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best faith-based libraries and  
resource centers worldwide



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## *Enrichment, Reflection, and Renewal in Historic Cherokee Country*

*Join the Librarians at the Lakeside for the 46th Annual CSLA  
Conference, July 28-30, 2013, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina*



This year's CSLA annual conference offers an opportunity to go back hundreds of years in time to meet the Cherokee people who lived among the mountains of eastern North America long before European settlers arrived. Turn your conference travel plans into a family adventure or simply extend your stay to explore the historic and cultural sites near Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center.

As you arrive at the Conference and Retreat Center, you will immediately sense the significance of our theme. The conference promises "Enrichment, Reflection, and Renewal at the Lakeside" for congregational librarians through a program of practical workshops, featured authors, dynamic speakers, engaging entertainment, and comfortable accommodations. Before you leave you will want to join the tour to explore the history that gave the name "Junaluska" to the Conference Center.

On Sunday, July 28, the conference opens with worship to the beautiful sound of the Lake Junaluska Singers, a sixteen-voice professional ensemble, which serves as the ambassador choir for the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and of the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center. Begun in 1954, the group has performed nationally and internationally for conferences, dignitaries, and major events. Their music ranges from classical choral and contemporary works to gospel, folk, and musical theatre styles.

The conference officially begins with a luncheon and featured author, Nancy Robinson Masters, who will get us off to a great start with her motivational style and humorous approach to life's ups and downs. Nancy's passion for the power of the printed word began as a child growing up on a cotton farm in West Texas during seven years



Marie Junaluska, a descendent of Cherokee Chief Junaluska in whose honor the lake is named.

## From The President's Desk...

Dear CSLA friends,

At the beginning of each calendar year I tend to consider it “time” to think seriously about “time.” It seems to me that whether for ourselves or for our congregational libraries, so often we feel rushed: we have run out of time, the time got away from us, there was never enough time, time waits for no man, and so on.

In taking the time to think about its meaning, my thoughts race from seconds and minutes to days, weeks, years, generations. How has this time been spent; what, if anything, was accomplished? What are or should be one’s priorities on how to “spend” time? At the end of a busy day, after running around and doing a bundles of chores, do we need time to think, relax, and smell the roses?

Luckily, we have congregational libraries. It is not unusual for a library to be a place to spend both busy and reflective time. Our libraries can be havens for research about our denominations, our specific houses of worship, our biblical traditions, and our religious heritage. They also can be the areas where patrons/congregants enjoy spending time reading about faraway places, contemporary events, and interesting personalities. This combination of education, stimulation, excitement, relaxation, amusement, contemplation, inspiration, and meditation provides a wonderful kaleidoscope of who we are and who the people we serve are.

I started to think about time recently in relation to the Gregorian, Islamic, and Hebrew calendars. They all are different: the Gregorian is based on the solar year (yet Easter is considered a “movable” feast, related to the vernal equinox); the Islamic calendar is a lunar calendar, taking about thirty-three years to complete its cycle; the Hebrew calendar is primarily lunar but adjusts for the seasons, as certain holidays have an agricultural basis. It is on a nineteen-year cycle with seven leap years, each with an extra month. Complicated and confusing? Yes, but the various calendars provide us with different eyes to look at time. We can use this concept to help us when facing challenges and opportunities in our personal and congregational lives.

For example, what will our congregational libraries look like next year—in five, ten or twenty years? How will our congregational libraries function, what changes will there be for librarians, what will congregants expect? It is always the right “time” to think about these questions and, to the extent possible, plan for the future. We try to remember there are short-and long-term plans. And, when we consider our thoughts, let us remind ourselves that there is more than one way to perceive of time. There are many doors that open up avenues to our congregational libraries’ potentials. This concept can apply to chapters too. Recently, our Indiana chapter did not have the usual written evaluation form to give to attendees at a workshop meeting. Afterwards, two of our members decided to try an online evaluation survey format, sent to all chapter members (certain questions



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applied to members who could not attend). Using a free online survey was innovative and informative in ways we could not have imagined before. We took advantage of the timing to connect with and obtain meaningful feedback from our membership.

Many of us tend to be creatures of habit, but this is a great time to start dreaming of the sun, the moon, and the stars when contemplating the uniqueness and the creativity that abound in our libraries, just waiting to be tapped.

As we consider the past and present and look forward to the future, we can refresh our minds and our libraries by considering new thoughts and ways to accomplish our goals. We all gain from a chance to reassess and regroup – it is worthwhile, and now is the time to do it!

Good wishes to you in these endeavors and, if anyone is interested in his/her date of birth in the Islamic or Hebrew calendars, there are calendar converters on the internet—or contact me and I will be happy to take the time to help you find the right date!

Blessings to all as CSLA continues to move ahead and serve congregational libraries.

—Evelyn Pockrass, [epockrass@iquest.net](mailto:epockrass@iquest.net)

## Do you order from Amazon?

When you order books—or anything else—from Amazon, there is an easy way for you to provide financial assistance to the Church and Synagogue Library Association. Just remember to go **first** to the CSLA website at [www.cslainfo.org](http://www.cslainfo.org).

In the box at the top on the right side, just click on the logo:



Amazon pays a commission to CSLA for all orders placed in this fashion, and **there is no increased cost to you**. So, it is a free and easy way in which you can support the ongoing work of CSLA.\*

\*Some browsers may require you to type in the name of a book before taking you to Amazon. Do not click on *Get Widget*. If you have problems, contact Judy Janzen at the CSLA office.

## New CSLA Guides Hot off the press



**Resources Manual for Congregational Libraries: An Annotated Bibliography** by Ellen Bosman. An entirely new approach to resources for congregational libraries! Bosman has carefully researched and annotated various resources for libraries and has chosen the very best for this guide. The manual is divided into two major sections: one with tools for librarians and the other for enrichment resources for library patrons. Resources are arranged in large topic areas such as: reference materials, cataloging and classification, promotion, world religions, parenting, prayer, gender studies, and recommended authors. 50 p. \$14.00.

**Selecting a New Library Cataloging and Circulation Computer System** by Bill Doole, edited by Jeri Zulli. A carefully thought-out process for choosing a library software program for your particular library. Each step is explained and clearly presented. Three easy steps to adapt to any size library: 1. Decide what you want your system to do—just catalog or have public access to the catalog, also keep track of circulation, or more; 2. Research the various software packages out there; 3. Create a plan of action. Each of these steps is detailed for the guide user. 20 p. \$12.00.







Luncheon Speaker Nancy Robinson Masters

Daniel Boone Regional Library in Columbia, Missouri. In her spare time, she performs music programs for families with young children, using audience participation and short stories with her husband, Thom. Sarah will also offer two workshop on choosing books and activities for expanding the reading experience of children from birth to age eight.

### Workshops

Speaking of workshops—you will find a range of choices that will fulfill the promise of “enrichment, reflection, renewal.” They include such topics as social media and websites, cutting-edge cataloging, choosing the right books for recreation, education, age groupings and congregational programing , humor, age-level reading and activities, and more.

The first session is on Sunday afternoon, followed by three sessions on Monday. Here is a sampling of workshops that will definitely enrich your experience at the conference:

- ❖ Panning for Gold in Secular Children’s Literature
- ❖ Going Green in the Church/Synagogue Library
- ❖ The Wonderful World of Teens—Library Style
- ❖ Planning, Preparing, and Planting a Biblical Garden
- ❖ Laughter in the Library, Laughter in Your Life
- ❖ Faith Journey: Resources for Inspired Travel (Armchair and Otherwise)

Look for the entire list in the registration materials.

### Closing Session

After the business session on Tuesday morning, the conference closes with guest speaker Freeman Owle, who will talk about the “Cherokee of Yesterday and Today.” Freeman, a member of the Cherokee Nation, is an authoritative lecturer and demonstrator of Cherokee

of extreme drought. Nancy is a pilot, and her writing has taken her around the world, including traveling with the National Science Foundation in Antarctica. Promoting the power of free people to freely read and write, she will also lead a workshop, “The Seven Deadly Sins of Amateur Authors,” providing practical, proven techniques to succeed as a freelance writer. She will be scheduled for a book signing. Grab your cap and goggles and get ready to laugh, cry, and fly high with one of America’s most inspirational women, who credits many of her achievements as an author, pilot, and aviation explorer to church librarians who gave her “freedom to read’em” to achieve her dreams.

Sunday evening will offer “Just a Little Bit: an evening of music and short stories with Thom and Sarah Howard.” This Missouri couple is known across the country for their music and storytelling program. Thom is a versatile solo guitarist, playing ragtime, finger style, classical, Spanish, and Latin American music. Sarah is a librarian, currently serving as Children and Youth Services Manager at the



Sarah and Thom Howard will entertain conference attendees on Sunday evening



culture. He shares the history, culture, and stories of the Cherokee with those who would never get to hear it otherwise. His main focus is on the Cherokee way of life and its value to us today. He teaches from the native perspective—the Cherokee’s perception of themselves in relation to the things around them: self- concept, respect for others, appreciation for mother earth, and the value of knowing one’s own roots. Freeman feels that it is important to learn about the Cherokee from a Cherokee. He also crafts authentic stone and wood carvings.



Freeman Owle will be our special guest speaker on Tuesday

**Tour: Museum of the Cherokee Indian, Oconaluftee Village, and a Musical Drama**

A tour of Cherokee country appropriately follows Freeman Owle’s closing presentation. The nearby town of Cherokee, lying within the Qualla Boundary, is the home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee, a sovereign nation of one hundred square miles with more than thirteen thousand enrolled members. They are direct descendants of those who avoided the Cherokees’ forced removal to Oklahoma in the 1830s on the “Trail of Tears.”

A perfect place to begin exploration of Cherokee heritage and traditions is the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, located in the nearby town of Cherokee, North Carolina. The museum is a state-of-the-art facility that traces the story of the Cherokee from the earliest inhabitants of the area to the present. An extensive exhibit of artifacts and photos is enhanced with computer-generated holograms and other imagery, sound, and special effects that leave a lasting and haunting impression on the visitor. The museum gift shop is rich in Cherokee tradition. Locally created baskets, pottery, wood carvings, decorated gourds, and beadwork are among the art available for sale in the shop, as well as resources on Cherokee history and culture.



Pottery-making at Oconaluftee Village

Visiting the Oconaluftee Village will take you back to the eighteenth century to a living, working Cherokee Village. Centuries-old techniques for survival have been passed down from generation to generation and preserved in this living history site. As you step into the Oconaluftee Indian Village, you are transported back to witness the challenges of Cherokee life at a time of rapid cultural change. This year for the first time, visitors will be able to take self-guided tours to explore the historic events and figures of the 1760s. Visitors can interact with villagers as they participate in their daily activities. The village also hosts live reenactments, interactive demonstrations, and hands-on Cherokee pottery classes for kids.

The tour culminates in an outdoor performance of the long-running musical drama, *Unto these Hills*. The story of the Cherokee people unfolds from their beginnings through the height of their power, through the heartbreak of the Trail of Tears, to the present day. The rich history of the Cherokee, portrayed through music and dance, includes significant events, such as the arrival of Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto in 1540, the participation of the Cherokee in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, and the removal of the Cherokee from their ancestral lands on the Trail of Tears in 1838. The drama has recently been rewritten to better reflect the true history and culture of the Cherokee people, honoring some of the most revered Cherokee heroes, including Sequoyah, creator of the Cherokee alphabet; Junaluska, the wise leader; and Tsali, the brave chief who gave his life for his people.

“Enrichment, Reflection, and Renewal” await you as you join “Librarians at the Lakeside” at the forty-sixth annual CSLA conference. Enrich your library skills, reflect on the history of the Cherokee people, and renew your spirit in the natural beauty of Lake Junaluska and the surrounding Great Smoky Mountains.

# CSLA AWARDS

*Help us honor the hard work and dedication of congregational librarians*

CSLA has recognitions to award to deserving librarians for the good they do in their (a)vocations. The awards banquet every year at our conference is a delightful evening of love and celebration of congregational library work. Put on your thinking caps, roll up your research sleeves, and find those great librarians who deserve credit for their work. Remember, there will be no awards given at the conference unless nominations are sent and received by March 31, 2013. We know there are hard-working congregational libraries and librarians deserving to be nominated.



## AWARDS CATEGORIES

- \* Outstanding Congregational LIBRARY
- \* Outstanding Congregational LIBRARIAN
- \* Outstanding CONTRIBUTION to Congregational Libraries
- \* Outstanding CONTRIBUTION to CHILDREN'S LITERATURE (The Helen Keating Ott Award)
- \* Pat Tabler Memorial Award



The full description of each award and the nomination form is available at [www.cslainfo.org](http://www.cslainfo.org).

Everyone who is facilitating a congregational library—whether from a rolling cart, a closet, or a room full of books—is outstanding. Help us honor and recognize them with CSLA awards. Get busy—get started—fill out the form and send it to:

Glenda Strombom  
13134 Franklin Avenue  
Mountain View, CA 94040  
PH 650-303-9185  
[glendastrombom@comcast.net](mailto:glendastrombom@comcast.net)

OR

CSLA  
Attention: Awards Committee  
10157 SW Barbur Blvd #102C  
Portland, OR 97219  
[csla@worldaccessnet.com](mailto:csla@worldaccessnet.com)

**REMEMBER: DEADLINE is MARCH 31, 2013**

# Library Limelight

keep the spotlight on your library



Our publishing schedule occasionally makes planning ahead difficult. Here I am in December trying to think of ways for us to advertise in February, March, and April! I have discovered a couple of websites that list not only the regular holidays but unusual days that we do not hear much about—including some whacky days. My library committee will often try to relate a whacky day to media in order to highlight what is available in the library. Sometimes it works!

**February** 20 is **Love Your Pet Day**. Think of all those pet stories in your children's collection. There are also many for adults—remember the story *That Quail Robert* by Margaret Stanger that was so popular a few years back. There are often stories of president's pets, and then there

is always James Herriot. This month is **Spiritual Teachers Month**. Now, here is one I had never heard of that can open congregational eyes to our 200 and 920 (Dewey Decimal) sections. We must all have a large selection to choose from for this display. It is great when these "holidays" fit in with our congregational life.



**March** has some interesting days and celebrations that can be used to promote your media. **National Umbrella Month** is a chance to use some of those very interesting umbrellas you see everywhere, for a three-dimensional display. For a bulletin board, you might use photographs copied on large paper and stapled to your board. Match them with a theme (**It's Raining Books!**) or media that complements current activities in your congregation.



This month is also **National Mirth Month**. I certainly hope you have humor in your collection. March 14 is  **$\pi$  [Pi] Day**. Since my library committee has a retired math teacher, I expect to use this one this year.  $\pi$  is a transcendental number that repeats itself to infinity. This idea could be used to emphasize children's math or counting, but for adults, your display could emphasize the transcendental nature of religious life.



**April** always has infinite possibilities, with the renewing of life around us. Spring does wonders for the soul as well as the body. There are always the important days and weeks of **Passover** and **Easter**—we always observe these in special ways. However, there are other interesting occasions in the month: April is **National**

**Poetry Month**, for example. **No Housework Day** on April 7 has a certain whacky appeal! Think of promoting light reading for the harassed, such as the "Miss Julia" books by Ann Ross, who spoke so wittily at the national conference in Greensboro in 2006, or the "Out to Pasture" books by Effie Leland Wilder. These also relate to another monthly celebration—**National Humor Month**.



The two web sites that I have used for gathering ideas (there are probably others) are:

[www.emotionscards.com/locations.html](http://www.emotionscards.com/locations.html)  
[www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays](http://www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays)

These also have great articles about how many of these holiday ideas came about and how they were implemented.

—Dottie Lewis, [deglewis@gmail.com](mailto:deglewis@gmail.com)



# Chapter Chatter

*Hearing and Learning from our Friends is like a Balm in Gilead*

**Delaware Valley** A full program containing a keynote speaker and two sessions were featured at the fall meeting held on September 29, 2012, at the Church of the Redeemer, Springfield, Pennsylvania. From this chapter's fall 2012 newsletter: "Patricia Gallagher, our luncheon speaker, is truly an inspiration as she talks about her family's struggle with depression and the lessons they have learned through the experience. Out of that struggle has come a compelling story, *No More Secrets: A Family Speaks about Depression, Anxiety, and Attempted Suicide.*" (Team of Angels, 2009. ISBN 978-0962150005.) Session One, "Up for Discussion: How to Begin a Successful Book Club," was presented by Asha Verma, and Session Two, "Sharpen Your Congregational Library Ministry with CSLA's Newest Publications," was presented by Valerie Anewalt and Marjorie Smink.

**Florida Suncoast** The annual spring meeting of this chapter was held at Grace Lutheran Church, St. Petersburg, Florida, on March 29, 2012. Roseanne Blass, retired librarian from the University of South Florida, was featured. She spoke on the future of congregational libraries and the impact of ebooks. She offered these suggestions to increase the visibility and use of our libraries: read excerpts from books to as many groups as possible; display books in several places throughout the building; and provide comfortable tables and chairs, good lighting, and areas appropriate for laptop use in the library, and invite groups to use that space [paraphrased from the chapter's October 2012 newsletter]. In addition, Martha Huntley reported on her year as the Rodda Book Award Committee chair; Maryann Barth provided a handout for "perking up" our libraries; and Sharon Centanne described her experiences in using Facebook, blogging, and websites (such as [www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)) to promote her library.

**Northeastern Ohio** This large chapter is subdivided into the following areas: Ashland/Mansfield, Eastern Shore, Greater Akron, Greater Cleveland, Stark County, and Warren/Youngstown. The Greater Akron Area fall meeting was held October 16, 2012, at the Stow Presbyterian Church, Stow, Ohio. Joyce Kight led the program "Helping People Use Their Talents: Ministering To and Through Your Library's Volunteers." At the Eastern Shore fall meeting, held October 6, 2012, at the Mentor United Methodist Church, Mentor, Ohio, ideas from the recent CSLA national conference were shared, and each member brought a book that she or he had read recently and recommended for a congregational library.

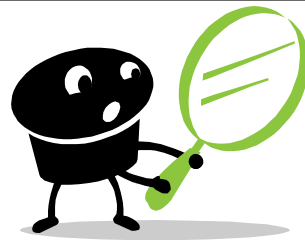
**San Jose Bay Area** The November 19, 2012, meeting of this chapter was held at the Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church in Sunnyvale, California. The featured program was a discussion on the use of wireless scanners, barcode readers, and portable label makers for circulation purposes in congregational libraries, led by Julie Reilly. Did you know that you could generate a new copy of a worn-out barcode label by going to the barcode label generator available at [www.barcodesinc.com/generator/index.php](http://www.barcodesinc.com/generator/index.php), typing in the number of the barcode in the "Your text" field, and then printing it—all for free? That is a very handy tip! On a sad note, we learn of the death on September 30, 2012, of long-time chapter member Miriam Clark. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with her family, friends, and colleagues.

**Southwest Pennsylvania** This chapter celebrated its thirty-fifth fall workshop on November 10, 2012! The workshop was held at the Southminster Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mary Lou Henneman led the workshop "Meeting the Needs of Young Adult Readers." The featured guest was Dr.



John Aupperle. He spoke about “Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor, author, and Nobel Peace Prize winner” [from the chapter’s fall 2012 newsletter]. In the afternoon, Paula Altschul and Carol Meisinger shared information gathered from their attendance at the 2012 CSLA national conference.

**Western New York** Do you know of any books or media that provide a religious framework for grandparenting? Glenda Caufield presented a review of Creative Grandparenting: How to Love and Nurture a New Generation by Jerry and Judy Schreur (Discovery House Publishers, 2011. ISBN 978-1572934887) and led a lively discussion on the demands of being a grandparent and the lack of religious materials that provide guidance in being a good role model for grandchildren. This book contains many practical tips and a lot of inspiration! Ron Opferbeck from Life Resources Christian Bookstore was also featured on the program, providing his popular annual review of new books and media. All this and more occurred at the fall 2012 chapter meeting, held on October 13, 2012, at the University Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, New York. [Editor’s note: you might also be interested in Please Pass the Faith: The Art of Spiritual Grandparenting, by Elsie H. R. Rempel, reviewed in this issue of CLT.]



## INDEX OF PUBLICATIONS ON THE WEB

*Searching for just the right CSLA guide that might be helpful to you in your library ministry? Check [www.cslainfo.org](http://www.cslainfo.org) for a NEWLY REVISED index using topics common to librarians. Topics range from accessioning, circulation, memorials, and posters to weeding. If you don’t have access to the internet, try your public library for internet access, or call Judy Janzen at 800-LIB-CSLA.*

# What’s New in the CSLA World?

## The CSLA Virtual Chapter!

Don’t have a chapter near you?

Need someone to talk to?

Have a great idea for congregational libraries?

Need a problem solved?

Just want to vent?

Need to brainstorm?

No boundaries!

Meet anytime!

Get online with coordinator Dawn Domans:

[\*\*butterfliesr2free@verizon.net\*\*](mailto:butterfliesr2free@verizon.net)



# fresh citations

new media for your library



Our reviews now include information on ebooks. Look for this symbol:

## Living in Faith



### Small Things with Great Love: Adventures in Loving Your Neighbor

Margot Starbuck. InterVarsity, 2011. 239p. \$15.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8308-3817-2. Available as an ebook. www.ivpress.com 248.4 Christian love. Love—Religious aspects—Christianity. Interpersonal relations—Religious aspects—Christianity.

Margot Starbuck skillfully blends humor with stark reality, fact with fiction, and stories from scripture with today's news. With social justice as her theme,

she borrows her title from Mother Teresa: "We cannot do great things, only small things with great love."

In thirty entries, Starbuck describes the potentially life-changing impact of ordinary but loving acts. Readers can read the text straight through or hop-and-skip as directed at the end of each segment, guided by icons and arrows pointing to other units linked by subject.

Readers must get a feel for Starbuck's humor as she moves from facetious to strikingly serious. It helps to envision her speaking at a podium, where an audience would move quickly from laughter to tears and back again.

*Small Things with Great Love* is not an easy read; an attentive reader will be challenged on many levels. However, the message of need and compassion, as well as the call to serve in small ways, rings through. The book concludes with the admonition to "set this book down and respond to the Spirit's tug."

Guides are included for individual study and a six-week group study. Recommended for church libraries and persons interested in missions and service projects. —Carolyn Eglolf



### Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine

Max Lucado. Thomas Nelson, 2012. 211p. \$24.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-8499-2070-7. Available as an ebook. www.thomasnelson.com 234 Grace (Theology).

Fans of Max Lucado will find in this new volume his stories coupled with biblical teaching, current events, history, and personal experiences, presented in Lucado's characteristic straight-talking yet poignant style.

Eleven chapters and a conclusion focus on grace. Each begins with quotes from scripture and selected writers and then expands on the depth and scope of grace, a much-used but often misused and misunderstood word.

Zacchaeus, Barabbas, Ruth and Naomi, David, and the adulterous woman are among biblical figures illustrating the power of grace, described as "the voice that calls us to change and then gives us the power to pull it off." Saving grace and sustaining grace are differentiated, with the latter providing strength and a sense of God's presence, especially in difficult times.

A comprehensive readers' guide, over fifty pages in length, is excellent for individual or group study. Readers acquainted with Lucado's books may decide this is his best yet. Persons questioning their faith or seeking new understandings will learn and find assurance.

Recommended for church libraries, classes, and small groups. A seven-session curriculum, including DVD and participant's guide, is available. —Carolyn Eglolf

### A TRAVELER'S GUIDE TO THE KINGDOM

JOURNEYING THROUGH THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



JAMES EMERY WHITE

### A Traveler's Guide to the Kingdom: Journeying through the Christian Life

James Emery White. InterVarsity, 2012. 204p. \$15.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8308-3818-9. Available as an ebook. www.ivpress.com 263'.042 Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages. Christian life—Miscellanea. Christianity—Essence, genius, nature—Miscellanea. Tourism—Religious aspects—Christianity.

The title, *A Traveler's Guide to the Kingdom: Journeying through the Christian Life*, may suggest to the reader an

outline of how to live a Christian life. However, James Emery White's book is also a travel guide. White devotes nine inspiring, fascinating chapters to places he has visited that are especially meaningful to him as a Christian. They range from a pub in England to the Apartheid Museum in South Africa, from the Billy Graham Library in North Carolina to the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany.

The Eagle and Child Pub in Oxford, England, is where C. S. Lewis and friends gathered weekly for almost a quarter century to discuss their literary efforts. Another of White's destinations, Haarlem, Holland, is the location of the house where Corrie ten Boom's family hid many Jews during World War II, until they were finally discovered and imprisoned by the Nazis.

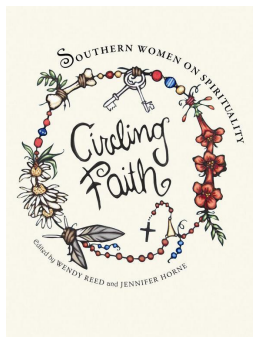
*A Traveler's Guide to the Kingdom* presents not only places to visit, but also a pattern for Christian living. Throughout the book, White draws connections between the significance of the



## this issue's topics

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sites visited with the joys and challenges of living as a Christian. These connections are what make each place special to him and to the reader.  
—Beverly M. Bixler



### Circling Faith: Southern Women on Spirituality

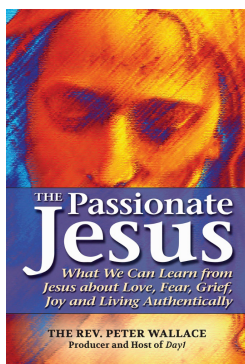
Wendy Reed and Jennifer Horne, eds. The University of Alabama Press, 2012. 227p. \$29.95, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-8173-1767-6. Available as an ebook. www.uapress.ua.edu 200.8210975 Southern women—Religious life. Women authors—Religious life. Spirituality.

Among the diverse group of contributors to *Circling Faith* are poet Mary Karr, award-winning journalist

Rheta Grimsley Johnson, and former Episcopal priest Barbara Brown Taylor (a guest speaker at CSLA's 2012 annual conference). Editors Wendy Reed and Jennifer Horne have gathered essays by these and thirteen other women, along with an interview with Alice Walker, in this collection loosely centered on spirituality in the lives of southern women. The selections are eclectic, erudite, and ecumenical. Stella Suberman recalls life as the daughter of the "Jew store" owner in an otherwise all-Protestant small Tennessee town (the subject of her 1998 memoir *The Jew Store*). Recollections of childhood, religious upbringing, prayer, and clothing (especially church clothes) are frequent topics. Some essays veer into the peculiar—voodoo and the practice of dirt-eating, or *geophagy*. There is a wide spectrum of faith, doubt, and unbelief; contributors are forthright, and sometimes the language is earthy.

Reed and Horne's previous collection of essays, *All Out of Faith* (Fire Ant Books, 2007), also focused on southern women and spirituality. *Circling Faith* will be of special interest to women, especially those in or from the south, and for readers who are open to various points of view and means of expression.

—Monica Tenney



### The Passionate Jesus: What We Can Learn from Jesus about Love, Fear, Grief, Joy and Living Authentically

Peter Wallace. Skylight Paths, 2013. 175p. \$18.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-59473-393-2. Available as an ebook. www.skylightpaths.com 232.9103 Jesus Christ—Example.

As the adage goes, emotions are neither good nor bad, but the way we express emotions can be a prob-

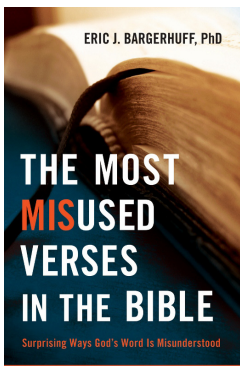
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lem. Peter Wallace, host of the ecumenical radio ministry *Day 1* (formerly known as *The Protestant Hour*), asks what better way to follow Christ than to examine how he dealt with his own strong feelings. In *The Passionate Jesus*, Wallace looks at love, anger, fear, grief, and joy, examining their role in Jesus' actions and teachings. Wallace connects those actions and teachings of Jesus to our own lives today.

Wallace's effective writing style and use of clear examples, as well as the support of a scriptural index, make this an excellent book. Questions at the end of each chapter are perfect for individual reflection or group discussion. This is an ideal book for Christian study groups with a focus on how to live as genuine followers of Christ. —Mary Lou Henneman

## Scripture Lessons



### The Most Misused Verses in the Bible: Surprising Ways God's Word Is Misunderstood

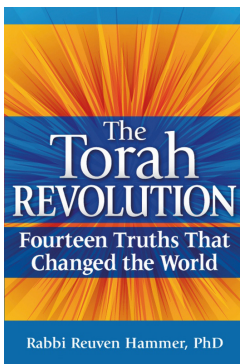
Eric J. Bargerhuff. Bethany House, 2012. 172p. \$12.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-0936-9. Available as an ebook. www.bethanyhouse.com 220.6 Bible—Criticism, interpretation, etc. Christian life—Biblical teaching.

Eric J. Bargerhuff is an evangelical pastor in Florida. In the eighteen short chapters of *The Most Misused Verses in the Bible*, he discusses well-known Bible

verses whose meanings Bargerhuff feels are often misunderstood and misused. He senses that some of the worst offenses involve popular passages used in Sunday school lessons, devotionals, and even some sermons.

According to Bargerhuff, the main mistake is the failure to read passages in their wider contexts, with an understanding of the circumstances in which they were written. In general, he writes, the shorter the quoted passage is, the more likely its interpretation will be faulty. Bargerhuff urges Bible readers to study more than the "key verses" that lessons and devotionals highlight. He suggests reading, for example, not just the Beatitudes but also the entire Sermon on the Mount to better understand the shorter passages.

The ideas behind the writing of this book are worthy of serious study, although the writing could be livelier and better organized. Understandably, the author's interpretations reflect his conservative evangelical heritage. —Forrest Rice



### The Torah Revolution: Fourteen Truths That Changed The World

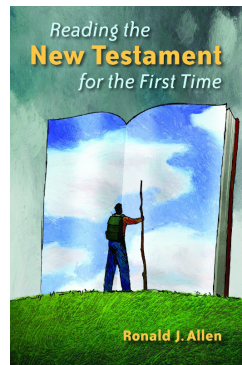
Reuven Hammer. Jewish Lights, 2011. 219p. \$24.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-58023-457-3. Available as an ebook. www.jewishlights.com 222'.106 Bible. O.T. Pentateuch—Criticism, interpretation, etc. God—Biblical teaching. Equality—Biblical teaching. Ethics in the Bible. Jewish ethics.

Moses broke with the customs of the day in order to establish what we know as the Torah. The choices he made—perhaps with divine guidance—chart-

ed the course for the children of Israel. This book outlines the fourteen radical ideas that form the core of Moses' teaching.

Hammer is a gifted scholar who has plumbed the insights of Torah in other writings. This time he brings us back to the central ideas that undergird the rest, and he groups them into three categories: God, humanity, and society. Even the obvious ideas—that God is unique or that all human life is sacred—turn out to be more nuanced than one might expect. Hammer's presentation reminds us of the most basic truths in our western traditions. One realizes that these radical ideas of three millennia ago still require our attention and effort. Moses' Torah addresses who we are as human beings. Despite technological advances, much sacred work remains to be done. This book enables readers to appreciate the genius of the Torah and its enduring significance.

Whether for personal growth or group discussion, this book is worthy of attention. —Rabbi Louis A. Rieser



### Reading the New Testament for the First Time

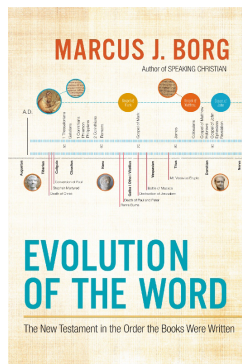
Ronald J. Allen. Eerdmans, 2012. 202p. \$16.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8028-6735-3. www.eerdmans.com 225.7 Bible. N.T.—Commentaries.

In *Reading the New Testament for the First Time*, Ronald J. Allen aims to teach newcomers about this essential Christian text. In thirteen chapters, each with discussion questions, Allen guides readers through the basics, introducing the twenty-seven books, their purposes,

the cultural settings in which they were written, and how they were chosen to be part of the canon.

Readers meet New Testament books in the order of their writing. Prior to the Gospels come the seven letters known to be from Paul. Following the Gospels, there are the letters and other writings thought to be from Paul's associates. Allen takes a scholarly "just the facts" approach. He presents newer thinking and research that may run counter to traditional thinking. He offers these not to stir controversy but to inform. Appendixes provide suggestions for other resources and three plans for reading the New Testament.

Readers will appreciate Allen's conversational tone, scope of knowledge, and openness. While he intends his book for first-time readers of the New Testament, its cultural history, chronological presentation, maps, tables, charts, and significant points highlighted in boxes make it a recommended resource for any student of scripture. It is particularly recommended for pastors, teachers, and church libraries. Synagogue libraries may find this a helpful reference for ecumenical dialogue. —Carolyn Egolf



### Evolution of the Word: The New Testament in the Order the Books Were Written

Marcus J. Borg. HarperOne (an imprint of HarperCollins), 2012. 593p. \$29.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-06-208210-7. Available as an ebook. www.harperone.com 225.77 Bible. N.T.—Commentaries. Bible. N.T.

*Evolution of the Word* is another new work that introduces the books of the New Testament in chronological order rather than in the order of the canon



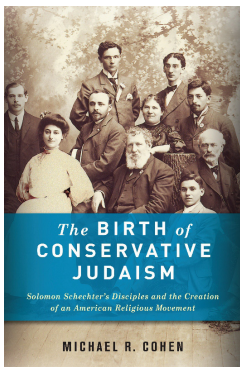
used by churches. In his volume, Jesus scholar Marcus J. Borg includes the biblical texts (NRSV). He begins with an excellent general introduction and an easy-to-follow timeline. Borg proceeds through the writings of the New Testament, beginning with the earliest, the seven letters that can confidently be attributed to Paul. The Gospels fall roughly in the middle, with the earlier Mark coming before Matthew, reversing their canonical positions. Borg prefaces each entry with its historical context, the evidence scholars have cited for dating and likely authorship, and an explication of purposes and themes.

Reading *Evolution of the Word* enables a new understanding of how the earliest Christians first shared stories and teachings of Jesus—first orally, later in writing. It illuminates Christianity's early through decades of growth amid political and cultural conflicts, highlighting the influences on what we read in our Bibles today.

An enlightening resource for readers new to the Christian texts and an excellent refresher for veterans, Borg's chronological New Testament will be a valuable acquisition for church libraries.

—Monica Tenney

## History & Heritage



### The Birth of Conservative Judaism: Solomon Schechter's Disciples and the Creation of an American Religious Movement

Michael R. Cohen. Columbia University Press, 2012. 210p. \$50.00, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-231-15635-6. Available as an ebook. www.cup.columbia.edu 296.8'3420973 Schechter, S. (Solomon), 1847-1915. Conservative Judaism—United States—History.

This insightful book examines the emergence of Conservative Judaism

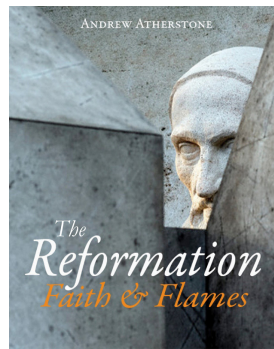
through the lens of emerging religions. Other approaches have focused on the movement's ideology or the power of a laity wishing to Americanize their families; Michael R. Cohen focuses on Solomon Schechter's charisma and the influence of his disciples. This is an engaging story that highlights the tensions in the American Jewish community.

Schechter hoped to establish the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Conservative Movement as the Jewish community umbrella. Orthodox and liberal would find common ground as "Catholic Israel," maintaining the tradition in a way that was responsive to life in America. He called for English sermons, decorous services, and a modern approach to education. Cohen demonstrates the degree to which these values were carried forth by the disparate group that shared the common bond of being Schechter's students.

Inevitably the charismatic glow yielded to growing tensions between persons who wished to establish a third movement in American Jewish life and those who wished to retain the universal umbrella of Catholic Israel. Cohen describes the changes that occurred as a new generation arose and instituted the changes that tipped the scales and helped define the boundaries of Conservative Judaism.

*The Birth of Conservative Judaism* is well worth reading.

—Rabbi Louis A. Rieser



### The Reformation: Faith & Flames

Andrew Atherstone. Lion Hudson, 2011. Distributed in the US by Kregel. 191p. \$24.95, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-7459-5305-2. www.kregel.com 270.6 Reformation.

In the prologue to *The Reformation: Faith & Flames*, Andrew Atherstone writes, "The Reformation was brought to birth in different locations and at different stages by a complex permutation of factors . . . It divided

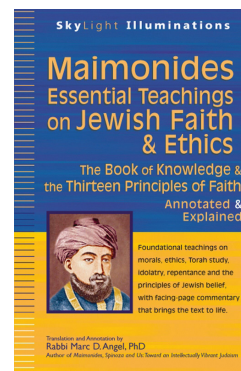
Europe into two religious camps [Catholics and Evangelicals] . . . engaged in their common quest for eternal salvation."

It is not easy to write about such a chaotic period in history as the sixteenth century. However, Atherstone, author of several books on the history of Christianity, has done an admirable job in *The Reformation*.

Scholarly but readable, his work presents a fascinating panorama of the ideas, organizations, and leaders—religious and secular—prominent during the Reformation. Atherstone discusses Huldrych Zwingli, Martin Luther, John Calvin, and many others (prominent and less known) and discusses their contributions and their deaths (often not from natural causes).

The glossy pages of *The Reformation: Faith & Flames* are filled with beautiful photographs of locations and paintings of individuals important to this turbulent, confusing period of history. This is an excellent resource.

—Beverly M. Bixler



### Maimonides—Essential Teachings on Jewish Faith and Ethics: *The Book of Knowledge and the Thirteen Principles of Faith—Annotated and Explained*

Marc D. Angel, ed. Skylight Paths, 2012. 177p. \$18.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-59473-311-6. Available as an ebook. www.skylightpaths.com 296.1'81 Maimonides, Moses, 1135-1204. Sefer ha-mada'. Maimonides, Moses, 1135-1204. 'ikre ha-emumah. Judaism—Doctrines. Faith—(Judaism). Jewish ethics.

The twelfth-century philosopher Maimonides may be the single most important Jewish figure of the Middle Ages. A legal scholar, philosopher, physician, community leader, and more, Maimonides influenced every aspect of Jewish life in his day. This book presents two of his foundational works accompanied by a literate and accessible commentary.

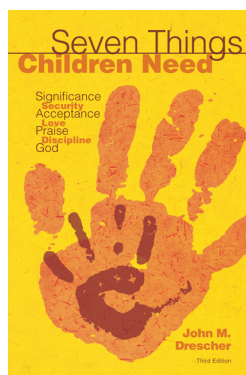
Marc D. Angel presents two basic texts. *The Book of Knowledge* is the first volume of the magisterial review by Maimonides of all Jewish practice known as the Mishneh Torah. There are sections on morals, Torah study, idolatry, repentance, and other basic beliefs. Also included is the "Thirteen Principles of Faith," a succinct review of the basic doctrines of Jewish faith. Angel has selected sections that retain the most meaning in our contemporary world.

The commentary supplements the texts, citing relevant passages from other of Maimonides' writings or from the Talmud, midrash, and various other Jewish texts. These additions help the reader understand the intent and the context of the Maimonidean texts. Also helpful is the excellent introduction, which gives the reader an appreciation for Maimonides, his times, and his work.



This small volume serves as a valuable introduction to Maimonides' works, making them accessible to a new audience. Highly recommended. —*Rabbi Louis E. Rieser*

## Faith in Families



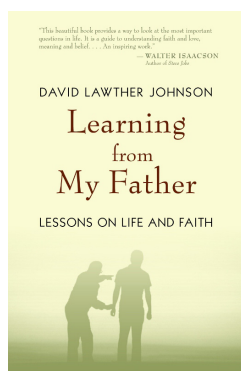
### Seven Things Children Need 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.

John M. Drescher. 📖 Herald, 2012. 127p. \$10.99, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-8361-9622-1. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.heraldpress.com 📏 649'.1 Child rearing. Child psychology. Need (Psychology).

Since *Seven Things Children Need* first came out in 1976, the world and family life have changed. What have not changed are the basic needs of all children (and indeed all people of any age). Prolific author John M. Drescher, a pastor and leader of the former Men-

nonite Church in North America, outlines for parents and other readers the seven elements he considers to be essential for a child's development into an emotionally and spiritually healthy person. Drescher devotes a chapter to each of the seven basic needs—significance, security, acceptance, love, praise, discipline, and God—presenting anecdotes, personal observations, and apt quotations from the Bible and other sources. In this edition, Drescher cites several sources not available in the original book.

Chapters close with quizzes for parents, allowing them to assess how well they are supplying the basic needs to the children in their care, and questions for group discussion. These extras, along with Drescher's spiritual yet practical approach that busy parents can read quickly, make *Seven Things Children Need* an ideal focus for a Sunday school or other church group study. It would be a better world if more people read this book and took Drescher's advice to heart. —*Monica Tenney*



### Learning From My Father: Lessons on Life and Faith

David Lawther Johnson. 📖 Eerdmans, 2012. 151p. \$15.00, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-8028-6708-7. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.eerdmans.com 📏 248.4 Christian life.

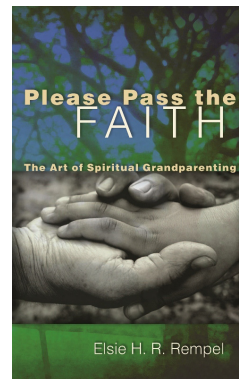
College freshmen often feel at sea in a new world. David Lawther Johnson looked to his father, a Presbyterian pastor, for advice that came in the guise of correspondence focused on great issues of faith. Forty years later, after his father's death, the letters resurfaced, and

the seasoned adult revisited the spiritual explorations of his youth. The result is an engaging look at one man's Christianity.

Johnson's presentation is humane and compassionate. He organizes his thoughts, informed by citations from his father's letters as well as his own accumulated experience, into eight basic lessons on faith. His is a non-dogmatic approach that sees the world as a gift. Johnson does not offer pat answers but explores why we sin and what it is to confront death, among

other issues. Life is a journey, and so our questions and our answers change over time.

This spiritual memoir allows us to see both the young adult asking guidance from his father and the mature adult looking back with reflection on the discussions of his youth. The lessons that emerge are those that have stood the test of time for him. This book demonstrates that devotion and questioning can coexist. It is a worthwhile read. —*Rabbi Louis A. Rieser*



### Please Pass the Faith: The Art of Spiritual Grandparenting

Elsie H. R. Rempel. 📖 Herald, 2012. 134p. \$12.99, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-8361-9642-9. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.heraldpress.com 📏 248.8'5 Grandparenting—Religious aspects—Christianity. Grandparent and child—Religious aspects—Christianity. Children and older people—Religious aspects—Christianity. Mentoring—Religious aspects—Christianity.

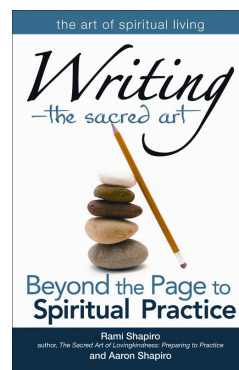
For Christians who see grandparenting as both a privilege and a responsibility, Elsie H. R. Rempel's *Please Pass the Faith* provides affirmation, information, and

practical guidance. Writing from the Anabaptist/Mennonite perspective, Rempel discusses the challenges of tending the spirituality of young people, offering guidance in using stories and celebrations to encourage spiritual growth. Teachers, parents, and grandparents will benefit from the discussion of the stages of faith as outlined by James W. Fowler in *Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning* (Harper Collins, 1981) and in his later writings, identifying six stages by age range and specific characteristics. While each person's spiritual journey is unique, knowing general stages and patterns guides expectations and responses.

Rempel notes distractions and challenges, including technology, and difficulties when young ones drift from or reject outright the faith of their families. She offers suggestions for holiday and family celebrations, as these provide times to share stories and happenings that blend the blessings of faith with the reality of life's experiences. There are reflections and discussion questions at the end of each chapter, and the book concludes with an encouraging epilogue and "A Prayer for Faithful Generations."

Recommended for church libraries, classes on grandparenting, and as a gift. —*Carolyn Egolf*

## Inspiration for Writers



### Writing—The Sacred Art: Beyond the Page to Spiritual Practice

Rami Shapiro and Aaron Shapiro. 📖 Skylight Paths, 2012. 155p. \$16.99, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-1-59473-372-7. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.skylightpaths.com 📏 808 Creative writing—Religious aspects. Authorship—Religious aspects. Spiritual life.

While many books about writing aim to help writers improve their techniques, this book intends to help them plumb their spiritual depths. "Writing

is a spiritual practice when your intent is to realize that you are Self rather than merely self." The book is based on the "Path & Pen: Writing as Spiritual Practice" retreats that the authors have run for the past several years.

Rami Shapiro and Aaron Shapiro lead the reader through a series of worlds: body, heart, mind, soul, and spirit. They explain their understanding of each world in turn, using psychology, theology, philosophy, and more. The strength of their book lies in the many writing exercises—some playful, others challenging—that can help the engaged reader peel away the layers and come to a deeper understanding of himself or herself.

Readers will be surprised by the paths this book, with its exercises, opens up for them. It allows one to view one's life with new eyes. *Writing—The Sacred Art* will be a reliable guide for a journey of discovery for readers who are ready.

—Rabbi Louis A. Rieser



### Acceptable Words: Prayers for the Writer

Gary D. Schmidt and Elizabeth Stickney, eds. 📖 Eerdmans, 2012. 198p. \$16.00, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-8028-6879-4. 🌐 www.eerdmans.com 📄 242.68 Authors—Prayers and devotions.

"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord." Gary D. Schmidt and Elizabeth Stickney take from Psalm 19 the title of this gem of a book for writers. The collected prayers, poems, scriptural passages, along with the editors' brief essays, are aimed at helping writers do the work they feel called to do—"to bring acceptable words into God's world."

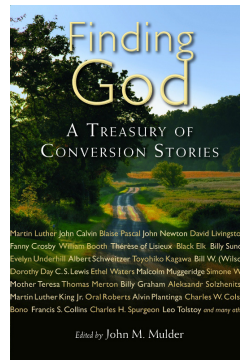
Schmidt and Stickney arrange the entries from over a hundred wide-ranging sources (including William Barclay, The Venerable Bede, and Madeleine L'Engle, to name three) into chapters organized around the writer's process and engagement with God and the world: "The Writer Studies the World," "The Writer

Begins," "The Writer Offers the Work to God," and so forth.

Prayers and other selections are so varied that no matter what the need or the mood, the reader is likely to find help in these pages. Not only writers will appreciate *Acceptable Words*; it can be a useful source for prayers and meditations to support creative endeavors of any sort.

Schmidt and Stickney are husband and wife. Both are writers; he teaches at Calvin College in Michigan and is the award-winning author of books for children and young adult books (most recent is *Okay for Now*, Clarion 2011). —Monica Tenney

## Life Changers



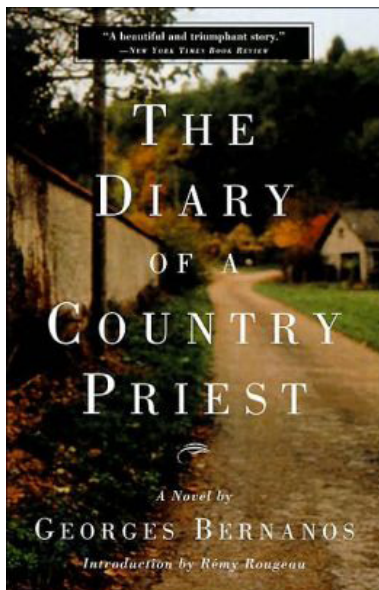
### Finding God: A Treasury of Conversion Stories

John M. Mulder, ed. 📖 Eerdmans, 2012. 396p. \$22.00, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-8028-6575-5. 🌐 www.eerdmans.com 📄 248.24 Christian converts. Conversion—Christianity.

John M. Mulder opens *Finding God* with a discussion of the meaning and connotations of the word "conversion," its use in the Old and New Testaments, and other historical aspects of the term. Then come accounts of the conversion

experiences of sixty Christians, beginning with the Apostle Paul and ending with contemporary rock star Bono. A few of the others included are Saint Augustine, John Wesley, Sojourner Truth, Leo Tolstoy, Billy Sunday, Black Elk, Oral Roberts, and Ethel Waters. A preface to each selection briefly summarizes the person's life.

In the book's moving afterword, Mulder relates that he grew up in a Presbyterian home, became an ordained Presbyterian



## Classics Corner

### The Diary of a Country Priest: A Novel

George Bernanos. Trans. Pamela Morris. 📖 Da Capo (an imprint of Perseus), 2001. 298p. \$15.95, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-78670-961-8. 🌐 www.perseusbooksgroup.com 📄 Fiction Clergy—Fiction. Catholic church—Fiction. France—Fiction.

A young Catholic priest, new to the gloomy parish of Ambricourt in rural France, determines to keep a diary for a year. Plagued by awkwardness and self-doubt, stifled at prayer, and troubled by the sin and pain he sees around him, the priest dutifully serves his flock but feels he is a failure. He lives in poverty, becomes the target of gossip and conniving children, and is drawn into a local family's strife. He despairs but perseveres, doing his best to care for his parishioners.

The digestive ailment the young priest has attributed to worry and constitutional weakness is diagnosed, too late, as stomach cancer. His diary entries as he faces his illness and realizes the nearness of death are compelling. At the end, the priest's simple faith triumphs: "Grace is everywhere."

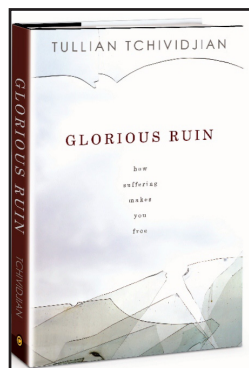
*The Diary of a Country Priest* first appeared in print in 1937 and won the Grand Prix for Literature from the Académie Française. Its extended ruminations and dense text (often not broken into paragraphs) will deter some readers, but the priest's sensitive observations and determined spirit reward those who persist. This enduring work belongs in all church libraries.

—Monica Tenney



minister, and, later, president of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. In 2002, his life fell apart as the result of a previously undiagnosed bipolar condition and his addiction to alcohol. While undergoing treatment, Mulder had what he calls his “encounter with God,” even though he had never considered himself anything but a Christian. As he prepared his breakfast one day, he noticed a light surrounding him. As it subsided, he heard a voice say, “You are not alone.” Mulder writes that he had been “dead...to God,” but “[O]nly after I prayed to be open to God did God again become part of my life.”

*Finding God* contains inspiration for all. —Beverly M. Bixler



### Glorious Ruin: How Suffering Sets You Free

Tullian Tchividjian. 📖 David C. Cook, 2012. 206p. \$17.99, hardcover. 📖 ISBN: 978-1-4347-0402-3. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.davidccook.com 📖 214 Suffering.

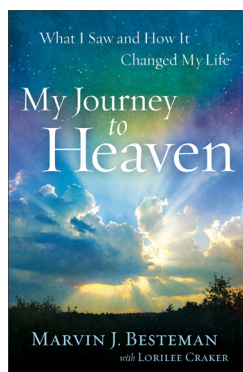
Author Tullian Tchividjian is a pastor of Florida’s Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church and a grandson of the Reverend Billy Graham and the late Ruth Bell Graham. His experiences validate the title of his recent book, *Glorious Ruin: How Suffering Sets You Free*.

In his introduction, Tchividjian writes, “Sadly, the ways in which we cope with pain, loss, and tragedy often make the problems worse.” In three parts, “The Reality of Suffering,” “Confronting Suffering,” and “Saved by Suffering,” he discusses the truth of that statement as well as that of his book’s title.

Everyone suffers. For some, suffering arises from a tragic occurrence. For others, an accumulation of small things causes suffering. Tchividjian treats at length our two ways of dealing with suffering—moralizing and minimizing it—and what is wrong with each.

Tchividjian writes, “We may not ever fully understand why God allows the suffering that devastates our lives,” but, for believers, “one thing is beautifully and abundantly true: God’s chief concern in your suffering is to be *with you* and be Himself *for you*.”

*Glorious Ruin* presents a thought-provoking analysis of suffering. —Beverly M. Bixler



### My Journey to Heaven: What I Saw and How It Changed My Life

Marvin J. Besteman with Lorilee Craker. 📖 Revell (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 202p. \$13.99, paperback. 📖 ISBN: 978-0-8007-2122-0. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.revellbooks.com 📖 236.24 Heaven—Christianity. Near-death experiences—Religious aspects—Christianity.

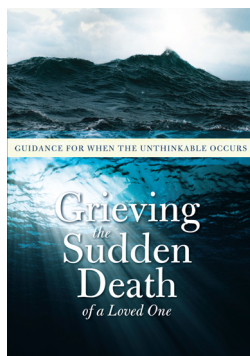
Christians believe in heaven, but many of us are still uncertain what it will be like when we arrive there. Will we see a bright light? Will relatives and friends

be there to meet us? Will we have all the earthly comforts, spiritual peace, or both? Many books have been written describing the near-death experiences of people who have glimpsed what heaven is like. Author Marvin Besteman has written in vivid detail of his experiences after surgery in 2006. He recalls heaven as a place of beautiful celestial colors, the gates to the Kingdom, meeting Saint Peter, a lively debate, and the angels who lifted him from earth and brought him back after

his journey. Besteman shares not only his own experiences but also stories from others who have had glimpses of heaven. Besteman felt that he was sent back to earth to complete his mission. He died in 2012 after finishing this account.

*My Journey to Heaven* is a beautifully written book for Christians who are looking for peace. It celebrates life—and the life to come. —Mary Lou Henneman

## Saying Goodbye



### Grieving the Sudden Death of a Loved One: Guidance for When the Unthinkable Occurs (DVD)

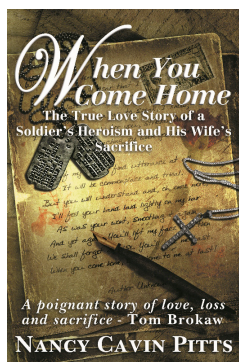
© Paraclete Video, 2012. 55 minutes. \$59.95, DVD. 📖 ISBN: 978-1-61261-241-6. 🌐 www.paracletepress.com 📖 155 Death. Grief.

People who suffer the sudden death of a loved one, no matter what the cause, are hurting. Earl Grollman, a rabbi and certified death educator and counselor; Heidi Horsley, psychologist and co-founder of the Open to Hope Foundation; and Gregory Floyd,

a Catholic author and leader of a covenant community, join forces on the DVD *Grieving the Sudden Death of a Loved One*. They share their personal stories as well as experiences of others who are grieving to help viewers face their emotions both when shock of new loss is intense and later, as time passes.

Grollman, Horsley, and Floyd acknowledge that no two people go through the stages of grief in the same manner or time frame. They discuss ways persons who are grieving can acknowledge and cope with their pain, how life can resume in some normal fashion, and whether grieving ever truly stops or if instead it simply changes. They address the ultimate question: Where was God when this happened?

The DVD is divided into seventeen segments. An insert provides discussion questions. This is an important resource for congregational libraries. It will benefit people who lost loved ones unexpectedly as well as clergy and others who minister to them. —Mary Lou Henneman



### When You Come Home: The True Love Story of a Soldier's Heroism and His Wife's Sacrifice

Nancy Cavin Pitts. 📖 Christian Devotions Ministries, in association with Lighthouse Publishing of the Carolinas, 2011. 242p. \$11.95, paperback. 📖 ISBN: 978-0-9847655-0-8. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.christiandevotions.us 📖 940.53 World War, 1939-1945—Personal narratives.

One day, as Nancy Cavin Pitts organized a closet for her aged mother, she spied a faded album. That, Daphne Cavin told her daughter, “is my love story.” In *When You Come Home*, Pitts writes the history her mother then shared with her of her first marriage, one that ended in 1944 when her young husband died on a battlefield in France.

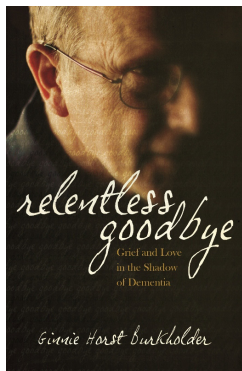
In 1941, when Daphne was twenty-one, she met the handsome and well-mannered Raymond Kelley. Daphne and Ray-



mond, residents of central Indiana, quickly fell in love and married. Their carefree happiness ended, however, when Raymond received his induction notice. After training stateside, Raymond shipped out for Europe. He never returned.

Raymond and Daphne shared not only a great love but also an abiding faith in God. Anyone who questions how God can allow grievous loss will appreciate Daphne's story. Tom Brokaw told some of it in his 1998 bestseller *The Greatest Generation*. Daphne remarried in 1950 and had four children—the author and her siblings.

Pitts tells her mother's story lovingly but straightforwardly; she does a fine job of depicting its small-town 1940s setting. Her title is from a poem the young Daphne clipped from a newspaper and sent to Raymond. The bloodstained clipping was found in his wallet after his death.—*Monica Tenney*



### Relentless Goodbye: Grief and Love in the Shadow of Dementia

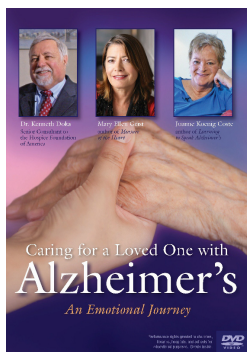
Ginie Horst Burkholder. 📖 Herald, 2012. 272p. \$16.99, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-8361-9616-0. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.heraldpress.com 📏 616.8'3 Caregivers—Family relationships. Dementia—Patients—Family relationships. Lewy body dementia—Patients—Family relationships.

You may know of someone in your congregation who is caring for a person with dementia. *Relentless Goodbye* is the book to recommend. Author Ginie

Horst Burkholder offers a heartfelt and powerful memoir of the six years she spent caring for her husband, a victim of Lewy body dementia, an ailment whose effects are similar to Alzheimer's and other common types of dementia.

Burkholder, like most persons who care for victims of brain-wasting diseases, was on an emotional roller coaster as she experienced frustration, anger, confusion, as well as enduring love for her husband. Her sense of humor and moving stories will bring readers of *Relentless Goodbye* into her daily life as a caregiver.

Burkholder's memoir addresses an important potential effect of dementia—the toll it can take on the physical and emotional health of the caregiver. In monthly journal entries, she proclaims the importance of faith in Christ, her rock. This is a powerful book, one that ministers both to persons with dementia and to the persons who care for them.—*Mary Lou Henneman*



### Caring for a Loved One with Alzheimer's: An Emotional Journey (DVD)

© Paraclete Video, 2012. 50 minutes. \$59.95, DVD. 📦 ISBN: 978-1-61261-240-9. 🌐 www.paracletepress.com 📏 616.8'3 Caregivers—Family relationships. Alzheimer's disease—Patients.

Alzheimer's is frightening. It can devastate not only the person with the disease but also family and friends. If it happens in my family, how will I know

what to do? How will I care for my loved one and still survive the physical and emotional challenges?

Mary Ellen Geist, caregiver for her father; Joanne Koenig Coste, a family therapist and caregiver for her husband; and Kenneth Doka, physician and hospice specialist, offer in this video

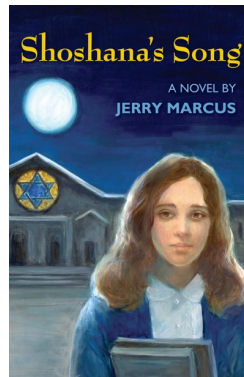
understanding and guidance for persons caring for their family members. It is divided into twelve segments and comes with a brief list of questions and a study guide.

By relating their own experiences and interweaving those of other caregivers, they provide a clear picture of what family caregivers contend with each day. There is denial and anger and grief. There is also a need for caregivers to take care of themselves without feeling guilt. Caregivers must let others help.

Over thirty million people are afflicted with this disease. Congregational libraries can minister to their families by providing resources such as this video. *Caring for a Loved One with Alzheimer's* should be in every congregational library

—*Mary Lou Henneman*

## Fiction



### Shoshana's Song

Jerry Marcus. 📖 Brittain Publications, 2012. 271p. \$19.00, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-0-941394-08-6. 🌐 www.brittainpublications.com 📏 Fiction Orthodox Jews—Fiction. Coming of age—Fiction.

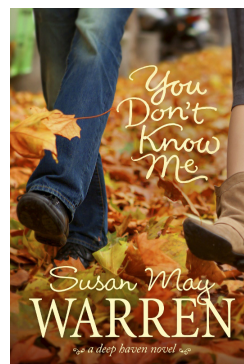
Shoshana is a beautiful teenager, a senior at Beth Jacob Yeshiva High School. She has grown up in a strict Jewish Orthodox home in New York. When her parents follow the traditional practice of arranging for their daughter to marry after graduation, Shoshana rebels. She wants to study, mature, explore her

faith, and learn how she connects with Jewish women of the past. Shoshana separates herself from her family by moving to Chicago. She shares an apartment with Kate, an Irish Catholic, and the two girls pursue their dreams and attempt to honor their religious traditions while attending college.

This masterfully told coming-of-age story follows Shoshana as she matures both intellectually and spiritually. Shoshana seeks deeper meaning in her Jewish roots. Jerry Marcus interweaves discussions of faith, marriage, intellectual freedom, and the roles of women throughout their lives. Marcus's characters get involved in lively and thought-provoking debates.

*Shoshana's Song* is a fantastic crossover book for young adults and adults. It will help both young and mature readers explore how women gain strength in their faith journey.

—*Mary Lou Henneman*



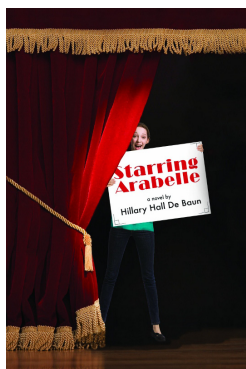
### You Don't Know Me

Susan May Warren. 📖 Tyndale House, 2012. 362p. \$13.99, paperback. 📦 ISBN: 978-1-4143-3484-4. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.tyndalehouse.com 📏 Fiction Politician's spouses—Fiction. Family secrets—Fiction. Witness—Protection—Fiction. Minnesota—Fiction. Series: Deep Haven

Annalise Decker is a beautiful woman with a perfect family. Her husband, Nathan Decker, is running for mayor in the town of Deep Haven, but Annalise's life is not perfect. She is really Deidre

O'Reilly, who once fell in with the wrong crowd and is now in the Witness Security Program with a new identity. Frighteningly, the man she put in prison twenty years ago is now out on parole and wants Annalise dead. It will take all the talents of Agent Frank Harrison to keep her safe and protect the Decker family.

*You Don't Know Me* is filled with suspense and romance, and both main and minor characters express their Christian faith as their strength and hope. This is a good book for church libraries and book discussion groups. —*Mary Lou Henneman*



### Starring Arabelle

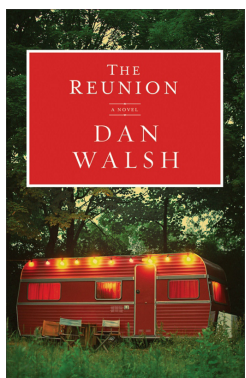
Hillary Hall De Baun. Eerdmans, 2012. 234p. \$9.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8028-5398-1. www.eerdmans.com Fiction Theater—Fiction. Old age—Fiction. Nursing homes—Fiction. High schools—Fiction. Schools—Fiction. Ukrainians—New York (State)—Fiction. Student exchange programs—Fiction. New York (State)—Fiction.

Arabelle Alexis Archer, who wants to be called Alex by her friends, knows her future is bright as she enters her freshman year of high school. Her dreams

will come true—she will be the star of the play and everyone will worship her, especially a handsome young hero. Reality gives Alex a jolt, however, when a senior in the drama club informs her that upperclass students get all the roles. Freshmen, Alex learns, are to paint sets. Alex boldly chooses to audition for *You Can't Take It With You*, a play about a family with quirky personality traits. As predicted, Alex fails to win a role, but she becomes the prompter for the cast.

Alex's life takes a drastic turn when her school counselor encourages her to perform community service at Heavenly Rest Nursing Home, a place Alex considers far from glamorous. How can she relate to the patients and their different personalities? Through a variety of plot twists, Alex's dreams come true. She finds true friendships both at school and among the folks at Heavenly Rest.

*Starring Arabelle* is a delightful secular book for tweens and young teen girls. —*Mary Lou Henneman*



### The Reunion

Dan Walsh. Revell (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 296p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8007-2121-3. Available as an ebook. www.revellbooks.com Fiction Vietnam War, 1961-1975—Fiction. Post-traumatic stress disorder—Fiction.

Aaron Miller returns home from Vietnam not only physically wounded but also suffering psychologically. Never telling anyone of his horrific war experiences, he leaves his wife and children and keeps to himself, working as a handyman at a trailer park. He eventually

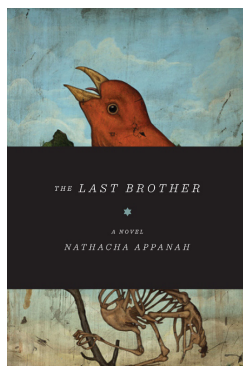
finds faith in Christ and a new purpose for living. There remains, however, an empty space in his life—the forty-year absence of his children.

When journalist Dave Russo decides to write a book about former Vietnam vets, the wheels for something miraculous are

set in motion. A millionaire sends Dave on a mission to find the soldier who saved his life and the lives of his two buddies. He eventually finds Aaron. What has he done with his life? Second chances lead him to touch the lives of the people at the trailer park and at his church—and eventually the lives of the now-grown children he had thought never wanted to see him again.

Walsh has combined action with romance to keep Christian readers—men and women—interested as his characters see the second chances that are theirs with faith in Christ.

—*Mary Lou Henneman*



### The Last Brother

Nathacha Appanah. Trans. Geoffrey Strachan. Graywolf, 2011. 164p. \$14.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-55597-575-3. Available as an ebook. www.graywolfpress.com Fiction Loneliness in children—Fiction. Prisoners of War—Mauritius—Fiction. World War, 1939-1945—Jews—Rescue—Mauritius—Fiction.

In a breathtakingly brief novel, Nathacha Appanah, a French-Mauritian of Indian origin, brings alive the story of Raj, a young native boy, and David, a ten-year-old Jewish youth interned in a prison camp during World War II. The

setting is Mauritius, a lush Indian Ocean island that was a British colony. Beautifully translated from the French by Geoffrey Strachan, *The Last Brother* introduces Raj at the age of seventy as he reflects on his relationship with David.

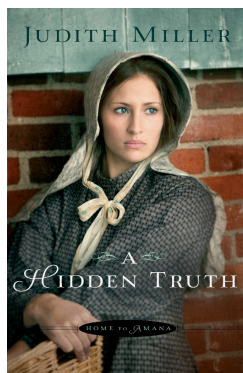
Until the age of eight, Raj had lived in the village of Mapou with his abusive father, long-suffering mother, and two loving brothers. Both brothers died during a terrible rainstorm, and the family moved south to Beau-Bassin. Raj's father worked at the camp where fifteen hundred European Jews were imprisoned by the British, who denied them admittance to Palestine.

After a brutal beating by his father, Raj recuperated in the camp hospital, and there the magical friendship between the two boys blossomed. David and Raj, from very different backgrounds, had each suffered tragic losses. Together they eventually tried to escape their circumstances. Appanah's lyrical descriptive passages and dialogue are rich with pathos, wisdom, and simplicity.

Highly recommended for individuals, congregational libraries, and book club readers.

[Reviewer's note: I first read *The Last Brother* on an e-reader. When I finished, I held my breath and said aloud, "I want this book!"]

—*Evelyn Pockrass*



### A Hidden Truth

Judith Miller. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 342p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-1000-6. Available as an ebook. www.bethanyhouse.com Fiction Young women—Fiction. Family secrets—Fiction. Amana Society—Fiction. Series: Home to Amana.

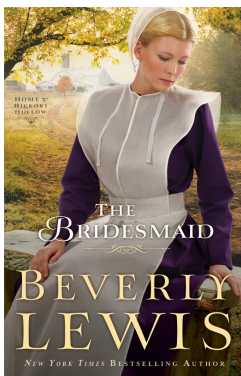
Secrets abound in Judith Miller's novel, *A Hidden Truth*, set in Iowa's Amana Colonies in the last decade of the nineteenth century. Dovie Cates, grieving the death of her mother and avoiding a



move with her father from Cincinnati to another state, goes to East Amana to visit her mother's cousin. Dovie is curious—her mother had lived in the Amana Colonies but as a young woman had left suddenly with her parents. Dovie's mother would never say much about her early life. Dovie finds life in the Amana Colonies very different from her life in Cincinnati. In spite of her attempts, Dovie is unable to learn more about her mother.

Dovie's visit lasts longer than anticipated, but Karlina, a distant cousin, helps her adjust to the different lifestyle. The young women are the same age. Karlina's father is a shepherd. He hires a young man, a newcomer, to help, but it turns out that the new hire has come from another village as a punishment, the reason for which is unknown.

Eventually, the hidden truths are revealed, but not before more secrets are created. Valuable lessons are learned, and positive changes in the attitudes and behavior of the main characters ensue. —Beverly M. Bixler



### The Bridesmaid

Beverly Lewis. 📖 Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 316p. \$14.99, paperback. 📖 ISBN: 978-0-7642-0978-9. 📖 Available as an ebook. 🌐 www.bethanyhouse.com 📖 Fiction Amish women—Pennsylvania—Lancaster County—Fiction. Women authors—Fiction. Amish farmers—Indiana—Fiction. Man-woman relationships—Fiction. Series: Home to Hickory Hollow.

Joanna Kurtz is a minor character in *The Fiddler*, Beverly Lewis's first novel in her Home to Hickory Hollow series, [reviewed in *CLT* Volume XLV, Number 4

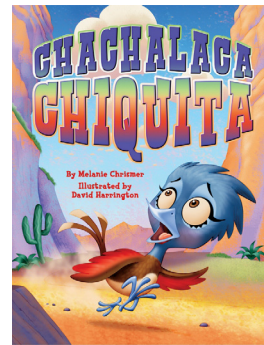
(2012)]. Now, in the second installment, she is the protagonist. Joanna has again been asked to be a bridesmaid, and her teenage sister, Cora Jane, wastes no time in taunting her with the saying, "Three times a bridesmaid, never a bride." This initiates friction between the siblings; Joanna is twenty-four and still single, unusual for an Amish woman.

The Kurtzes have gone to Virginia to attend a funeral. While

there, Joanna meets Eben Troyer, and it is almost love at first sight for them both. However, Eben lives in Indiana, which poses a problem for their romance. It is only the first problem. Cora Jane's negative attitude about her sister's relationship is another. It puzzles Joanna and increases the strain between them. Other troubles develop, including the revelation that Joanna's secret hobby is writing fiction, much frowned upon by her church. For a time, Joanna wonders whether it is God's will that she remain a *maidel*.

As with her other novels about the Amish, Lewis has created absorbing, realistic characters and situations, giving meaningful glimpses into their different way of living. —Beverly M. Bixler

## For Children



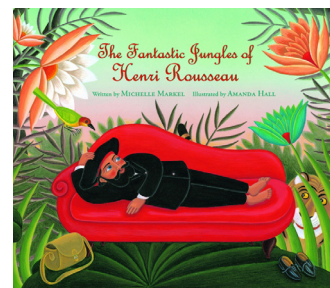
### Chachalaca Chiquita

Melanie Chrimer. Illustrated by David Harrington. 📖 Pelican, 2012. 32p. \$16.99, hardcover. 📖 ISBN: 978-1-4556-1704-3. 🌐 www.pelicanpub.com 📖 398.2 Folklore.

In *Chachalaca Chiquita*, Melanie Chrimer has created an adaptation of the story of Chicken Little, who believes the sky is falling. Set in the southwest, the tale is peppered throughout with Spanish in the names of Chachalaca (a desert bird),

Chiquita's friends, and their conversation. Hit on the head by a pebble, Chachalaca thinks the sky is falling, so she and her friends go to tell the *jefe*, or boss.

A final page lists Spanish words, their pronunciations, and their meanings in English. Both the brightly colored illustrations and the story will appeal to young children. —Beverly M. Bixler



### The Fantastic Jungles of Henri Rousseau

Michelle Markel. Illustrated by Amanda Hall. 📖 Eerdmans, 2012. 34p. \$17.00, hardcover. 📖 ISBN: 978-0-8028-5364-6. 🌐 www.eerdmans.com 📖 759.4 Rousseau, Henri, 1844-1910—Juvenile literature. Painters—France—Biography—Juvenile literature.

Determination, persistence, and fortitude equal the "never give up" spirit portrayed in *The Fantastic Jungles of Henri Rousseau*. Aimed at young children, the book will inspire adults, too, as Michelle Markel's words, paired with bright colors and the bold strokes of Amanda Hall's illustrations, draw readers into the story of Rousseau, who began to paint at age forty. Life in Paris allowed him to visit gardens, zoos, and the 1889 World's Fair, places where he immersed himself in nature. He transferred his passion for jungles and wildlife to paintings. Year after year Rousseau entered his works in art shows, only to be rejected by critics. Finally, when he was sixty-one, Rousseau's work gained recognition from other artists, friends, and supporters.

## This issue's reviewers

Beverly M. Bixler *First Presbyterian Church, Ashland, Ohio* ✧ Carolyn Egolf *Lincolnshire Church of the Brethren, Fort Wayne, Indiana* ✧ Mary Lou Henneman *Boardman United Methodist Church, Boardman, Ohio* ✧ Evelyn Pockrass *Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, Indianapolis, Indiana* ✧ Forrest Rice *Community United Methodist Church, Naperville, Illinois* ✧ Rabbi Louis A. Rieser *Boynton Beach, Florida* ✧ Monica Tenney, *Media Review Editor Maple Grove United Methodist Church, Columbus, Ohio*

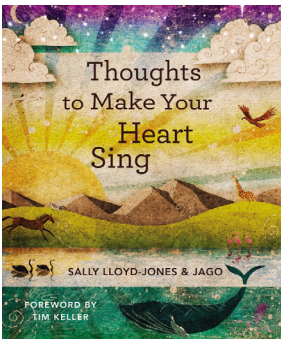


Jungles are Rousseau's most notable setting, and his paintings feature bold colors and intriguing facial expressions that reflect his active imagination.

Sadly, Rousseau died without realizing how widely his art would be appreciated or reaping monetary benefits. Perhaps his greatest legacy is the spirit that, despite poverty and rejection, kept him continuing to live his dream with passion. His most notable painting is "The Dream."

Recommended for church, synagogue, and school libraries.

—Carolyn Egolf



### Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing

Sally Lloyd-Jones. Illustrated by Jago. Zondervan, 2012. 224p. \$16.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-310-72163-5. Available as an ebook. www.zondervan.com J242.6 Children—Prayers and devotions.

In *Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing*, British author Sally Lloyd-Jones has collected devotional thoughts for children of elementary

school age. Young ones will be charmed first by illustrator Jago's richly colored, often gently humorous artwork that fills much of the two pages allotted to each entry. A line or two of scripture (usually NIV or NLT) accompanies each of the 101 brief devotional texts, which offer snippets about Bible figures, insights from history or the natural world, and quotations from writers and preachers.

Lloyd-Jones repeatedly assures young readers of God's strength, protection, forgiveness, and love. While she often reminds them that Jesus gave his life for them, the tone is upbeat—often joyful—and young hearts will indeed sing. The hearts of Christian parents and educators will also sing, as this book is an excellent source for brief children's lessons and family devotional time.

—Monica Tenney

*If you have suggestions for media for review, please email Monica Tenney, CLT Media Review Editor, motenney@aol.com*

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## PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

The Courtney Memorial Library of the United Church of Beaver, Pennsylvania, is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. In 1962, before the formation of CSLA, Eleanor and Paul Courtney presented a proposal to the administrative board of their church: an offer to endow a church library. Some of the most successful projects of this thriving library may be of interest to other librarians.

Every three years the library board honors couples who have been married over fifty years with an after-church reception featuring wedding cake, wedding pictures of the couples, and occasional displays of their wedding dresses. During the church service the librarian presents each couple with a book. Each year the high school graduates of the church are honored at a reception with a gift of a leather bound Bible. Librarian Eleanor Courtney also organized a grief group offering the library for meeting space and refreshments supplied by the board members. A local funeral director paid for books for participants and hired a professional leader.

By far, however, the most successful and enriching project has been the book discussion group. This was started by Eleanor Courtney in 1998. From an article placed in the local newspaper, the first meeting attracted a commercial airline pilot, a retired Catholic school teacher, and a school principal, in addition to avid readers from the congregation. The first books discussed were the newly published Mitford series. The group still meets every other month, September through July. This seems to be

a great schedule since it is not as demanding as an every-month commitment. The book to be discussed is chosen by the librarian (with occasional suggestions from the group). Members take turns as leaders for a day as well as supplying refreshments.

The current group includes pastors from surrounding areas, the pilot (now retired), and others who have joined through word-of-mouth. Several years ago a new member appeared, saying, "I hear this is the most intellectual discussion group in Beaver County." It was a local author and college professor from nearby Geneva College. Fifteen to twenty people are present at each meeting, with about half men and half women. Occasionally, members share books that have had special, personal significance for them. In the event that you might like to start your own book group, here are just some of the titles we have used in recent years. Enjoy! —Eleanor Courtney

2001: *The Little Prince, The Poisonwood Bible*

2002: *John Adams, Cold Sassy Tree*

2003: *Get Under* (local author present)

2004: *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*

2005: *Life of Pi*

2006: *Evil in Modern Thought*

2007: *The Memory Keeper's Daughter, The Alchemist*

2008: *The Case for a Creator*

2009: *Lord of the Flies*

2010: *The Zookeeper's Wife*

2011: *The Help*, C. S. Lewis books

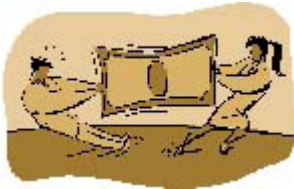
2012: *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*



# CSLA Publications Guides & Necessary Tools



*Organizing a Library or Resource Center.* Carol Campbell, Glenda Strombom, and Dianne Oswald. 2010. 32 p. \$14.00; members \$12.00. This guide represents a comprehensive and updated edition of three previously separate publications, all published by CSLA: *Setting up a Library: How to Begin or Begin Again*, *Standards for Church and Synagogue Libraries*, and *A Policy and Procedure Manual for Church and Synagogue Libraries: a Do-It-Yourself Guide*. An entirely new format was created for this guide, featuring quick searching and clear procedures, thus providing one volume that allows users to develop working manuals for their congregational libraries.



*Fundamentals of Financing Your Congregational Library.* Craig Kubic (orig. by Claudia Hannaford). 2008. 32 p. \$12.00; members \$10.00. This guide will assist you in developing a realistic plan for the acquisition and careful management of financial resources that the library needs to be a vital part of the congregation. Includes thoughtful ideas on presenting a budget.

*Developing an Effective Library: Ways to Promote Your Congregational Library.* Lois H. Ward. 2004. 48 p. \$11.00; members \$9.00. CSLA Past president Lois Ward was an expert in promoting libraries in congregations and beyond. Planning, budgeting, getting members in the door, and promoting the library outside the doors are all here for you. So many smart ideas are here that you could not use them all in your lifetime.



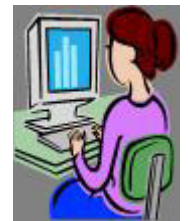
*Promotion Planning, All Year 'Round.* Claudia Hannaford and Ruth S. Smith. 3rd Rev. ed. 1996. 64 p. \$11.00; members \$8.00. This 64-page publication provides suggestions on what to publicize for your library, including periodic and special items, to encourage participation in the use of the library. Includes a 12-month calendar outlining significant events. Often used with Ward's *Developing an Effective Library*—a sure way to make your library visible and irresistible.



*Beyond the Book: Enhancing Your Congregational Library with Audio-Visual Resources.* Rusty Tryon (orig. by Joyce Burner). 2008. 21 p. \$12.00, members \$10.00. This publication is designed to assist congregational librarians in making audio-visual resources an integral—rather than an incidental—part of their library collections.

*Cataloging and Classification.* Susan E. Snyder. 2004. 53 p. \$12.00, members \$10.00. This publication covers physical processing, encouraging the use of the catalog and creating bibliographic records, classification, and classification schedules. It will take you through all the steps in cataloging.

*Subject Headings in the Library Catalog.* Dorothy G. Lewis. 2007. 32 p. \$12.00, members \$10.00. This guide will help the beginning or experienced librarian identify the subject of a book and choose the most useful subject heading. It offers considerations for additional headings you might include to improve the effectiveness of your card catalog. Suggested Dewey classification numbers after each heading refer to appropriate areas of the Dewey schedule discussed in detail in CSLA's publication, *Cataloging and Classification*.



*Planning a Congregational Archives Center.* Curtis Howard. 2011. \$14.00; members \$12.00. Often, part of the congregational librarian's job is maintaining archives for the congregation. CSLA offers the perfect guide to assist you with your archives! This new guide is just the tool you need to get you started or to help you improve your existing archives center. Some of the questions Dr. Howard asks you to consider: What are your items of enduring value? When is the appropriate time to establish a records program? Who will authorize and manage the center? Answers to these questions and more are here.

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# TECH TALK

## AVOID TROUBLE: USE ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE STREAMLINE YOUR INTERNET EXPERIENCE



Technology is a wonderful tool when it works properly but very frustrating when it does not cooperate. As difficult as it is to accept, it is not always the fault of the technology. Consider what would happen if you did not maintain your car by checking the oil and buying new tires. When the car does not work properly, or if you have a blowout, is it really the fault of the car—or the owner or user of the car? The same is true for your computer. You must take steps to avoid trouble.

Always make sure you have **antivirus software** installed, and heed the messages about installing the newest updates. There are several reliable antivirus software packages available, such as Norton (*us.norton.com/antivirus/*); some are free, such as Avast (*www.avast.com*)—but keep in mind that, as with most things in life, you get what you pay—or do not pay—for. Viruses can slow your computer down and, in severe cases, erase files. You may have received an email message several times or suddenly have an email go to everyone in your contact list. These situations can be the results of a virus. One of the best preventative measures is never to open an email when you are not familiar with the sender. If you do open the email and still do not recognize the sender, definitely do not open any attachments that are included. Delete the message and empty your trash.

Downloading files from sites with which you are unfamiliar can also invite a virus to invade your computer. Never download files from a site unless you trust the site and your antivirus software is up to date.

The internet is used frequently to access email, read favorite periodicals (such as *CLT!*), do research, and perform a host of other activities. When you visit most websites, the host servers attach “cookies,” tiny files that record what you do on the site. Some cookies are relatively harmless—for example, a website offering a television guide may use a cookie to remember your location, in order to give you appropriate listings next time you visit the site. Many cookies, however,

track your internet usage in order to tailor advertisements and promotions to your demographic group. You should **regularly open your internet browser and do a cleanup**. Click on TOOLS to delete downloads that you no longer need. Depend-



ing on your browser, you may delete the whole list at once, or select individual downloads by right-clicking and then deleting. You should regularly delete temporary files, history, cookies, saved passwords, and forms.

➤ In **Internet Explorer** click on TOOLS and then OPTIONS. Follow the instructions to delete files.

➤ In **Firefox** click on TOOLS and then OPTIONS. Click on the phrase that describes the action you want to complete; clear your recent history and delete cookies.

Make sure you have the **latest version of your web browser**. Some functions in websites will not work properly if your browser is out of date. You are usually prompted when updates are available. **Do not ignore updates!**

Now that you have safeguarded your computer, here are some ideas to make your browsing life easier. **Organizing your bookmarks or favorites** can help you access websites quickly. If there are websites that you visit frequently (such as *http://cslainfo.org*) simply bring up the site in your browser, click on FAVORITES or BOOKMARKS in the menu at the top of your screen, then click on ADD TO FAVORITES or BOOKMARK THIS PAGE. If you have a bookmark that you no longer need, click on BOOKMARKS (or FAVORITES), right click on the one you want to remove, and click on delete.

Under Bookmarks or Favorites, **you can create folders** to organize your favorite websites.

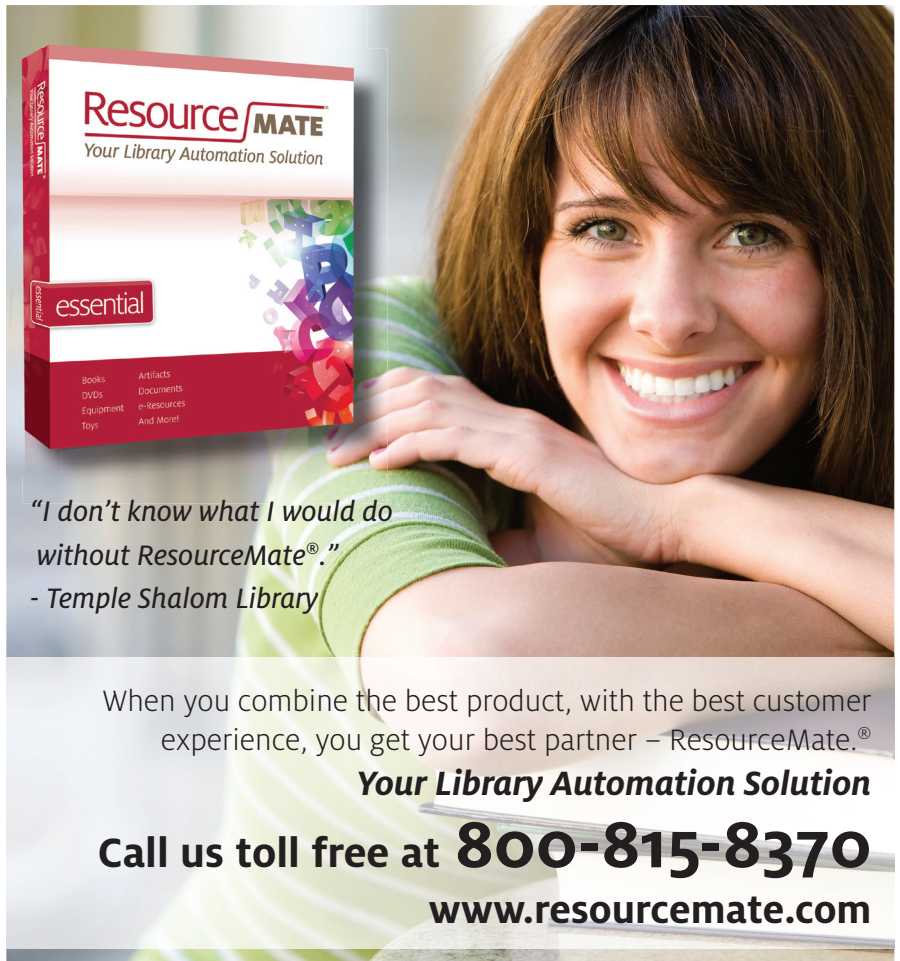


➤ In **Internet Explorer** click on FAVORITES, click on ORGANIZE FAVORITES, and then click on NEW FOLDER. Right click on the folder to rename it, and then click and drag favorites into the new folder.

➤ In **Firefox** right click on the bookmark you want to put into a folder, click on NEW FOLDER, and name the folder. Click and drag into the folder any bookmarks from your list.

A little maintenance and organization on a regular basis will help your computer be more efficient and prevent some unexpected problems. There will be occasions when you will need more expert advice to troubleshoot your computer, but following these few easy steps should get you started.

—Cheryl Cutchin



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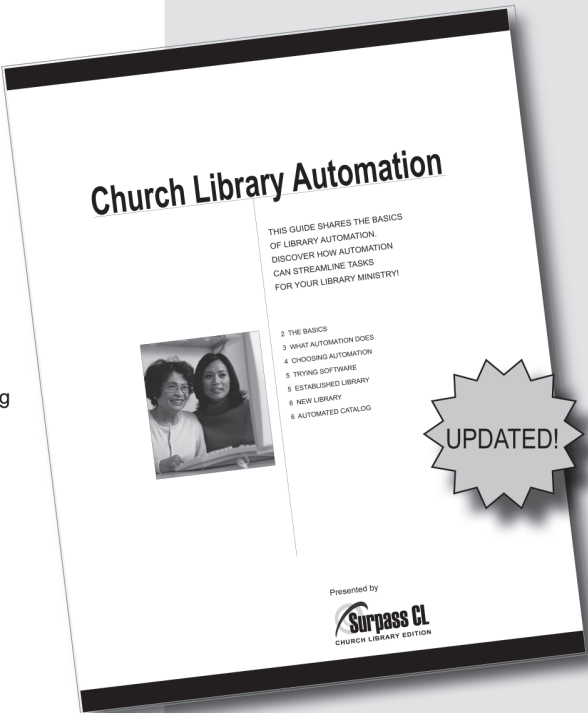
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# Doing Dewey



## DEWEY CLASSIFICATION NUMBERS FOR MATERIALS DEALING WITH APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Most congregational libraries have at least a few books dealing with health, engineering technology, gardening, animals, cooking, child rearing, and related subjects. All of these are included in the 600s in the Dewey Decimal Classification. These numbers have changed little between the thirteenth abridged edition (based on the twenty-first unabridged edition), the fourteenth abridged edition (based on the twenty-second unabridged edition), and the fifteenth abridged edition (based on the twenty-third unabridged edition).

600 is the general number for technology.



610 is the general number for medical sciences. 610.69 stands for medical personnel, including doctors, nurses, volunteers, and medical missionaries. 613

stands for personal health care, including physical conditioning and mental health. Specifically, 613.2 stands for dietetics. 613.6 stands for maintenance of personal safety in industry, travel, accidents, self-defense, and so forth. 613.7 stands for physical fitness, including exercise and sleep. 613.8 stands for personal prevention of substance abuse. 613.9 stands for birth control and sex hygiene, including family planning.



614 stands for public health.

615 stands for pharmacology and therapeutics. 615.8 is the number for folk medicine and faith healing; acupuncture; hypnosis; music, occupational, and physical therapy; massage



therapy; and home remedies. 616 is the general number for diseases. Specifically, 616.8 stands for diseases of the nervous

system and emotional and mental disorders. 616.86 stands for substance abuse. 616.89 stands for mental illness and treatment of mental illness. 617 stands for surgery.



620 is the general number for engineering. Specifically, 621.48 stands for nuclear power, and 629.4 stands for space technology.



630 is the general number for agriculture and related technologies. 635 stands for gardens and gardening, including vegetables, flowers, herbs, and ornamental plants. 636 stands for domestic birds and animals, including livestock and pets. 639 stands for wildlife. Specifically, 639.9 stands for wildlife conservation, including wildflowers.

640 is the general number for home economics and family living. 640.7 stands for consumer education. 641.5 stands for cooking, including cooking for religious situations and cooking for the sick. 642 stands for food and meal service, including table decoration. 646 stands for sewing. 649.1 stands for child rearing, and 649.8 stands for home care of persons with disabilities and illnesses.

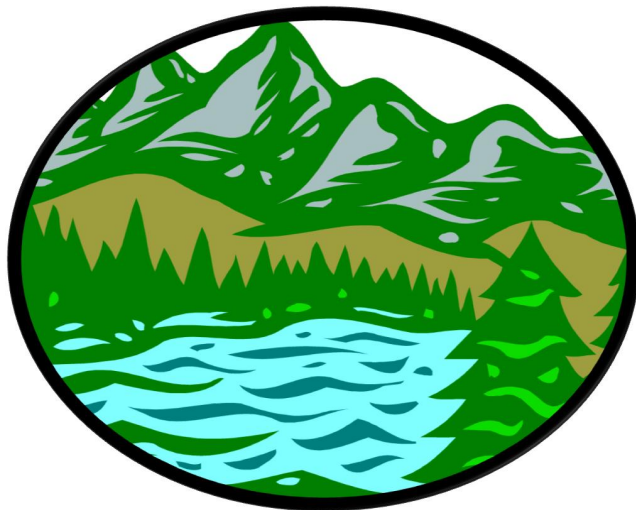


650 is the general number for business, including office management. 659 stands for public relations.

690 stands for building construction and maintenance.

I hope that you find this information helpful.  
—Susan E. Snyder, [ssnyder44147@gmail.com](mailto:ssnyder44147@gmail.com)

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# From the CSLA office

Dear Friends,

Now that our holidays are behind us, I hope that you are getting back into the routine with your libraries. If you know people who have not renewed their CSLA memberships for 2013, please help us out by reminding them to do it soon, so that they will not miss out on the great things coming in 2013! We need your memberships and donations to keep our organization financially sound, as we continue to revise our guides, provide mentoring, keep the website up to date, and put on great conferences. Help us reach out to librarians who have not heard of us, whether they are experienced librarians or just beginning their library ministries.



Be sure to put the 46th annual CSLA conference on your calendar! The conference will be held July 28-30, 2013, at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center in North Carolina. It is a beautiful and fun place to go; they have fishing, boating, golfing, and hiking trails. It is a great place to bring the family. The conference committee has been very busy putting together a great program of workshops, speakers, and innovative ways for us to network.

We also need you to find and nominate a librarian or library that deserves one of our great awards, to be given out during our conference. The deadline is March 31, 2013. Please feel free to contact me for a brochure or nomination form(s). You can also download them from our website: [www.cslainfo.org](http://www.cslainfo.org). — Judy

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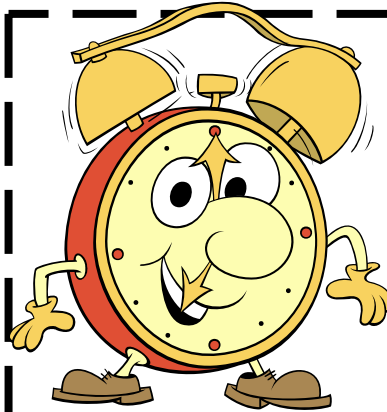
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