides, and Power Point CD;

Max Lucado —"He Chose the Nails", a 12-session study with video, leader and

participant guides, and CD with music;

"Becoming a Contagious Christian" is from Willow Creek Community Church and is their evangelism course with video, guides and overhead materials;

"Breaking the Code - Understanding the Book of Revelation" with Bruce Metzger;

"The Christian Story" is a video with Dr. Martin Marty;

"Relationships" with Drs. Les & Leslie Parrott is six sessions with video, guides and hard cover book on making your relationships better;

Videos by Tom Wright: Romans; The Apostle Paul - Purpose and Passion; Jesus' Resurrection - Then and Now;

Trinity Institutes 31st National Conference is videos with various speakers talking about their experiences then fielding questions from the audience. Great tools;

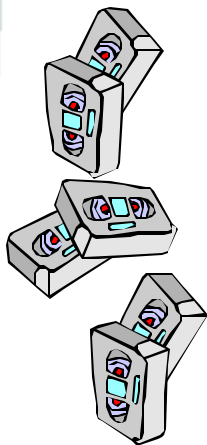
Praying in the Midst of Life by Ron Delbene is a guide to prayer in 6 sessions;

The Great Courses-Teaching that engages the mind - four sets of three videos each - Old Testament and New Testament;

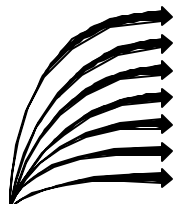
Islam: The Faith and the People; Judaism: The Religion of a People; Christianity: The Way of Goodness and Mercy;

A two video series: My God, My God Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me? and, Christ's Return - uniquely formatted study videos that will get your mind working;

Get YOUR video series reserved TODAY!



A top-notch DVD.



See a great DVD: With Hands Uplifted - A Call to Prayer. It is a new inspirational resource inviting and encouraging prayer for renewal of the church. Through rich images and music, prayers are engaged to be changed and renewed by God's amazing grace. This DVD can

be used at Bible studies, small groups, prayer ministries, worship, council and committee meetings, youth group meetings - wherever and whenever the people of God gather. A user's guide comes with it and offers reflection questions. This 7 - minute production comes from our ELCA.



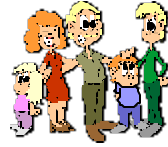
Remember secretaries, this publication is NOT for your eyes only! Don't forget to pass on the electronic directions to others - staff/leaders - who need to know what's goin' on at the Resource Center! Print copies and make them available in your office for walk-ins. We're here to help make life easier for planners!

More new stuff for kids AND adults.

Rabbit Ear videos on Noah, Moses, David and Jonah with Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Kelly McGillis and Ruben Blades handling the voice part;

More Veggie Tales; lots of videos on Old Testament personalities that will be a big help for Rotation Model Sunday School or any other curriculum;

The Birth and Childhood Stories of Jesus for ages 3-10. Seven simple story sessions that are easy for anyone to tell to young children. All you need to tell the stories;



Four volumes of Church Season - chocked full of suggestions and ideas for lessons, crafts, outreach, special helps - great resource;

Some new Youth Books - Worship, Mission, and Retreats; Hot Illustrations for Youth Talks; Discussion and Lesson Starters for Youth Groups, plus many more;

Love - All That and More is a six session curriculum and 3 video series on healthy relationships for youth and young adults;

Lots of new books for everyone - craft books, ministry books, celebrating the church year with young children, books of the Old Testament and more personalities of the Bible;

Women's programs, women of the Old and New Testament; young adult Bible studies, stewardship, evangelism, pastoral care books, worship planning

and leading, theology books and personal growth books, some just for fun reading - most are for study and leadership.

She Said, Yes - is the story of Cassie Bernall, the 17 year old junior at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado who, when the rampaging classmates asked her if she believed in God, she said yes, and that was the end of her life on earth. Her parents share how they worked with Cassie when she was going through the difficult times of growing up. It is complete with a video and discussion guide.

We also have the "No Experience Necessary" adult Bible study written by Kelly Fryer. This is a wonderful study - like the title says, no experience is necessary. You don't have to have been involved in 101 Bible studies in order to participate in this one. You owe it to yourself to let Kelly open up the Bible for you and lead you into the kind of authenticity you have always wanted. The first adventure in learning is ready now—the next one will be coming in September. Get going in a great study NOW!

A couple of new music books are here from Augsburg - one is full of contemporary solos that are beautifully arranged, a CD accompanies the book; another one is full of organ accompaniments for congregational singing; and, the last one is hymn arrangements for jazz combo - Down by the Riverside, When the Saints, and This Little Light of Mine. Wonderful!

A Message from the ELCA.

Here is a study you will be thrilled to present or be a part of. It's Daily Discipleship - the new ELCA Online Lectionary Bible Study.

Daily Discipleship is a new ELCA lectionary-based curriculum available online at the ELCA Web site. It is ideal for groups desiring to focus on God's Word and apply that Word to their daily lives.

This free downloadable resource provides a two-page reflection guide for each Sunday's gospel, beginning with September 11, 2005. A different aspect of the call from Jesus to his disciples is explored each week around the questions: What does this Sunday's gospel teach about being a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Each session has three components: Word of Life (Gospel text); Word Among Us (Application to daily life); Last Word (A faith practice for daily life).

Bible studies for Fall, 2005 are available for download now at www.elca.org/evangelism/dailydiscipleship

Fall term titles: 9/11-Forgiveness; 9/18-Grace; 9/25-Responsible Living; 10/2-Courage; 10/9-Invitation; 10/16-Citizenship; 10/23-Love; 10/30-Freedom.

This course of study may be used at any time in any location. Groups of 2-7 could meet for coffee, before or after work, to focus on the call of Jesus to be disciples. Or perhaps chat rooms at the church preparing for worship by exploring

the gospel text online. Daily Discipleship is also excellent for the Pastor's Class; excerpts could be used in bulletins or newsletters to inform and advertise the group meeting.

Don't miss this easy, free way to study the Word of God.



Study God's Word

The Resource Center is ready to come your way. . . .



DON'T FORGET! We are more than willing to come to your church anytime of the day or evening to present education material, young or adult; worship materials; lead a Bible study; help your council/committees with whatever problems they may have; any way we can help you we will try very hard to do so. Just contact us: www.staff@synodresourcecenter.org or call: 715-833-1153 OR your council/committees are

welcome to come here and we will make a presentation with materials right at their fingertips to examine and decide if it is something they can use. We are here to help pastors, leaders and congregations to do their jobs in the best way possible.

Now hear this. . .Pastors/Study leaders...!



We have four new DVD's that will greatly aid teaching confirmation classes OR adult study groups: Journey of a Lifetime-Exploring Biblical Jordan-The actual sites of some of the Bible's greatest events!; Galloping Through The Gospels-An exploration of the Gospel drama from the original locations; St. Paul in Greece-The Gospel comes to Europe; The Seven Churches of Revelation Rediscovered-An exploration of their sites and the messages of the Risen Christ to them.

These are all directed and hosted by David Nunn, a scholar from England who does a great job of leading the viewer through history. These are excellent teaching tools. You can show segments to accent your lesson or, if you are teaching an adult class, show more of the program perhaps along with a bible study.

Come in and view them today.

A few items that need your attention....

DON'T FORGET TO promote the Lay School of Ministry in your congregation. This is one of the best ways to increase your knowledge of the Bible and its history that you can find. We have information packets here at the Center. If you know of someone who would like to be involved in it, let us know. We'll send some packets your way.

THE BANNER FOR VBS went out quite a few times this year. Those who used it were appreciative of being able to advertise their event. Be sure to check with us next year, if you use Augsburg materials for VBS. We'll probably have a banner again for check-out.

SOME OF THE NEW CHILDREN'S VIDEOS we have will be great for Sunday school Rotation Model or regular Sunday school. Some good series of Old Testament and New Testament characters are now available. Remember to let your education people know.

THE LUTHERAN VOICES SERIES from Augsburg is growing by leaps and bounds. A few of the publications have become run-away best-sellers. We have the entire range of 18 books now with three new ones coming out shortly. These are great for study since each one has questions at the end of the chapters that make them excellent for group discussion.

HERE WE STAND confirmation materials are here for review. Look at it soon!

We are getting over 70,00 hits on our site monthly!



New Open File going up Aug. 4 is on child safety in your congregation. Click on Youth, then on Policies.