

congregational libraries today

Serving Congregational Libraries of All Faiths

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Team approach, individual effort led to successful term

BY EVELYN POCKRASS

Outgoing President

Is it really time to say good-bye? I thought it was in 2006 and 2012. Now this third time is the charm, and the curtain is coming down on the end of my presidential term. It seems appropriate, therefore, to share some final thoughts and memories.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as the president of the Church and Synagogue Library Association, and I thank all our members for the faith and trust they have extended to me over the years. CSLA, like many other non-profit organizations, has seen a multitude of changes during the past decade. We have managed to overcome many obstacles by meeting them head-on, not succumbing to a "woe is me" mindset, but looking for the positive ways to strengthen our association while remaining realistic as to what we could and could not do.

>> *article continues on page 3*

46th CSLA Conference: Walking in Junaluska's Moccasins

CSLA has done it again. What a great conference we had at Lake Junaluska in North Carolina. The campus of this lovely mountain retreat is very large and contains many buildings for meetings, two hotels, a beautiful grey stone chapel, and homes [many of which are a hundred years old] climbing up the mountain. All these are close to the peaceful waters of the man-made lake.

Junaluska was a Cherokee, a native to this area, who was once a fighting companion of Andrew Jackson. He later fell out with Jackson who had clearly turned his back on the Native Americans, even those with whom he had fought in the War of 1812. All of which is celebrated each night in the summer months at the amphitheater in the open-air



drama "Unto These Hills." Many of the attendees at our 46th meeting stayed after the conference to travel to the Cherokee village and attend the drama.

During the conference we had speaker Freeman Owle take us through the Cherokee experience from colonial times, through the Revolution, and into their treatment in the following periods. Owle explained the period of the "Trail of Tears" and the aftermath until reasonable treatment was finally started in 1966. Much of this talk was a revelation to those of us attending.

The campus is beautifully landscaped, and the hotel is well laid out for conference meals, meetings, and exhibits. It was easy to go from meals to meetings and on to workshops within a few steps. It was a varied program that allowed everyone to fit in their chosen workshops.

>> *article continues on page 4*



SHABBAT SERVICE

Attendees were given a special treat of a Friday night Shabbat service conducted by Rabbi Philip Bentley. It was an enlightening experience, with the rabbi explaining portions of the service that are unfamiliar to some of us. The rabbi even sang some parts of the service. We found it most interesting to know why the mother leads the evening by lighting the candles, covering her eyes, singing or saying the prayer, and uncovering her eyes. It is done this way because the Sabbath begins at the lighting of the candle, but should not be before the prayer, so the eyes are covered, then comes the prayer, and when the eyes are uncovered - the Sabbath begins. This lovely service turned the ordinary general meeting room we were in into a peaceful, holy place. Amen.

Time to get back into the fall routine

BY JUDY JANZEN
Administrator



I hope you have had a wonderful summer and are ready to get back into the busy fall routine. Our conference July 28-30 was absolutely wonderful. The campus of the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center was beautiful and very relaxing. We had excellent workshops, discussion groups, exhibits, speakers, and entertainment! Everyone had time to visit and network with new and old friends. We all left the conference refreshed and ready to enthusiastically get back to our library ministries.

Our **2014 CONFERENCE** will be held in Lake Oswego, Oregon, just outside of Portland. The theme of the conference will be **"RETURN TO THE OREGON TRAIL."** We have picked the Crowne Plaza Hotel as our meeting

site and we know you will be pleased with the site. The committee has been working on workshops, tours, and speakers that I know you will enjoy. Be sure to mark your calendars now for **JULY 30 – AUGUST 1, 2014**, and join us for a time of learning, fun and networking!

Do you have the two newest guides? *Media for the Teen and Young Adult Reader*: selected and annotated by Mary Lou Henneman, and *Helping Those Who Hurt: An Annotated Bibliography for Congregational Libraries Serving Teens and Children*, by Sarah Meghan Harper. List price \$14 and member price \$12 plus \$4 shipping and handling. Both guides are excellent and you will find them to be valuable tools for your library.

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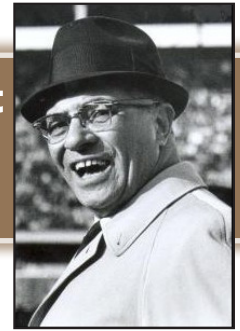
Outgoing CSLA president Evelyn Pockrass turns the gavel over to new president Cheryl Cutchin.



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Individual commitment to the group effort — that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work. —Vince Lombardi



President's Message on commitment—

>> *article continued from page 1*

What has been a driving force in maintaining a congregational library association during economic adversity and the technological effects on books and library functioning? It really all boils down to one delicious ingredient – PEOPLE. CSLA members are so devoted and find the association so worthwhile that they are supportive in countless possible ways. Together, we have been able to cut costs and yet maintain exciting and viable services for our members.

We have worked very hard to foster a team approach these past two years. I am reminded of a quotation attributed to Vince Lombardi.

Individual commitment to the group effort — that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.

There is no question that when you work as a team, you can achieve the potential for greatness. Each of us has something to offer and both the CSLA Board and our members have creativity and talents that have shone brightly. Several years ago there was a religious librarian in the Indianapolis area who frequently told me that he loved to be with congregational

librarians because they didn't argue about theology—they shared ideas and thoughts about their respective libraries. They were friends, not adversaries.

I learned a long time ago that as church and synagogue librarians we all have the same problems regardless of our denominations.

So as we conclude one administration and look forward to the coming year, here is another thought to guide us—this one attributed to John Dewey:

Arriving at one goal is the starting point for another.

It has been my habit to speak with officers and committee chairs before an administration year starts to review job descriptions and help each set goals. This year I asked Board members to write down their individual goals for each six-month period. Then each of us could know where we had been and where we were going. None of us can accomplish all we want, but setting goals gave us something to reach for.

Consider the goals for your libraries, too. It is refreshing to take the time to think about what can be achieved within certain time frames. Without goals, you may just flounder and your

congregation's library will be "same-old, same-old," but with goals you have a course to follow and a path to journey on. Sometimes opportunities arise that are unexpected, and you can enhance your goals. For example, I did not expect to write about reading incentive programs for the last issue of *Congregational Libraries Today*, but in doing so I became aware of how others handled such programs and gained valuable insights in the process. Simply put, one goal leads to another.

CSLA is 46 years "young." With our vision, let's set innovative goals to keep the flame going by attracting more members and continuing to serve our congregations. Our libraries are often hidden treasures in congregations and congregational librarians are often special resources for their members. We have so much to offer, and I thank you for being part of the team.

Our best wishes and prayers are offered to Cheryl Cutchin, incoming president of CSLA. Cheryl is an outstanding congregational librarian with exceptional skills. CSLA will be in great hands with Cheryl and her team as leaders in 2013-2014.

To all of our leaders:

Now is a wonderful opportunity to thank the outstanding members of CSLA, starting with our 2012-2013 CSLA Board who worked so diligently on your behalf. Volunteers are Cheryl Cutchin, First Vice President/President Elect; David Reid, Second Vice President and Fundraising Chair; Dick Burghduff and Alice Campbell, Treasurers; Marjorie Smink, Immediate Past President, Nominations and Elections Chair and Co-Chair for the 46th Annual Conference; Naomi Kauffman, Co-Chair for the 46th Annual Conference; Marcia Trauernicht, Chapters Coordinator; Glenda Strombom, Awards Chair; Beverley Manning, Continuing Education Chair; Pat Shufeldt, Finance Chair; and Jay Jarvis, Publications Chair. Our stellar staff is headed by Judy Janzen, Administrator; Monica Tenney, Media Review Editor; Jeri Zulli, outgoing Publications Editor; and Tom Fountain, Financial Assistant. In addition, many thanks to non-Board members who have held special positions: Phyllis Wendorf, Rodda Committee Chair; Alrene Hall, CSLA Correspondence Course Coordinator; and Dottie Lewis, Archives Coordinator. Some of our leadership have been active for several years but there have been several new people recently and that has been very important in helping us gain different perspectives. Of course, none of us would have anything to do if it weren't for you, our loyal members. We appreciate all who have served as committee members and offered help in other areas as well. —Evelyn



Lambuth Inn

Lambuth Inn is a hundred-year-old facility that has kept its delightful turn-of-the-last-century ambience. The original structure is of local river stone. A wing has been added on each side. The check-in desk has a wood paneled façade and old-fashioned wooden key and letter boxes. Some of us may remember these from our youth.

CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY TOUR

Many attendees arrived early to take the pre-conference congregational library tour on Saturday morning. We visited three congregations, First Presbyterian, First Baptist, and First Methodist of Waynesville, NC. As usual the librarians were gracious

in their hosting and eager in their explanations of their collections and their work. They had many of the successes and disappointments that we all know. Some had no money, others had enough, some were in prominent locations, and some were not.

Following the congregational tour we stopped at the public library where there was an ENORMOUS book sale. There was room after room of categorized books with much coming and going of crowds of people. Rarely has one seen such a book event at a not-for-profit venue!

OTHER SATURDAY OPTIONS

Saturday afternoon was spent by new librarians at the Beginners Library School. Jeri Baker was the leader, and she reported that it was highly successful for all participating, including the teacher. This school is a wonderful idea that was introduced in Atlanta by one of our past-presidents, Helen Zappia, who taught the first

class. It has been greatly appreciated over the years by many beginner librarians. Many thanks to Helen, Alrene Hall, Jane Hope, and now Jeri for excellent teacher/leader skills over all these years.

Other Saturday activities included touring the Lake Junaluska museums, libraries, and gardens. This is a large campus with much to see and do [boating, golfing, tennis, camping, as well as “people watching”]. One can see why many plan their vacations at this garden spot. Over and over one heard people saying, “Isn’t this fabulous! I had no idea it was like this! The Methodists have created a wonderful retreat!”

In the late afternoon there was a boat ride on the lake, then a gathering for entertainment in the evening. We had a humorous warm-up by a retired Methodist minister, Jim Warren, who regaled us with many jokes about churches and their antics. Particularly funny was a song about the neglect

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Members examine books during church library tours on Saturday.

of the third verse of hymns. An ode by David A. Robb, with apologies to Joyce Kilmer, it begins:

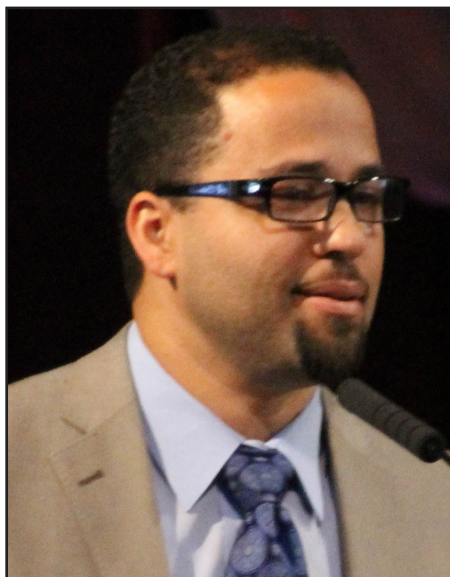
*I think that I shall never see
A resurrected Stanza Three:
The third, with oft the salient
thought
Revealing why the hymn was
wrought;
The third, which sometimes
bares the soul...
[ending with]
Hymns are sung by fools like
me,
But only God sings stanza
three!*

For church music ministers and choir members this is just a hoot.

After we were warmed up by Warren, the Rev. Ashley Calhoun gave a stunning enactment of Bishop Walter Russell Lambuth. We were led through Lambuth's life, through his adventures with his cohort John Wesley Gilbert in what was then the Belgian Congo, and finally to the end of their great missional lives.

SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday morning was a church service held in the large assembly hall with special music by the Lake Junaluska Singers. This is a group of older teenagers, some college students, and ministers of music who try out for the choir, which travels and performs widely. There was a large crowd for this service as the group is well known. The music was lovely, with a video background that was not in the least obtrusive. Speaking at the service was the new Dean of Duke Chapel, Dr. Luke Powery, who was certainly a most intriguing speaker. This was all part of the 100th anniversary celebration of the establishing of the campground. Dr. Powery said it was suggested to him by the Bishop that he should speak at Lake Junaluska as part of this celebration and, "It was hard to turn down the Bishop."



Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of Duke Chapel



Nancy Robinson Masters makes strong moral and social statements in her children's books.

CONFERENCE BEGINS

At Sunday noon the actual conference began with an opening luncheon, a speaker, and general introductions of people, events, and directions. The speaker was an author from Texas, Nancy Robinson

Masters, who writes children's books and makes strong moral and social statements in her writing. Masters grew up in a hardscrabble life in Texas and has put her life and experiences into her writing. She played a game with the CSLA board in which each member was part of a small airplane [a Piper Cub, perhaps] and how each part was the necessary push to get the next part going so the plane could push forward, take off, and fly. Excellent metaphor! Enjoyed by all, even the board acting as pistons, propellers, engines, wings, etc. You should have been there!

SILENT AUCTION

During the conference, there was an excellent silent auction run by Dawn Domans of New Jersey, which netted CSLA close to \$500. This was held in the exhibits room where we had Book Systems, MediaFlex Opals, and Ten Thousand Villages present. There were exhibits by Eerdmans, Kar-Ben, ResourceMate, Surpass, Jewish Lights, and Christian Small Publishers Associates. And of course, the main attraction—the CSLA table with guides and bibliographies available for purchase. Judy Janzen is always so good in shipping the needed materials from Portland and attending to everyone's needs.

SUNDAY EVENING AWARDS BANQUET

CSLA Awards Committee Chair Glenda Strombom recognized this year's winners, Jeri Baker and Rod McClendon. See Awards article on page 12 in this issue of CLT for details.



Lake Junaluska Singers.



2013 Rodda Book Award

Tess Hilmo has won CSLA's 2013 Rodda Book Award for her middle grade historical murder mystery, *With a Name Like Love*, published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. The Rodda Book Award recognizes books that demonstrate both quality writing and contribution to their readers' spiritual growth. Rodda committee chair Phyllis Wendorf presented the award at CSLA's annual conference to Tess, who addressed the attendees from her home in Utah via a combination of Skype and cell phone. Pat Shufeldt, pictured above, holds the phone to the microphone. *With a Name Like Love* tells the story of Ollie Love, the oldest of five girls and daughter of an itinerant preacher. Tess began working on the book when she was placed on bed rest during her difficult pregnancy with her second child. After Tess spent many years honing her craft *With a Name Like Love* was accepted for publication – when the child whose gestation had started Tess's career was already a pre-teen. The annual Rodda Book Award, named for lifetime CSLA member Dot Rodda, rotates among recognizing books for adults, young adults, and children.



Watching and listening to the Skype interview.



Laura Dallas talks about enhancing your library website.

WORKSHOPS at the conference

In workshop sessions everyone seemed busy and interested. We all learned a good deal. It is not really possible to go to any conference and not learn something valuable. It is quite often difficult to choose from the many opportunities one is presented. Following are impressions from those attending various workshops.

SESSION I: SUNDAY AFTERNOON

In **Beyond the Catalog**, Laura Dallas talked about enhancing your library website. Laura is the Media Center Associate for the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Her workshop challenged us to use our congregational websites more effectively. Her excellent website (<https://nccumc.org/mediacenter>) provided lots of specific examples for presenting online resources, subject guides, recommendations, reviews, newsletters, and wish lists for our libraries. She recommended “Delicious Library 3” (www.delicious-monster.com), a free social bookmarking web service that can help organize and present online links

and resources (free and otherwise). Each bookmark can be tagged with appropriate key words for efficient searching.

The Wonderful World of Teens: Library Style started with Geri Lynn Mullis asking the participants if they liked teens. It was clear that Geri Lynn does and that to work with teens you have to enjoy being with them and being able to relate to them. Who are teenagers? They span ages 13 to 19, although there can be overlap with “tweens” 11 to 13 years of age. Geri Lynn offered several tips for working with teens: You should care about them, respect them, and be enthusiastic, honest and fair. It is important to be open with teens. The librarian’s actions speak volumes. Treat and talk to teens knowing that they want to be adults. Teen participation should be part of the library’s mission. Geri Lynn also gave us the National Public Radio listeners’ listing of 100 favorite teen novels.

A delightful workshop presented by Marianne Stowers, **Library Book and Activity Bags for Children**, displayed a set of decorated and filled book bags created by a volunteer

library staff. These are plain canvas book bags decorated by the volunteers with themes of the contents of the bag. For instance, a bag decorated with a happy-looking hippo contained a number of fiction and non-fiction picture books, happy hippo sheets to color, a set of yarn, and hole-punched outline of a hippo, and a large collection of small hippo figures just made for little boys’ hands!

Apparently the volunteers spend a good bit of time creating these collections, which are used by parents for small children during church or activities during nursery time. One bag was for a family expecting another child.

Those attending the workshop saw many opportunities for use of the bags. A couple of suggestions were a bag for a substitute Sunday school teacher and bags to aid a day care unity of study. Bags contained a list of contents and directions for making any put-together items. We all turned into kids-at-Christmas, opening up these delightful bags.

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Fellowship around the table was an important part of our conference.



Members had a chance to visit a Methodist Church Museum on the Lake Junaluska campus.



Monica Tenney leads a workshop on Faith Journeys: Resources for Inspired Travel [Armchair & Otherwise].

Monica Tenney's **Faith Journeys: Resources for Inspired Travel [Armchair & Otherwise]**. Often we need to get away from our everyday surroundings in order to connect more closely to God and feel His presence. One way that this can be accomplished is by going to a location with significant religious importance—a pilgrimage or retreat, in other words. Have you or members of your congregation ever wanted to travel to the Holy Land or other countries relevant to Judaism and Christianity, but don't know where to start, or, perhaps never had the opportunity? There are resources available for the discovery of these places. Monica provided an annotated bibliography of over 50 resources, covering guides in several groupings: The first dealt with the concept of pilgrimage. The second of books and DVDs dealt with travel to the Holy Land. The third group of books dealt with pilgrimages to European sites including Santiago de Compostela, Lourdes, Eastern Europe, Rome, and Britain. The fourth included world guides to sacred places and pilgrimages to places outside the

Holy Land and Europe. The fifth dealt with the practicalities of travel. The sixth dealt with devotions for travelers. In the seventh, books and web sites dealt with spiritual retreats. These included accounts of retreats, guides to participating in or leading a retreat, and directories of retreats. In addition to describing the items and highlighting the “best of the best,” she displayed the actual books and media so that participants could examine them at the end of the workshop. A quotation from a handout best sums up this workshop:

Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.
--Jeremiah 6:16 (NIV)

SESSION II: MONDAY MORNING

Some brave people attended **Seven Deadly Sins of Amateur Authors** with Nancy Robinson Masters. The next best thing to learning from your mistakes is learning from someone else's. Masters simplified for us in seven specific points what not to do when trying to get noticed by a publisher. She learned the hard way! A couple of examples: 1. Publisher's focus: For example, Lee and Low Publishing Company is an independent children's book publisher specializing in diversity. 2. Poor spelling, grammar and punctuation could cause your manuscript to be rejected before it is even seen by an editor. A proofreader may set your writing aside because you relied on auto-correct! Nancy's vivacious and enthusiastic presentation encouraged us to write despite the bumps in the road. As she says, “I don't want to hear you whine, I just want to see you shine!” Nancy peppered her presentation with a lot of Texas proverbs.

A well-attended workshop was **RDA Cataloging: What Is It and Does it Bite?** Many of us had heard “whisperings” about this mysterious thing so we were anxious to learn. Bibliographic data is the

information about a book or other resource that used to appear on catalog cards and is now usually displayed in online catalogs. This data has long been standardized to insure that the information can be shared between libraries with as few changes as possible. Resource Description and Access (RDA) is the new cataloging standard that will replace the former code, the Anglo American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd edition (1978). However, RDA goes beyond earlier cataloging codes in that it provides guidelines on cataloging digital resources and has a stronger emphasis on helping users find, identify, select, and obtain the information they want. While the form of some headings will change as the result of RDA, implementation of any changes will be facilitated by increasingly sophisticated online systems. You will be seeing some cataloging you download already showing these changes. Geri Lynn Mullis reassured us that it will not be necessary to change records already in your database. The rules are not completed and there is still much more needed to be done on the new code system. The Library of Congress began implementing RDA in March of 2013, and many cataloging vendors have already adjusted their software for RDA. Just download your cataloging as usual, and eventually this new form will take over your database and older materials will fade by attrition. A great sigh of relief was heaved by all present. You must have heard it!

Moving right along – and we moved! **Planning, Preparing and Planting a Biblical Garden** was also available in this session. Sarah Tippet was the perfect facilitator in that you could tell how much she loves gardening and how much appreciation she has for the plants in the Lake Junaluska garden. Here is a lovely personal summary of the workshop: “I have now moved to a continuing care facility so obviously I do not want to be gardening as in the past, but Sarah's

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Between sessions one was able to enjoy the hotel lobby, its nook sitting areas, conversation seating, and its accoutrements. These areas were well lit but peaceful for reading, resting, and for small group meetings. It was amazing the number of library tables all around, with vases and bowls from all over the world. One expects these were brought back from foreign mission fields for the past hundred years. The hotel is very trusting as these are spread around and easy to inspect and touch. There were any number of glass-front cabinets throughout the lobby area of Lambuth Inn. When hastening between classes one is tempted to stop and see what is placed there. One such cabinet had three shelves of figurines, none more than seven inches tall. All were Madonna renderings or angels. One can imagine the joy someone had in collecting these over many years. How grateful we are that they shared them.

enthusiasm did remind of earlier gardens and my secret wish for years to have a biblical area in my perennial garden. I did have some aloe, however, nothing was said about it in particular, but much was said about herbs and shrubs such as rosemary in the biblical gardens and the aloe probably would qualify. Her definition of a biblical garden was any garden with plants named in the Bible or any plant native to that area. I believe my Rose of Sharon and my Lenten Roses would have also qualified. I probably could have planted my "fig tree" also called a ficus benjamina. Our bonus for attending this workshop was the seeds for "love in a mist" or Nigella. I look forward to planting those on the premises of where I now live. Wonder if it's ok to be on the landscaping committee without participating in 'playing in the dirt' planting? "

SESSION III: MONDAY MORNING

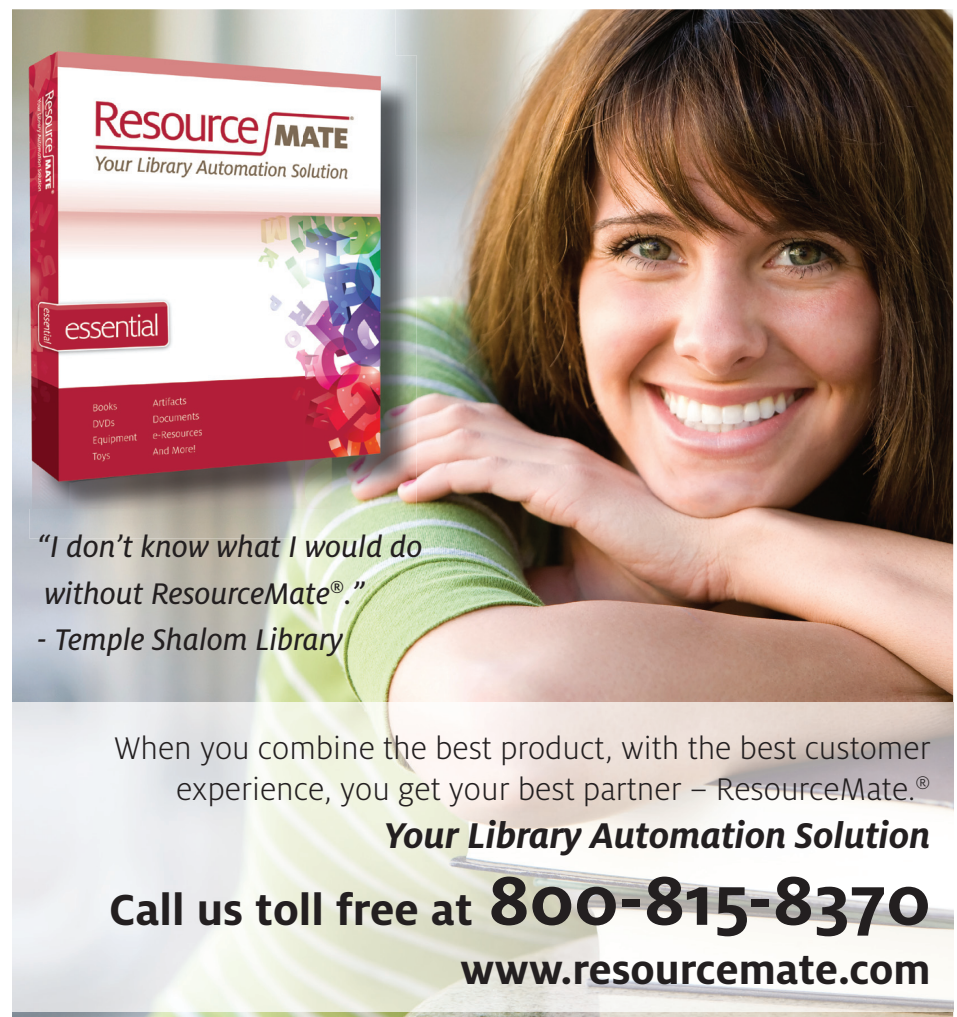
CSLA Gets Social with Facebook and Twitter was another well-attended workshop as many of us were eager to learn about these sites and how to use them. "I knew I needed to take this workshop but thought it would be difficult to navigate. But Cheryl Cutchin, Pat Shufeldt and Ralph Hartsock took the class step by step, explaining the different social media and the importance of communicating with others through blogs, Twitter, and Facebook. They described the procedures for setting up an account, user policies, and general navigation of the sites so that the material was

not difficult and easy to follow. I am challenged now to communicate with others through social media. The ability to ask questions, receive answers, exchange ideas, and see what others are experiencing is exciting. I encourage you to start using the social media."

You Have the Right Book, Now What? Activities to Extend the Literacy Experience for Children Ages Birth to Eight Years was

conducted by Sarah Howard. When attending any workshop we may first look for someone who possesses authority. Sarah is currently the Children and Youth Services Manager at the Daniel Boone Regional Library in Columbia, Missouri, and served on the 2004 Newbery Award and 2013 Caldecott Award committees. She has a delightful way of engaging her audience to offer ideas and impacting

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Workshops offered opportunities to learn more about numerous important topics.

the audience. She presented activity ideas such as looking through an open picture frame for children to imagine what they see, simple songs (e.g., “PB & J”), and puppet (wearing goofy eyes on fingers) and storytelling tips. With the experience of folk songs, Sarah sang a few songs, offering repeated patterns and predictable words. Website resources, adult educational book resources, and general literature activities were shared. The participants came to the workshop seeking help and advice, and Sarah was eager to share her ideas and knowledge. At the end of our engrossing session, Sarah let all the attendees select a free picture book from her display. One attendee remarked, “It was one of the best times of the many I enjoyed at the 2013 CSLA conference.”

Laughter in the Library, Laughter in Your Life. Beginning with definitions like “Laughter: to show mirth, humor or scorn with a smile and chuckle or explosive sound; Humor: Characteristic of habitual disposition or/temperament. Discovering, expressing, or appreciating the ludicrous or absurdly incongruous.” [both from Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary] Virginia Webb and Rebekah Flack led us merrily through the necessity in our lives of these two ways of looking at life. They very graciously cited articles

from our newsletter in their extensive bibliography, which will soon be available online at www.cslainfo.org. One comment was, “I cannot imagine no laughter in the library.”

SESSION IV: MONDAY AFTERNOON

The Little Library in a Small Congregation. Many congregational librarians volunteer at a “Little Library in a Small Congregation,” the subject of Art Swarthout’s enthusiastic presentation. Art, the Local Arrangements Chair for the conference, is a retired minister of Christian Education and lives in Lake Junaluska. He also is a librarian and has served in that capacity at Elizabeth Chapel United Methodist Church, Waynesville, North Carolina. Their library committee resurrected the library on a small table at the



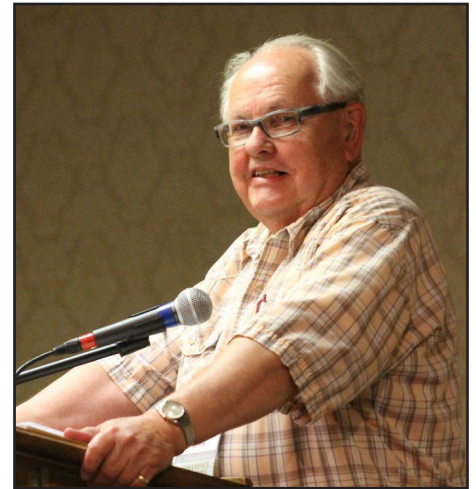
Rebekah Flack: Laughter in the library.

entrance to the building. Later it was moved to the front pew, which had been rarely occupied. As the collection grew, it was moved again to twenty-one shelves on one wall of a newly redecorated former classroom. The library has relied on three main principles to function: Location (start the library wherever congregants come and go); Matching (select books that will appeal to your congregants and are resources for church programming and events); Weeding (keep your collection alive). The little library may not need complicated processing or checkout procedures but it certainly can be active.

Caring for Your Congregation’s Archives with Nancy Watkins.

Though I am not the archival librarian, I had promised to bring handouts to our church’s history librarian. Proper storage is the key to having a truly up-to-date, state-of-the-art archive of items. A valuable handout was a “Deed of Gift” fill-in-the-blanks document. The other valuable tool for archival management is a handbook such as our own CSLA guide. What impressed me most was a lack of computer savvy needed for cataloging. Mrs. Watkins reiterated several times the simplicity needed for the accounting of each item donated. I had been concerned that our archival librarian had not felt a need to catalog according to the library’s needs for cataloging books and non-book materials, so this was justification for the way she had already dealt with that procedure. Now I can give her my blessing and stop worrying about that moot point.

The handouts from the workshops will be available for free via email to CSLA members. Please contact the CSLA office to request. Phone: (503) 244-6919 or (800) 542-2752 (LIB-CSLA) or E-mail: csla@worldaccessnet.com.



CONFERENCE wrapup

Spread throughout the conference were many events to attend. There were two author signing occasions as well as two sessions for meeting the authors for questions; most interesting speakers Missy Buchanan, Karen Greenwaldt; and finally Freeman Owle, the Cherokee speaker who gave us background before the visit to Cherokee Village.

Additional talks were given by Book Systems and Opals. Plus Glen McEowen gave a quickie explanation of eBook consortium and how it works. One writer remarked, "With no overdue, no checking books out, or processing of books, we can now offer our patrons the ability to read and check out for a two week period any title they wish whether it is in our holdings catalog or not."

There was evening entertainment as well with music and storytelling by Sarah and Thom Howard, besides the comic minister and dramatic presentation mentioned above.

The CSLA is most grateful to Naomi Kauffman and Marjorie Smink and their committee for putting together such a delightful conference. I think it safe to say that we all had a grand meet at beautiful Lake Junaluska. THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Contributors to the articles about the conference: Liz Evans, Evelyn Pockrass, Dottie Lewis, Susan Snyder, Roberta Ash, Cindy Longacre, Carol Penka, Glenda Strombom, Bev Etzelmueller, Virginia Webb, Judy Dodge, Marcia Trauernicht, and Phyllis Wendorf.

One pleasant spot, we hope not missed after the busyness of classes, is attached to the Inn. You walk through a side yard lined with wonderful flowers and shrubs and come to a bricked circle. This area has benches around for enjoying the view. It is easy to see why this is called "Inspiration Point." There is a huge white cross on the level just below. Behind that is a clear-cut view of the lake and the Great Smokies behind. Particularly spectacular at sunset when it is softly lit by the fading sun, the silence of twilight is tangible, and the colors are spellbinding. The setting was truly refreshing to the spirit.

2013

By Glenda Strombom
Awards Committee Chair

Library Awards

JERI BAKER of Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas, TX, is the 2013 Outstanding Congregational Librarian. ROD McCLENDON, former Media Center director at First Baptist Church, Greenville, SC, is the recipient of the 2013 Outstanding Contribution to Congregational Libraries award.

Thank you. It was wonderful to have so many caring CSLA members nominating talented and dedicated librarians representing the many congregations in our organization for the 2013 Awards. Unfortunately, only one award can be given for each designated Award. The Awards committee, Joyce Davison, Mary Lou Henneman, Debbie Scott and Glenda Strombom, was pleased to announce that Jeri and Rod were selected.

Congratulations!

Under Jeri's direction, the Wilshire Baptist Church library has an improved collection, outdated material withdrawn and the addition of up-to-date material added. Youth and children's materials are selected for development values and literary merit.

She pays attention to church programming and displays resources to complement any emphasis, looks for ways the library can be promoted outside the library including self-checkout stations throughout the church and involves herself with weekday educational programs. Jeri is self-motivated and has enlisted capable volunteers to help. The library is a launching pad for knowledge through an online

catalog and interlibrary loans and she makes it possible to provide support for the best and most current information to enrich the liturgical and educational life of the church.

The Media Center at First Baptist Church under Rod's leadership and his coordination of multiple volunteers has developed the library collection through printed and website publicity with programming for both adults, children and direct communication with staff and others involved in the congregation's educational program and week day school.

Through his efforts, his congregational library was one of the first to make its catalog available



Rod McClendon receives the award for Outstanding Contribution to Congregational Libraries from Awards Chair Glenda Strombom.



Jeri Baker, Outstanding Congregational Librarian.

to the public for internet searching and a welcome resource for others building similar collections. Rod upgraded the automation system to one being also used by the public and private schools in Greenville enabling them to find familiar software when visiting the center in person or on line. His work in the Media Center has been an inspiration to others who have turned to him for ideas on how they might better serve their congregational libraries and their constituents.

The Awards Committee challenges you again to nominate those talented and dedicated libraries and librarians in your Chapters for a 2014 CSLA Award. The nominating forms are on the CSLA web www.cslainfo.org. Also, if you have an interest in being a member of the Awards Committee contact the CSLA Office csla@worldaccessnet.com.

DOING DEWEY:

DEWEY CLASSIFICATION NUMBERS FOR MATERIALS DEALING WITH JUDAISM

by Susan E. Snyder
ssnyder44147@gmail.com

The Dewey Decimal Classification does not work as well for synagogue libraries as it does for church libraries, and many synagogue libraries use other classification schemes, such as Weine or Elazar classification, instead. However, in this column, I will discuss the Dewey Decimal Classification numbers for Judaism, for the benefit of those synagogue libraries that use it as well as other libraries that have books about Judaism.

These numbers have remained basically the same between the 13th abridged edition (based on the 21st unabridged edition), the 14th abridged edition (based on the 22nd unabridged edition), and the 15th abridged edition (based on the 23rd unabridged edition).

Part of the problem, from a synagogue library's point of view, is that the Dewey Decimal Classification separates the Hebrew Bible and books about it from the other books on Judaism.

221 is the number for the complete scriptures of Judaism, known to Christians as the Old Testament. The numbers immediately following are for parts of this: 222—Historical books of the Hebrew Bible, 223—Poetic books of the Hebrew Bible, and 224—Prophetic books of the Hebrew Bible.

Other books about Judaism are classified in the number 296 and its subdivisions. 296 stands for Judaism in general, and 296.07 stands for study and teaching of Judaism. Numbers beginning with 296.1 stand for sources outside the Hebrew Bible, including 296.12 for Talmudic literature and 296.14 for Midrash.

296.3 and its subdivisions are the numbers for Jewish doctrinal, moral, and social theology. 296.31 stands for G-d and spiritual beings. (It is a Hebrew tradition not to write out the Divine Name on anything that may be discarded.) 296.32 stands for humankind, 296.33 for eschatology, 296.36 for ethics, and 296.38 for social theology.

296.4 and its subdivisions stand for Jewish liturgy, rites, and traditions. 296.41 stands for the Sabbath, and 296.43 stands for festivals, holy days, and fasts. 296.44 stands for rites and customs for specific occasions that occur generally once in a lifetime. 296.45 stands for Jewish liturgy and prayers. 296.46 stands for use of the arts and symbolism (including synagogue buildings, liturgical articles, and music). 296.47 stands for Judaic sermons and preaching.

296.6 and its subdivisions stand

for synagogues and Jewish religious organizations. 296.61 stands for Jewish religious leaders and their work, 296.67 stands for Jewish religious organizations other than synagogues, and 296.68 stands for Jewish religious education.

296.7 and its subdivisions stand for Jewish religious experience, life, and practice. Specifically, 296.71 stands for Jewish religious experience, including mysticism and conversion to Judaism. 296.72 stands for worship and daily devotions, including devotional literature. 296.73 stands for dietary laws, and 296.74 stands for marriage and family life.

296.8 and its subdivisions stand for Jewish sects and movements. 296.81 stands for ancient sects and movements, and 296.82 stands for those of the medieval and early modern periods, until about 1750. 296.83 stands for modern sects and movements, including Orthodox Judaism, Modern Hasidism, Conservative Judaism, and Reform Judaism.

I plan to discuss the parts of the 200 class dealing with other religions and with comparative religion in future columns. I hope that you find this information helpful.



Do you know Dewey?

fresh citations

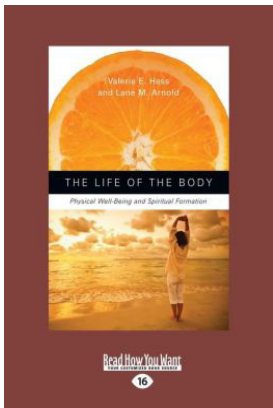
new media for your library



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LIVING IN FAITH



The Life of the Body: Physical Well-Being and Spiritual Formation

Valerie E. Hess and Lane M. Arnold. InterVarsity, 2012. 198p. \$15.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8308-3571-3. Available as an ebook. www.ivpress.com 233 Mind and body. Christian life. Spiritual formation. Human body—Christianity. Social issues.

The message for Christians is simple. In order to become a true follower of Christ, adhere to the teachings of Jesus in every

aspect of your life. Many Christians avoid relating their physical fitness to spirituality and faith. Authors Valerie E. Hess, an instructor in spiritual formation and leadership, and Lane M. Arnold, a spiritual director certified in Christian formation and soul care, know the importance of combining physical well-being with spiritual growth. Grounded in scripture, their book *The Life of the Body* discusses the importance of taking care of one's health through proper nutrition and exercise and how such care relates to spirituality. Hess and Arnold write about how one's physical appearance can reflect the love of Christ. They suggest ways to nurture oneself, other people, and the environment.

Each of the twelve chapters in *The Life of the Body* contains sidebar reflections as well as questions and statements suitable for small group study or individual reflection. This is an excellent study for Christians seeking a fresh approach to being a healthy Christian, both spiritually and physically. —Mary Lou Henneman

Life's a Pain: Journeying by Faith When Every Step Hurts

Todd Rettberg. Crosslink, 2012. 135p. \$12.95, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-936746-24-8. Available as an ebook. www.crosslinkpublishing.com 231.8 Suffering.

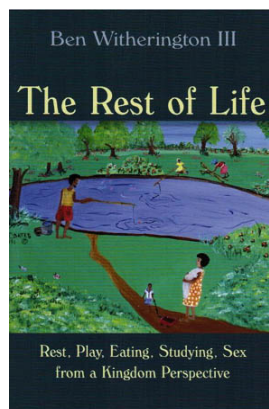
Readers who have only occasional aches and pains may find it difficult to comprehend Todd Rettberg's story. In *Life's a Pain*, Rettberg recounts his constant struggle with chronic physical pain, which began when he was five

years old and has never stopped. Rettberg's battle is not his alone; because of his condition, his family has had so many plans canceled that they make a practice of living spontaneously.

Although physical pain comes to mind first when we hear the term "chronic pain," Rettberg emphasizes that pain can also be emotional or mental. In his years as a pastor, he has witnessed and dealt with all types.

The author admits to having been angry with God because of his problems. He always looked for an oasis—a place without pain—but has come to realize that his oasis is acceptance that "God is using the pain for His glory," a way for "the grace of God to flow through me."

Rettberg describes other lessons that living with severe pain has taught him and explains his dos and don'ts of dealing with persons who suffer from excruciating pain. Caregivers and pastors will benefit from reading *Life's a Pain*, but it will be an eye-opener for any reader. —Bev-erly M. Bixler



The Rest of Life: Rest, Play, Eating, Studying, Sex from a Kingdom Perspective

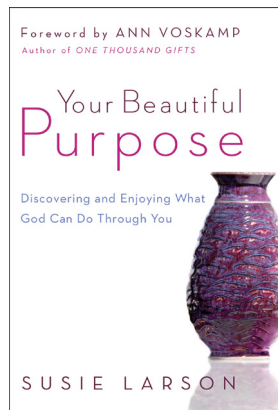
Ben Witherington III. Eerdmans, 2012. 158p. \$18.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8028-6737-7. Available as an ebook. www.eerdmans.com 248.4 Christian life.

In *The Rest of Life*, Bible scholar Ben Witherington III examines everyday life from a biblical and Christian perspective. His initial chapter discusses the need for rest, the ancient biblical observance of the Sabbath, and the

Christian embrace of the Lord's Day, or Sunday. On this and other topics, Witherington cites what various authors have written. His scholarly theological approach may present a stumbling block for some lay readers, but his down-to-earth sense of humor provides good balance.

In the chapter entitled “Food for Thought,” Witherington does not give a list of dos and don’ts related to food, but instead encourages Christians to practice healthful eating of well-balanced meals. In a section called “Was Paul a Prude?,” Witherington discusses at length what Paul says in his letters about marital relationships. He also addresses Paul’s statements about the character traits needed for church leadership and how these have often been misinterpreted over the centuries. Witherington skillfully explains those misinterpretations.

In his final chapter, Witherington urges readers to continue in worshipful relationship with God. All the activities discussed in *The Rest of Life*, Witherington notes, will pass away, but God’s love is unending. —*Beverly M. Bixler*



Your Beautiful Purpose: Discovering and Enjoying What God Can Do Through You

Susie Larson. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2013. 237p. \$13.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-1066-2. Available as an ebook and audiobook. www.bethanyhouse.com 248.8’43 Christian women—Religious life.

There are many good books for women on how to live a Christian life. Susie Larson’s book

on this topic is a special one. She writes in *Your Beautiful Purpose* that women can find fulfillment by serving God with body, soul, and spirit in all they do. Her opening challenge: “May God speak deeply to your heart and awaken fresh purpose in your soul.” Next comes the best part—Larson discusses, using insights gained from her own faith journey, how women can come closer to Christ in both heart and action. Her examples reflect how God has worked through her in a variety of situations and how important it has been for her to focus on Christ instead of her own accomplishments.

Larson’s twelve chapters can easily be divided into study sessions for small discussion groups. Each chapter is supported by scripture references and concludes with a prayer, study questions, and discussion starters.

What is it that makes Larson’s book special among the many books on this topic? As I read *Your Beautiful Purpose*, I felt I was traveling with Larson through her story and that she was speaking directly to me. Hers is a powerful book to share with sisters in Christ.

A study DVD is available separately. —*Mary Lou Henneman*

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STEVEN C. ROY



WHAT GOD THINKS
WHEN WE FAIL

Finding Grace and True Success

What God Thinks When We Fail: Finding Grace and True Success

Steven C. Roy. InterVarsity, 2011. 192p. \$16.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8308-3939-1. Available as an ebook. www.ivpress.com 248.4 Failure (Psychology)—Religious aspects—Christianity. Success—Religious aspects—Christianity.

In the preface to *What God Thinks When We Fail*, Steven C. Roy admits that his book is very personal; it recalls his struggles with issues of success and failure

during his time as a pastor. Now a professor of theology, and recognizing that people in all fields share these problems, Roy offers help for coping with them. That is the purpose of what he calls the “truths of grace,” which he discusses in detail and which form the central part of his book.

Roy’s five truths are: Not all failures are sinful; All sinful failures are forgiven by God; God is progressively working to transform us and our sinful failures; No failure defines our identity as Christians; No failure will have the last word in our lives.

A final chapter, “Helping Others,” is directed especially at pastors and other church leaders, and the epilogue notes what Roy and his wife learned from the personal situation described in the beginning of his book. *What God Thinks When We Fail* is extensively annotated. —*Beverly M. Bixler*

BIBLE LESSONS

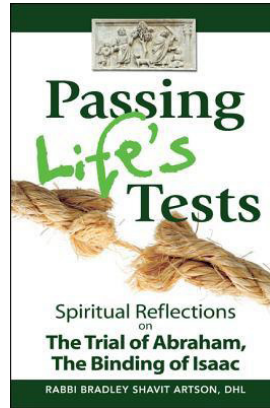
Formation of the Bible: The Story of the Church’s Canon

Lee Martin McDonald. Hendrickson, 2012. 178p. \$24.95, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-59856-838-7. www.hendrickson.com 220.1’2 Bible—Canon.

Lee Martin McDonald, a retired seminary professor, begins *Formation of the Bible* by lamenting the lack of a short, simple book telling how the biblical canon was created. He proceeds to fill this gap by telling the history of the various books of the Bible and how the first complete Bibles were assembled in about 350 AD. McDonald provides detailed information on the individuals and church councils that were important in determining what was included in the final product.

In McDonald’s view, it was the coming of the Reformation and the resulting Counter-Reformation, along with the advent of movable type, that finally caused the individual books to coalesce into the canon.

This is an attractive book with plenty of black and white illustrations; the many tables that list the contents of early and medieval Bibles are helpful, but their number may overwhelm some readers. McDonald’s writing is concise. *Formation of the Bible* is a valuable reference tool for laypersons. I recommend its inclusion in church libraries. —*Forrest Rice*



Passing Life’s Tests: Spiritual Reflections on the Trial of Abraham, the Binding of Isaac

Bradley Shavit Artson. Jewish Lights, 2013. 150p. \$18.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-58023-631-7. Available as an ebook. www.jewishlights.com 296.3’11 Jewish way of life. Isaac (Biblical patriarch)—Sacrifice. Abraham (Biblical patriarch). Bible. O.T. Genesis XXII, 1-19—Criticism, interpretation, etc.

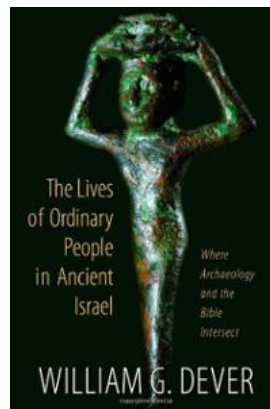
The tale from Genesis 22 of the binding of Isaac plays a significant role in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions. (In the latter, it

is Ishmael, not Isaac, who is bound.) The story is difficult and disturbing on several levels. When the aged Abraham, who had long yearned for an heir, is summarily ordered to present him as an offering on the altar, he obeys without a fight. Why? What does it all mean?

Bradley Shavit Artson addresses the perplexing questions of this narrative in two ways, each with intriguing possibilities. First, he offers a new translation of the text with an extensive commentary that considers the tale on multiple levels. The comments are divided so the reader can appreciate the difference between literal understandings and those that are allegorical, homiletic, or mystical. This careful presentation of the classic text allows one to consider alternative possibilities within the story.

The second section consists of thirteen essays, each considering the story through a different lens. What might this tale teach us about the importance of mortality, integrity, mindfulness, and more? These essays are thoughtful and challenging. They allow the reader to see this old story in new ways.

Highly recommended for personal reflection and for group discussion. —*Rabbi Louis A. Rieser*



The Lives of Ordinary People in Ancient Israel: Where Archaeology and the Bible Intersect

William G. Dever. Eerdmans, 2012. 436p. \$25.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8028-6701-8. www.eerdmans.com 221.95 Jews—Social life and customs—To 70 A.D. Palestine—Social life and customs—To 70 A.D. Bible. O.T.—Antiquities. Community life—Palestine—History—To 70 A.D. Religion and culture—Palestine—History—To 70 A.D. City and town life—Palestine—History—To 70 A.D.

The eighth century BCE was a busy time—a time of war leading up to the fall of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. It is a time that bequeathed to us a wealth of archaeological data, and William G. Dever focuses on this information in his study of the lives of ordinary people as reflected in the archaeological record. Dever’s study differs from others, many of which rely primarily on biblical accounts.

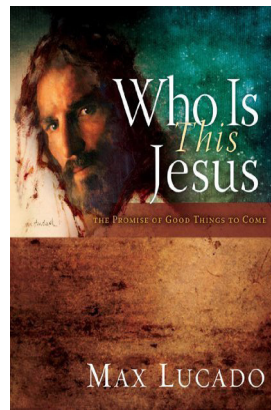
Dever attempts to see history as it emerges from the “latest and best facts that archaeology provides.” He describes towns and villages, communal structures, and religious cults. He notes Israel’s neighbors and describes the wars that led to Israel’s end. Dever succeeds in giving the reader a good view of life on the ground. Each chapter is structured to first present the archaeological record, follow with biblical data, and end with a summary.

Dever acknowledges that this book could not have been written a decade ago; the amount of data has grown tremendously in recent years. Illustrations and charts help the reader make sense of the description he offers. Highly recommended for a detailed view of ancient Israel. — *Rabbi Louis A. Rieser*

Who Is This Jesus?: The Hope You Can’t Resist

Max Lucado. Worthy, 2013. 64p. \$14.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-936034-66-6. www.worthypublishing.com 232.9 Jesus Christ—Crucifixion. Jesus Christ—Resurrection.

Readers who are in a “worst of times” and are losing hope will find renewal in the text and pictures of this book by Max Lucado. “Were You There,” the hymn that calls us to remember Holy Week events, could be the invitation to *Who Is This Jesus?*, because



Lucado takes us there—to Jerusalem, to the upper room, to the disciples gathered and waiting.

In *Who Is This Jesus?*, readers experience the events surrounding the death, burial, and Resurrection through the words of Claudius, a Roman soldier who, in Lucado’s retelling, nailed Jesus to the cross, guarded the body, and witnessed the Resurrection. Claudius poses the question of this book’s title. The answer comes not in words but in experience and touch. The book’s conclusion is filled with hope and assurance. Illustrations feature dramatic artwork in bold colors; the facial expressions pictured are true to the experiences portrayed.

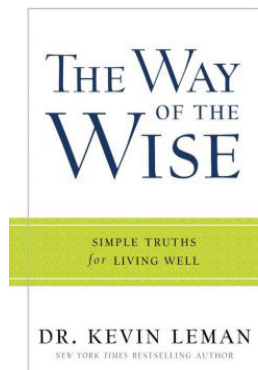
Print size and artwork suggest this as a children’s book, and older children will grasp the story. How much more will adults find fresh meaning and hope in this version of the “old, old story.” Highly recommended for church libraries. —*Carolyn Egolf*

The Way of the Wise: Simple Truths for Living Well

Kevin Leman. Revell (an imprint of Baker), 2013. 150p. \$15.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-8007-2157-2. Available as an ebook and audiobook. www.revellbooks.com 223.706 Bible. O.T. Proverbs III, 1-6—Criticism, interpretation, etc.

Kevin Leman reminds us in *The Way of the Wise* that biblical wisdom is centered in the heart. Proverbs 3:1-6 serves as the basis for the book’s ten chapters, in

which Leman shares insights, humor, and vignettes from his experiences as psychologist, speaker, and writer.



The popularity of Leman’s books, which include *The Birth Order Book* (multiple editions by Revell) has not stifled his no-nonsense approach. He challenges clichés; one chapter is entitled “God Is Not Your Co-Pilot.” From an evangelist’s perspective, he writes that God demands a one-hundred-percent commitment. Honesty rings through; Leman also writes, “you will fail at some things in life.”

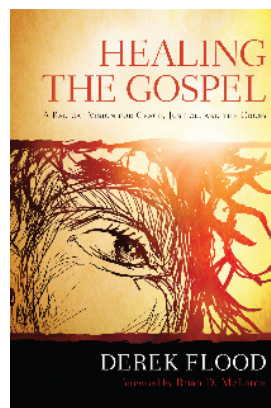
Leman’s humor keeps one reading, and though the reading goes quickly, the truths in the book provide long-term challenges. Each chapter begins and ends with a whole or partial verse from Proverbs, and “Things to Ponder” offers brief questions plus a summary sentence at each chapter’s end. Sidebars alert readers to significant phrases, and the concluding paragraph includes Leman’s description of Proverbs 3:1-6: “It’s wisdom with a smile.” So is this book. Recommended for church libraries. —*Carolyn Egolf*

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Healing the Gospel: A Radical Vision for Grace, Justice, and the Cross

Derek Flood. Cascade (an imprint of Wipf and Stock), 2012. 120p. \$17.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-62032-162-1. Available as an ebook. www.wipfandstock.com 232.3 Atonement. Jesus Christ—Crucifixion.

A common belief—and common stumbling block for Christians—is the theory of atonement through penal substitution. This view holds that when Jesus



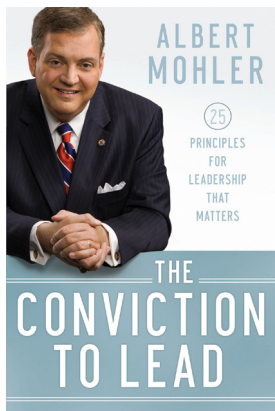
died on the cross, he was being punished in our place for our sins. Derek Flood, a theologian and blogger, proposes in *Healing the Gospel* that the doctrine of penal substitution wrongly interprets the Bible. Flood presents the case for restorative justice, in which Christians see not a God who demands punitive justice but a God of mercy. According to restorative justice, God, through Christ, makes things right again.

Flood reviews how the Crucifixion has been interpreted through the years, how various concepts (salvation and “the suffering servant,” for instance) relate to atonement and justice, and how various biblical texts and other writ-

ings reveal the meaning of Jesus' life and death. The text is loaded with references to both Old and New Testament scriptures and the writings of theologians and Bible scholars.

Healing the Gospel is for anyone who is eager to understand Christian views on justice and the Crucifixion. Brian McLaren contributes a foreword; end matter includes a bibliography, an appendix that examines Greek words for justice and justification in Romans, and indexes by author, scripture, and subject. —*Monica Tenney*

FAITH & WORK



The Conviction to Lead: 25 Principles for Leadership that Matters

Albert Mohler. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 220p. \$22.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-7642-1004-4. Available as an ebook and audiobook. www.bethanyhouse.com 158:4 Leadership. Christian leadership.

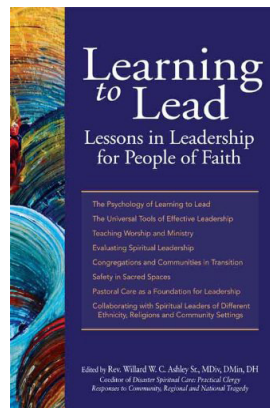
Albert Mohler became the youngest president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at the age of thirty-three. He had earned his doctorate only four

years earlier. To say he met with opposition is an understatement.

At the beginning of *The Conviction to Lead*, Mohler writes, "Let me warn you right up front—my goal is to change the way you think about leadership. I do not aim merely to add one more voice to the conversation; I want to fundamentally change the way leadership is understood and practiced."

Mohler goes about this in twenty-five chapters, each dedicated to an aspect of leadership. These include conviction, passion, thinking, and teaching. The chapter I found most interesting as a librarian is the twelfth, "Leaders Are Readers," in which Mohler writes that there is "no substitute for effective reading when it comes to developing and maintaining the intelligence necessary to lead." He also notes that it is important to set aside time for reading. Mohler does not think that, even with ebooks, the printed book will go away any time soon.

I found this book to be thought provoking and well written. —*Phyllis Wendorf*



Learning to Lead: Lessons in Leadership for People of Faith

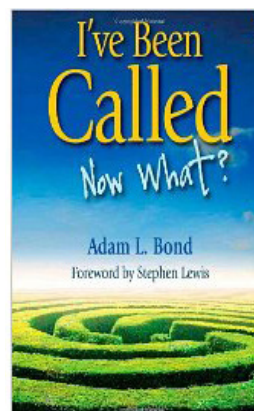
Willard W. C. Ashley Sr., ed. Skylight Paths, 2012. 353p. \$40.00, hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-59473-432-8. Available as an ebook. www.skylightpaths.com 206:1 Leadership.

Willard W. C. Ashley Sr. divides his book *Learning to Lead* into four parts, asking the following questions: What are the foundations of spiritual leadership?; How do you evaluate spiritual leadership?; How do you care for others?; and How do you

collaborate with specific spiritual leaders? Each section features various contributors, including Christian, Jewish, and Islamic clergy, along with experts in psychology and social work.

Although this book is directed more at congregational leaders, some chapters will interest laypersons. The chapter entitled "Each Person Is Sacred: Leading toward Full Inclusion in Faith Communities" resonated with me; my CSLA chapter had just heard speaker Katie Wetherbee, who talked about including all people, even those with hidden disabilities, in our congregations. Two other chapters, "Safety in Sacred Spaces" and "Congregations and Communities in Transition," were also timely for me, as they relate to challenges and changes underway in my congregation.

Learning to Lead is a valuable resource not only for leaders but also for anyone who cares about the life and health of a congregation. —*Phyllis Wendorf*



I've Been Called: Now What?

Adam L. Bond. Judson, 2012. 137p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1711-8. Available as an ebook. www.judsonpress.com 253:2 Pastoral theology. Clergy—Appointment, call, and election.

Seminary professor Adam L. Bond knows the questions pastors face. He designed his *I've Been Called: Now What?* to be a "portable mentor," and the text reflects Bond's sensitivity, knowledge, and honesty.

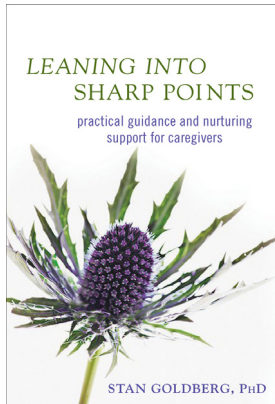
Three major sections focus on "Considering Ministry," "Preparing for Excellence in Ministry," and "Reflections on Ministry Matters." Bond moves from the theme of call to the significance of mentors, emphasizing relationships and responsibilities. Discernment is a thread running through the text, and one appreciates Bond's frankness in citing unwritten rules in matters like titles, roles in worship, and dress. Differences in denominations indicate Bond's scope of knowledge and broaden this book's audience.

Discussions of seminary education, ordination, and placement procedures are valuable both for those in the "springtime season" of their ministry and for those in

later seasons. Bond addresses how to measure success in ministry, the impact of media and culture, and the need for balance in a pastor's life. Church leaders can learn much from this book when preparing to select a pastor.

Appendixes include sample search committee and interview questions, samples of correspondence, and a comprehensive list of websites and other resources.

Recommended for seminary professors and counselors, pastors, mentors, search committees, and anyone providing pastoral support and encouragement. —*Carolyn Egolf*



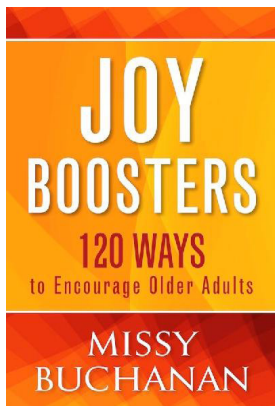
Leaning into Sharp Points: Practical Guidance and Nurturing Support for Caregivers

Stan Goldberg. New World Library, 2012. 214p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-60868-067-2. Available as an ebook. www.newworldlibrary.com 362.1 Caregivers. Care of the sick. Nurturing behavior. Family relationships.

Stan Goldberg, a private therapist and retired professor of speech pathology and communicative disorders, has also been

a hospice volunteer for many years. These activities have equipped him well to author *Leaning into Sharp Points*. He defines sharp points as “the things you fear most.” He explains that his is not a “book of step-by-step directions for caregiving.” Rather, its purpose is to prepare the person who is or may become a caregiver to know what to expect and what to do and say (and what *not* to do and say) in many caregiving situations.

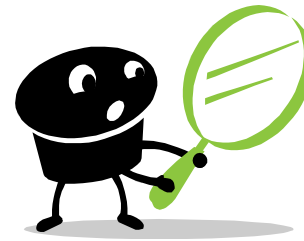
Goldberg discusses caring for terminally ill patients from their diagnosis until their death. He also addresses caring for people who suffer from chronic conditions. One guideline he emphasizes repeatedly for all situations: remember that what works one day may not work the next. Another reminder: caregivers should not take personally affronts by the patient who speaks or behaves not as he or she normally would. Goldberg assures caregivers that it is the disease “speaking,” not the patient. All caregivers will probably, at some time, experience such a situation. *Leaning into Sharp Points* is a valuable resource for anyone caring for others. —*Beverly M. Bixler*



Joy Boosters: 120 Ways to Encourage Older Adults

Missy Buchanan. Upper Room Books, 2013. 63p. \$12.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8358-1192-7. Available as an ebook. www.upperroombooks.org 259:3 Church work with older people. Older people—Psychology. Encouragement. Older people—Religious life.

Mature adults and their caregivers will be eager to try the ideas Missy Buchanan presents in *Joy Boosters*. Buchanan suggests



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 for an index using topics common to librarians. Topics range from accessioning and circulation to memorials, posters and 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.

practical activities that will add meaning and joy to the lives of both participants and leaders.

Joy Boosters gives 120 suggestions that include working with greeting cards and old photographs, sewing, making music, and creating video storybooks. Some activities relate specifically to adjusting to a new home, enjoying humor, and celebrating holidays and special occasions. Ideas are grouped into twelve units according to theme, such as moving, caring from a distance, and mini-getaways. Technology is part of several suggestions. Thoughtfulness is factored in, allowing for consideration of limitations, time constraints, and the courtesy of giving advance notice. All of the suggestions are designed to reassure older adults that they are needed, respected, and valued.

Buchanan's emphasis on encouragement, joy, and building a legacy contribute to this book's worth. *Joy Boosters* is easy and quick reading; this adds to its convenience as a resource. Recommended for church and synagogue libraries. —*Carolyn Egolf*



Help Wanted: Devotions for Job Seekers

Aaron M. Basko. Judson, 2012. 121p. \$9.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1723-1. Available as an ebook. www.judsonpress.com 242.68 Unemployed—Religious life. Job hunting—Religious aspects—Christianity.

The title defines the audience: job-seekers, including those looking for a first job, those seeking a different job, and those forced into the job search. Aaron M.



Basko writes from a Christian perspective, and each of the sixty entries begins with a Bible verse followed by a meditation and “One Small Step for Today.” The latter is a particular asset: it transforms words of personal experience, quotations, and stories from scripture and history into something the job seeker can do *today*. Steps are practical, and resources supplied are current.

Basko’s experiences as job seeker, employer, and counselor fit him to offer encouragement and honest assessment of the job search process. Basko writes, “God is a master craftsman with a deep toolbox,” while he also acknowledges the discouragement, rejection, and need for patience that accompany the job search.

The last entry speaks to the seeker who has found a job.

Job seekers, employment and career counselors, and students looking to the future will appreciate finding *Help Wanted* in church libraries. —Carolyn Egolf

JUDAICA

Mitzvah Stories: Seeds for Inspiration and Learning

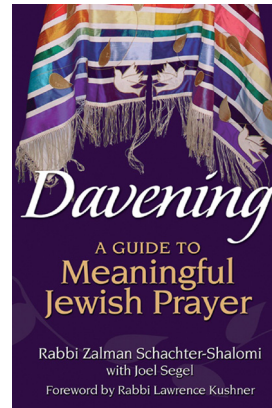
Goldie Milgram and Ellen Frankel, eds. Reclaiming Judaism Press, 2011. 328p. \$25.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-9848048-0-1. Available as an ebook. www.reclaimingjudaism.org 296.7 Jewish way of life—Fiction. Short stories, Jewish. Jews—Fiction. Storytelling—Religious aspects—Judaism. Jews—Social life and customs—Fiction. Jewish way of life—Anecdotes. Jews—Anecdotes. Jews—Social life and customs—Anecdotes.

Rabbi Goldie Milgram describes mitzvah as the “primary Jewish lens for living.” Its study and practice, she writes, “helps us develop as individuals and as a people.” *Mitzvah Stories*, a National Jewish Book Award finalist, allows us to peer through that lens to see the multitude of ways individuals live a life of *mitzvot*.

These stories cover every aspect of life. There is the hospice rabbi who arranges for a dying patient’s last trip to the track. You must read of the blessing spoken, and then answered, in line at a Jamaican restaurant. There is the tale of the young boy who clandestinely paid on Shabbat for an illicit book of Polish grammar. Some of these sixty stories are true; others should be true. Many are classics re-told. They are all a delight.

Mitzvah Stories includes a guide to creative ways to use the tales. Discussion guides and podcasts are available online.

Place this book by your favorite chair so you can read a story whenever you need a pick-me-up. Share it with others to spark conversations about the ways we ought to live. Read it in groups to teach the many ways we each can act to make the world a more compassionate, more holy place for all. —Rabbi Louis A. Rieser



Davening: A Guide to Meaningful Jewish Prayer

Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, with Joel Segel. Jewish Lights, 2012. 218p. \$18.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-58023-627-0. Available as an ebook. www.jewishlights.com 296.4'5 Prayer—Judaism.

Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, a founder of the Jewish Renewal Movement, writing with Joel Segal, has created an enthusiastic and emotional guide dedicated to the role of prayer our lives.

For Reb Zalman, as the author is known, prayer is “a bursting forth of the soul to God,” an opening of a human being’s spirit. His effusive approach attests to intense feeling. There are personal stories and references to many rabbis he knew while growing up in a Hasidic family, from his time as a teacher in secular institutions, and from his many contacts in Jewish and interfaith communities. The writing is filled with joyful instructions on how to pray in a meaningful manner.

Reb Zalman lovingly describes the role of *niggunim*, the wordless songs that often are part of the service ritual. His explanation of the structure of Jewish prayer uses the morning service as an example. He writes of praying in a synagogue with community and worshipping at home early each morning to start the day. He is versed in Jewish mysticism, or *kabbalah*, and describes its influence on prayer.

Readers can learn more about Reb Zalman in Rodger Kamenetz’s *The Jew In the Lotus* (originally published in 1994). It chronicles the experiences of a group of Jewish

THIS ISSUE’S REVIEWERS

BEVERLY M. BIXLER

First Presbyterian Church

Ashland, Ohio

CAROLYN EGOLF

Lincolnshire Church of the Brethren

Fort Wayne, Indiana

RALPH HARTSOCK

Trietsch Mem. United Methodist Church

Flower Mound, Texas

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

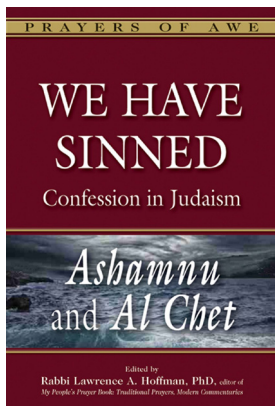
PHYLLIS WENDORF

Mentor United Methodist Church

Mentor, Ohio

delegates, including the author, who traveled to India to visit with the Dalai Lama.

Davening received the 2012 Jewish Book Council's Contemporary Jewish Life and Practice Award. —*Evelyn Pockrass*



We Have Sinned: Sin and Confession in Judaism—*Ashamnu* and *Al Chet*

Lawrence A. Hoffman. Jewish Lights, 2012. 277p. \$24.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-58023-612-6. Available as an ebook. www.jewishlights.com 296.3'2 Confessions of sins (Jewish prayer). Confession (Liturgy)—Judaism—Texts. Yom Kippur—Liturgy—Texts. Judaism—Liturgy—Texts. Sin—Judaism. Confession (Prayer)—Judaism. Repentance—Judaism.

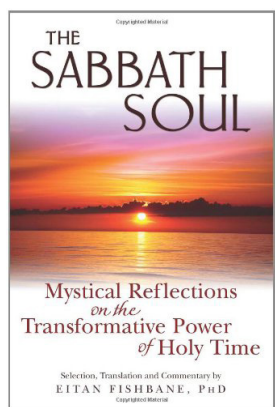
Al Chet and *Ashamnu* are the essential confessional prayers of Yom Kippur. Both present an

alphabetical listing of sin in the plural so that while we speak them individually they represent the community. Recited repeatedly throughout the long day of fasting, they raise many questions about the nature of sin, personal and communal responsibility, and how we in the contemporary world might understand this list composed in medieval times.

This volume takes its place alongside a growing number of books examining anew Jewish liturgy. Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman has overseen a commentary on the prayer book, the *haggadah*, and now the High Holy Day *makhzor*. I rate the current volume among the best.

We Have Sinned opens with an annotated translation of the prayers and background essays on the subject of sin and confession. The thirty-one essays by liberal rabbis and scholars allow the reader to consider the depths of the issues from a variety of perspectives—historical, psychological, behavioral, and more. The questions and challenges they pose are as interesting as the understandings they propose.

This engaging volume will inform many sermons, but it will also benefit group study and personal reflection. Highly recommended. —*Rabbi Louis A. Rieser*



The Sabbath Soul: Mystical Reflections on the Transformative Power of Holy Time

Eitan Fishbane, ed. Jewish Lights, 2011. 188p. \$18.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-58023-459-7. Available as an ebook. www.jewishlights.com 296.4'1 Sabbath. Time—Religious aspects—Judaism. Rest—Religious aspects—Judaism. Cabala. Hasidism. Spiritual life—Judaism.

Eitan Fishbane is an assistant professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. He

has written and lectured extensively on spirituality and Jewish mysticism. In *The Sabbath Soul*, Fishbane's selection, translation, and commentary on writings by Hasidic masters will motivate the reader to return to, review, and discuss each point in order to enhance the spirit and meaning of the Sabbath.

On each right-hand page, Fishbane offers writings of a Hasidic rabbi; on the facing page are his commentary and notes. His explanations are longer than the quotations and spread out on more than one page, making them easy to read.

Fishbane highlights the Sabbath rituals of candle lighting, making spiritual preparations, wearing white, washing and immersion, eating, prayers for wine and bread, making music, and refraining from work. He examines the unity of the physical and the spiritual as reflected in the writings of rabbis Natan of Nemirov, Yehudah Leib Alter of Ger, and others.

The Sabbath Soul contains a wealth of material on how the Sabbath allows us to renew, refresh, and bring balance to our lives after the other six hectic days of the week. The Babylonian Talmud records that God told Moses, "I have a precious gift hidden in my house and Shabbat is its name." —*Evelyn Pockrass*

The Next Generation of Modern Orthodoxy

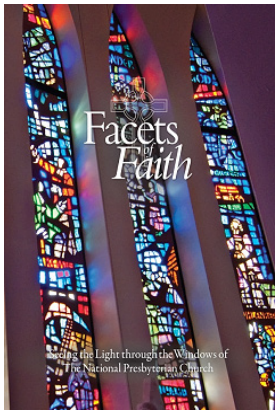
Shmuel Hain, ed. Yeshiva University Press, 2012. Distributed by KTAV. 359p. \$30.00, hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-60280-206-3. www.ktav.com 296.8'32 Orthodox Judaism—Congresses. Judaism—21st century—Congresses.

Modern Orthodox Judaism finds itself pulled in two directions. On one side there is a desire to encounter the world in all its fullness. There is also a challenge from the Haredi, a traditional arm of Orthodoxy that rejects any influence from the secular world. In order to thrive, the Orthodox world must find a balance between the two.

This erudite and engaging volume offers a window into the ways some people are seeking that balance. Essays are grouped in five topics: social justice and *tikkun olam*; personal autonomy and religious authority; new scholarship and the *beit midrash*; the Odyssey Years; and the future of Modern Orthodox education. A final section looks more broadly at the future of Modern Orthodoxy. The list of topics suggests the depth and seriousness with which contributors grapple with their themes. There is much at stake, and the authors do not hesitate to consider the implications of their topics.

The importance of this volume extends beyond the borders of the Orthodox community. The questions of identity and continuity, membership and the viability of our institutions, Jewish engagement with the greater world, and more are issues that command the attention of the entire Jewish community. Whatever your stance, there is much to be learned from these thoughtful essays. —*Rabbi Louis A. Rieser*

INSPIRED EXPRESSION



Facets of Faith: Seeing the Light through the Windows of the National Presbyterian Church

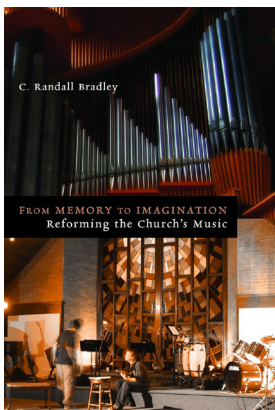
The National Presbyterian Church Communications Committee, 2011. 106p. \$60.00, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-615-55904-9. www.nationalpres.org 247 Stained glass—United States. Protestant church buildings—United States. Presbyterian Church history—United States.

At first glance, *Facets of Faith: Seeing the Light through the Windows of the National Presbyterian*

Church appears to be a “coffee-table book,” with its large size (12 x 8 inches), glossy pages, and beautiful photographs. However, this volume provides ample information, including historical background, about this national treasure. The writing is both absorbing and concise in its descriptions and explanations of magnificent works of art in stained glass.

A history of the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., a discussion of its windows, and descriptions of the windows designed for the Church of the Covenant, forerunner of the current church, form the first part of the book. The main section provides descriptions of the sanctuary’s windows, which honor people of faith from both Old and New Testaments. Also featured are confessions and creeds. The Chapel of the Presidents contains six windows, one each for George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, and Dwight Eisenhower, to whom the chapel is dedicated.

Although *Facets of Faith* is of particular interest to Presbyterians, it will be a welcome addition to any congregational library. [CSLA members who attended the 2011 national conference in Washington had an opportunity to tour the National Presbyterian Church, guided by former CSLA president Jim Anderson.] —*Beverly M. Bixler*



From Memory to Imagination: Reforming the Church's Music

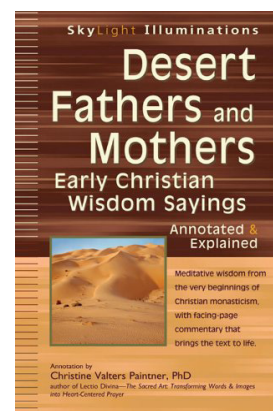
C. Randall Bradley. Eerdmans, 2012. 235p. \$25.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8208-6593-9. Available as an ebook. www.eerdmans.com 264.2 Music in churches. Series: The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Liturgical Studies

In *From Memory to Imagination*, C. Randall Bradley challenges us to think outside the “memory box.” How, he asks, can the role of church music be rejuvenated? Christians have grown accus-

tomed to the rituals and formats of the past. Bradley holds that memory, essential as it is to Christians’ faith, should be used in concert with imagination. God is dynamic and moves us into the future.

Bradley methodically shows how the church must move beyond mere memory. He maintains that preaching, the fifteen-to-forty minute monologue, will someday fade away; music and the hymnal, as they currently exist, will not survive. Bradley argues that all are based on power, are centered on a few individuals, and have not allowed the full participation of congregants. He proposes how change must occur, while the essence of music can remain. Subheadings throughout the chapters make this book ripe for discussion groups.

Bradley methodically lists conceptual problems he sees in the church. Other lists detail his proposed changes for churches to consider. He cites few hymn titles. Although the first chapters are somewhat theoretical, *From Memory to Imagination* is a must-read for Christians in pastoral, worship, and music leadership positions. —*Ralph Hartsock*



Desert Fathers and Mothers: Early Christian Wisdom Sayings—Annotated & Explained.

Annotations by Christine Valters Painter. Skylight Paths, 2012. 147p. \$16.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-59473-373-4. Available as an ebook. www.skylight-paths.com 270.2 Desert Fathers. Desert Fathers—Quotations. Spiritual life—Christianity—Quotations, maxims, etc. Series: Skylight Illuminations.

Think long ago—as in the third to the sixth centuries. Think desert, especially Egypt. Think

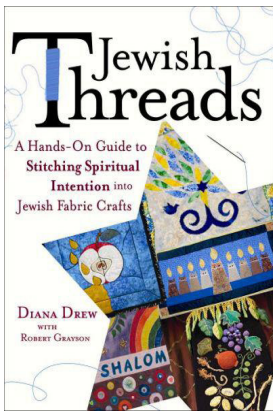
solitary. These thoughts conjure the settings of the desert fathers and mothers, whose influence shaped ancient monastic spirituality and, ultimately, faith practices of today.

Based on translations by Benedicta Ward, this volume, like others in the Skylight Illuminations series, features text on right-hand pages accompanied by annotations on facing pages. Christine Valters Painter’s lengthy introduction is essential to appreciation of the text.

Readers will be intrigued and challenged yet comforted to realize that themes and questions of today mirror those of centuries ago. How does one balance solitude and community? How is simplicity defined? Is it possible to pray without ceasing? Painter names her call and ours as that of living the values of a sixth century monk, even as one lives and works in a twenty-first century community.

Additional themes include humility, simplicity, soul friends, spiritual gifts, and virtues. An excellent section focuses on the power of our thoughts and importance of “Spiritual Elders and Soul Friends” to help us discern and hold us accountable.

Recommended for personal or group study and for those interested in monastic spirituality. —*Carolyn Egolf*



Jewish Threads: A Hands-On Guide to Stitching Spiritual Intention into Jewish Fabric Crafts

Diana Drew with Robert Grayson. Jewish Lights, 2011. 269p. \$19.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-58023-442-9. Available as an ebook. www.jewishlights.com 746.088'296 Jewish crafts. Jewish needlework.

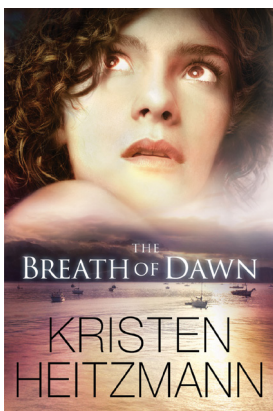
Diana Drew, a writer and editor, came to crafts as an adult. Her husband, Robert Grayson, wrote the background for all of the

thirty projects in *Jewish Threads*, focusing on each artist. The crafts include appliqué, crochet, cross-stitch, embroidery, felting and needle felting, knitting, needlepoint, and quilting. The reader can learn how to create prayer shawls and bags, bread covers, items for Passover, wall hangings, puppets, quilts, vests, and Torah covers.

Each chapter tells what materials are needed and contains specific details on measuring, drawing, stitching, and finishing the craft. There are drawings and designs that can be copied, but the publisher asks that the purchaser of the book copy them for personal use only. There are both black-and-white and color photographs of all the projects. Additional help is provided at the end with instructions on lettering, a stitching guide, website resources for materials that may be difficult to find locally, projects for sewing circles and families, categories of projects, Jewish symbols, a list of the artists by state (and Israel), and suggested reading for beginners.

Recommended for congregational libraries and for members who have or want to develop creative craft skills using religious symbols. —*Evelyn Pockrass*

FICTION



The Breath of Dawn

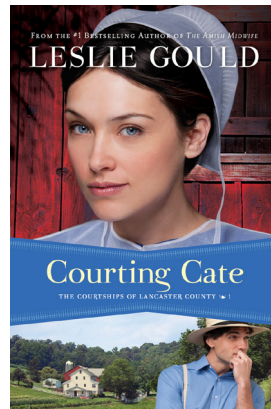
Kristen Heitzmann. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 437p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-1042-6. Available as an ebook. www.bethanyhouse.com Fiction Widowers—Fiction. Single women—Fiction. Man-woman relationships—Fiction. Family secrets—Fiction.

Take two completely different characters, let their worlds collide, and what do you get? A great romantic suspense story. Morgan Spencer is trying to raise his daughter after the tragic death of

his wife. He immerses himself in his business and writing, but wealth fails to give him what he longs for most. Quinn Reilly is a single woman who makes a living buying belongings from estates and selling them on eBay. The man she was responsible for putting behind bars many years before is now out and seeking revenge. Quinn buys the

contents of a house that Morgan decides to buy, and it is at that house that the two first meet. There is immediate chemistry between them that is the beginning of a special relationship. Their future together, however, is threatened. And the house that Morgan has bought turns out to have a dark history. Can it really be haunted?

The main story and the various subplots concerning Morgan's family are interwoven with Morgan and Quinn's strong faith. They have great hope, too, for the innocent young Livie, Morgan's daughter. Readers will keep guessing in this nonstop thriller. —*Mary Lou Henneman*



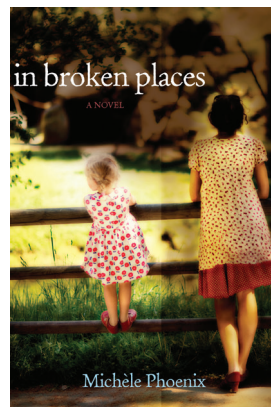
Courting Cate

Leslie Gould. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 344p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-1031-0. Available as an ebook. www.bethanyhouse.com Fiction Amish—Fiction. Lancaster County (Pa.)—Fiction. Single women—Fiction. Farmers—Fiction. Man-woman relationships—Fiction. Series: The Courtships of Lancaster County.

Courting is an important ritual in the life of young Amish women. This is true for Cate and Betsy Miller, protagonists in Leslie Gould's *Courting Cate*. The

sisters have completely different personalities. Cate, six years older than her sister, is studious, but her temper and sharp tongue have not endeared her to potential suitors. Flirtatious Betsy does not lack for them. Problems caused by their differences become more serious when their father says that Betsy cannot marry before her older sister does. When Pete, a young Amish man from New York, arrives on the scene and begins to work for the girls' father, an attraction develops between Cate and Pete. More trouble ensues.

Courting Cate is a good lesson in how pride, keeping secrets, and not getting the facts before acting or speaking can bring trouble. Leslie Gould is skillful at extricating her characters from unfortunate situations and having them realize their errors and the need to forgive. —*Beverly M. Bixler*



In Broken Places: A Novel

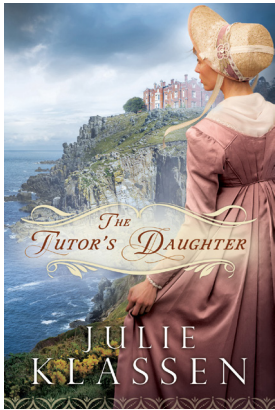
Michèle Phoenix. Tyndale House, 2013. 367p. \$12.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-4143-6841-2. Available as an ebook. www.tyndale.com Fiction Self-realization in women—Fiction.

In Broken Places begins with thirty-five-year-old Shelby Davis enjoying her predictable existence as a high school teacher. Then the unexpected happens. A deceased relative's will requests that Shelby be the guardian of his four-year-old daughter Shayla. As

Shelby ponders whether to accept this responsibility, she

recalls scenes of her and her brother's childhood suffering at the hands of an abusive father. Finally agreeing to serve as Shayla's guardian, Shelby takes her ward to Germany, where Shelby will teach in a school for missionaries' children. She hopes she can escape her past and begin a new life but soon finds that one's past does not evaporate with a change of scenery.

Michèle Phoenix skillfully weaves the past with the present to show what continues to trouble Shelby. Child abuse is a major theme of *In Broken Places*, and one wonders after reading just a few of Shelby's accounts of her abuse whether the author might have experienced the same. At the end of the novel, a note from the author answers the question. "I am," Phoenix writes, "a survivor." —Beverly M. Bixler



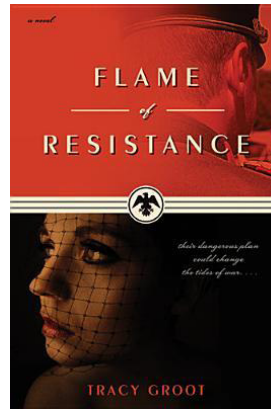
The Tutor's Daughter

Julie Klassen. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2013. 412p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-1069-3. Available as an ebook. www.bethanyhouse.com Fiction England—19th century—Fiction.

Love, disdain, class discrimination, and danger combine to motivate characters, producing intrigue and mystery in Julie Klassen's novel, *The Tutor's Daughter*. In the early years of the nineteenth century, Hannah Smallwood and her father travel to the

home of Sir Giles and Lady Weston to tutor their teenage sons, Julian and Rowan, for a year. Hannah's father had run a boarding school years before, and Hannah knows them well—at least she thinks she does. Almost immediately upon the Smallwoods' arrival, unwelcomed by Lady Weston, the problems begin. Things disappear, and others things mysteriously appear. Hannah hears music coming from the pianoforte, but when she investigates she finds no pianist. The Weston manor is located on the coast of Cornwall, known for its shipwrecks, so nature and physical danger add to the difficulties.

Hannah is surprised by the depth of Henry's faith, which is revealed gradually. The importance of education and care of mentally challenged individuals are two areas of social concern that play a part in the novel. Klassen's admiration for and study of Jane Austen's work are evident in *The Tutor's Daughter*. —Beverly M. Bixler



Flame of Resistance

Tracy Groot. Tyndale House, 2012. 403p. \$13.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-4143-5947-2. Available as an ebook. www.tyndale.com Fiction Fighter pilots—United States—Fiction. World War, 1939-1945—United States—Fiction. World War, 1939-1945—Underground movements—France—Fiction. Espionage, American—History—20th century—Fiction. Espionage, French—History—20th century—Fiction.

The setting is France in World War II before the Normandy invasion. Tom Jaeger, an American

fighter pilot, is shot down by the Germans, then rescued by members of the French Resistance. Instead of trying to get him to freedom, they enlist his help to obtain information from the Germans. Because of his height and blond hair, he can pose as a Nazi officer who originally came from the Netherlands. But the story has another layer involving Brigitte, a new resistance agent who runs a brothel for German soldiers. When the two heroes meet, they fight together for the cause. *Flame of Resistance* is filled with intriguing action, and Tracy Groot develops a great story of the bravery of the French Resistance workers, Nazi hatred of the Jewish people, and the faith of her main characters as they fight for freedom. This is a difficult novel to put down. —Mary Lou Henneman



Lady in the Mist: A Novel

Laurie Alice Eakes. Revell (an imprint of Baker), 2011. 402p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8007-3452-7. Available as an ebook and large print hardcover. www.revellbooks.com Fiction Midwives—Fiction.

The year is 1809, and relations between England and the United States are not good; the residents of Seabourne, Virginia, heartily dislike the English. Secret abductions of some of Seabourne's young men to serve in the British

navy exacerbate the animosity. This is the environment in which *Lady in the Mist* takes place.

Tabitha Eckles, Seabourne's midwife, has lost her parents, and just prior to her intended wedding to Raleigh Trower, her fiancé leaves without any farewell. After two years he reappears. He has spent time on a British ship, but he does not reveal how he left it. Shortly before Raleigh reappears, Tabitha makes the acquaintance of Dominick Cherrett, a young English aristocrat, who is an indentured servant in the mayor's household. No one knows the background of that situation, either. Secrets, mystery, and intrigue develop, fueled by the distrust the characters have of one other.

By the end of *Lady in the Mist*, Laurie Alice Eakes has skillfully solved the mysteries, and it is Dominick's faith that has helped Tabitha regain her relationship with God. —Beverly M. Bixler

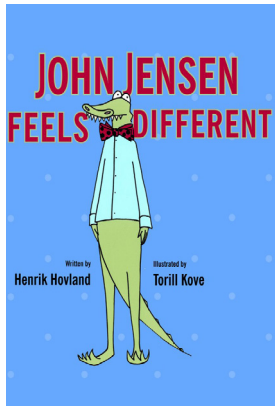
FOR CHILDREN

Hermie: God Forgives Me, and I Forgive You

Max Lucado. Illustrated by Daniel Howarth. Tommy Nelson (an imprint of Thomas Nelson), 2012). 32p. \$8.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-1-4003-2064-6. Available as an ebook. www.thomasnelson.com [E] Forgiveness—Juvenile fiction. Christian life—Juvenile fiction. Caterpillars—Juvenile fiction. Insects—Juvenile fiction. Series: Max Lucado's Hermie & Friends

Hermie the Caterpillar receives forgiveness and—eventually—forgives a friend in this beginning reader. As the garden bugs prepare for their harvest festival, Hermie gets distracted and fails to follow through on his promises to help. Wormie forgives him, but when Wormie later forgets to include Hermie's name on the welcome banner, Hermie gets upset. It is only after he has a talk with God that Hermie knows what he must do. He forgives Wormie, "because God forgives us!"

A publisher's note to parents explains that *Hermie's* simple words and short sentences are designed for level two beginning readers. This book will make a nice addition to libraries that serve young children. —*Monica Tenney*



John Jensen Feels Different

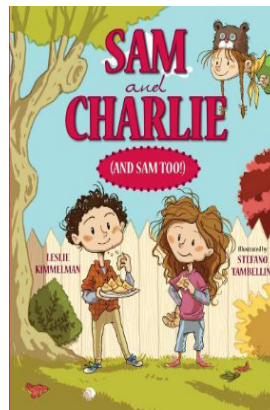
Henrik Hovland. Illustrated by Torill Kove. Eerdmans, 2012. 33p. \$16.00, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-8028-5399-8. Available as an ebook. www.eerdmans.com [E] Individuality—Juvenile fiction. Crocodiles—Juvenile fiction.

Norwegian author Henrik Hovland presents John Jensen, a crocodile who is troubled by the feeling that he is different. Even though he lives in a regular apartment, works hard at his job in a tax office, dresses nicely, and

even brushes and flosses, it always feels to John Jensen like people are looking at him because he is different. This worries him and keeps him awake at night.

John Jensen tries to minimize his differences; one of these attempts lands him in the emergency room with a bruised tail. As it turns out, the doctor who confidently strides in to examine John Jensen happens to be an elephant. Dr. Field assures his patient that we all have our differences and that differences can be good. In fact, Dr. Field assures John Jensen that he appreciates his own differences, including his big ears, which can be "quite handy" for covering his eyes when necessary. This gets John Jensen thinking about all the good things about his tail. He feels much better about being different, and sleeps much better at night.

John Jensen, in Torill Kove's good-humored illustrations, is the least scary crocodile ever. Recommended for all congregational libraries. For ages 5-9. —*Monica Tenney*



Sam and Charlie (and Sam Too!)

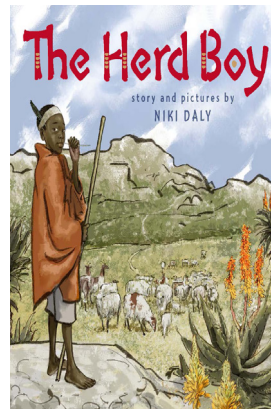
Leslie Kimmelman. Illustrated by Stefano Tambellini. Albert Whitman, 2013. 38p. \$13.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-8075-7213-9. www.albertwhitman.com [E] Friendship—Juvenile fiction. Jews—United States—Juvenile fiction.

When a new family moves in next door, Sam is excited to hear there is a child named Charlie in the family. Then he finds out Charlie is a *girl*—what

a disappointment! And Charlie has a sibling named Sam, and Sam's a girl, too!

In this simple chapter book for budding readers, Sam and Charlie and Sam Too get to know one another, share the *hamentaschen* at Purim, cope with a bad haircut, and feel sorry together on Yom Kippur. In short, they become friends.

Cheery illustrations by Stefano Tambellini add to the fun of Leslie Kimmelman's story that helps teach young ones to love their neighbor. Recommended for synagogue libraries. For ages 6-8; grades 1-3. —*Monica Tenney*



The Herd Boy

Niki Daly. Eerdmans, 2012. 32p. \$17.00, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-8028-5417-9. www.eerdmans.com [E] Herders—Juvenile fiction. Xhosa (African people)—Juvenile fiction. South Africa—Juvenile fiction.

This beautiful book tells the story of Malusi, a young South African boy from a poor family. Malusi looks after his grandfather's sheep and goats. He works hard to protect the animals from harm. It is hot and dusty work,

sometimes boring, other times frightening, but Malusi does a good job. Malusi has dreams, though. He dreams of having his own dog—his friend Lungisa has a fine shepherd dog—and Malusi could use one like him to help care for the herd. Malusi has a bigger dream, too. He dreams of being president.

When Malusi has a chance encounter with a distinguished-looking old gentleman who wears a beautiful shirt and rides in a shiny new car, the man (unnamed but recognizable as Nelson Mandela) assures him that "a boy who looks after his herd will make a very fine leader. *Sala kahle, Mr. President.*"

Award-winning author and illustrator Niki Daly lives in South Africa. His love for the country, its language, and its people shines through *The Herd Boy*, with its expressive illustrations and sensitive tale of a boy of humble beginnings having big dreams. The text is laced with Afrikaans and Xhosa terms; a glossary in the back gives their pronunciations and definitions. For ages 6-10. —*Monica Tenney*

CLASSICS CORNER

The Giving Tree. 40th Anniversary Edition.

Shel Silverstein. HarperCollins, 2004. 56p. \$18.99, hardcover (with CD). ISBN: 978-0-06-058675-1. www.harpercollins.com [E] Trees—Juvenile fiction. Generosity—Juvenile fiction.

The late Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree* tells of a lifetime of love between a tree and a boy. When the boy is little, he visits every day, playing in the tree's leaves, climbing her trunk, eating her apples, sleeping in her shade. All this makes the tree happy.

As the boy grows up, he no longer visits much. When he does come, he needs things. The tree offers her apples, so the boy can sell them for money. She gives him her branches, so he can build a house. When the boy, now old, wants to build a boat to carry him far away, the tree offers her trunk. He cuts it down. Through it all, the tree is happy to give, but she also gets sad. Much later, when the boy, now a weary old man, comes again to the tree, she has nothing left to give but a stump where he can rest. The tree is happy again.

This enduring story, enriched by the author's simple line drawings, shows the wonder of unconditional and selfless love. It also prompts young readers to think about possible consequences when we take freely, without thinking of the giver's sacrifice.

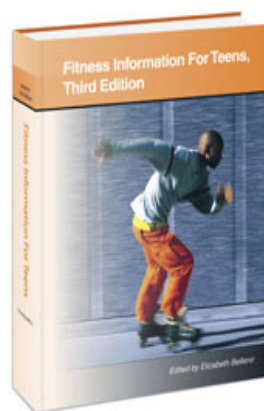
The CD in the anniversary edition features a recording of Silverstein reading this story. For all ages.

—Monica Tenney

ing as a white man and his slave), and Henry "Box" Brown (who had himself shipped to Philadelphia in a two-by-three-foot box). She tells of courageous helpers: Levi Coffin and his wife Kate, Quakers who sheltered thousands of escaping slaves, and Harriet Tubman, herself an escaped slave who returned to the South nineteen times to bring others out of bondage, and who was called the "Moses of Her People."

Most two-page spreads have an illustration—a photograph, colorful map, period artwork, or newspaper notice. End matter includes a timeline, chapter notes citing sources, brief lists of further reading and websites, and an index. Highly recommended. —Monica Tenney

FOR TEENS & YAs



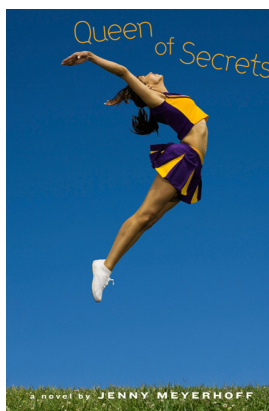
Fitness Information for Teens. 3rd ed.

Elizabeth Bellenir, ed. Omnigraphics, 2012. 387p. \$62.00, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-7808-1267-3. www.omnigraphics.com 613.7'043 Physical fitness for youth. Series: Teen Health

The publisher describes *Fitness Information for Teens* perfectly: "Health tips about exercise and active lifestyles including facts about healthy muscles and bones, starting and maintaining fitness plans, aerobic fitness,

stretching and strength training, sports safety, and suggestions for team athletes and individuals."

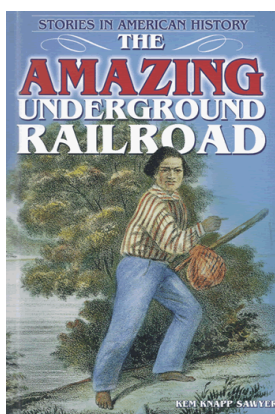
Each of the sixty-two chapters in this book contains current information on ways teenagers can stay physically active, including aerobic exercises, running, soccer, and a plethora of other sports. Newcomers to exercise and sports will find suggestions on how to get started, and youth who are already active can read how to take it to the next level. There are other numerous resources identified, as well as a good index. This is an excellent volume for the congregational library; it will benefit teen readers and youth groups. —Mary Lou Henneman



Queen of Secrets

Jenny Meyerhoff. Farrar, Straus & Giroux (an imprint of Macmillan), 2010. 230p. \$16.99, hardcover. ISBN: 978-0-374-32628-9. Available as an ebook. www.fsgteen.com Fiction Identity—Fiction. Secrets—Fiction. Interpersonal relations—Fiction. Jews—Fiction. Cousins—Fiction. Grandparents—Fiction. Orphans—Fiction. Conduct of life—Fiction. High schools—Fiction. Schools—Fiction.

Fifteen-year-old Essie (Esther) Green knows her sophomore year will be the best. She is on the varsity cheerleading squad, has been noticed by the star quarterback, and now is ac-



The Amazing Underground Railroad

Kem Knapp Sawyer. Enslow, 2012. 128p. \$31.93 (\$23.95 with school and library discount), hardcover library binding. ISBN: 978-0-7660-3951-3. \$9.95, paperback. ISBN: 978-1-4644-0021-6. www.enlow.com 973.7'115 Underground Railroad—Juvenile literature. Series: Stories in American History.

In providing background for her story of the Underground Railroad for upper elementary and middle school readers, Kem Knapp Sawyer gives an absorbing

history of slavery in the United States. *The Amazing Underground Railroad* tells, in nine chapters, how thousands of slaves from the South, desperate to escape the reach of their masters, travelled the Underground Railroad to freedom, aided by "conductors." The faith connection is hard to miss; Mennonites, Quakers, and other groups opposed slavery, and many of the Underground Railroad conductors were motivated by their faith.

Sawyer tells dramatic escape stories of William Wells Brown, Frederick Douglass, William and Ellen Craft (pos-

cepted into the “right” circle of popular friends. What can go wrong?

Essie has been raised by her grandparents since she was three years old. They are Jewish but not religious. Essie’s cousin Micah and his family move back to town, and Micah joins the football team. The other players tease Micah because he wears a *kippah*; his family—Essie’s relatives—are Conservative Jews. Essie thinks she can solve her problems by keeping secrets: not telling her friends that Micah is her cousin, not telling her grandparents that she is drinking, and not telling her true friends why she no longer hangs out with them as much. Essie discovers that keeping certain secrets leads to unexpected and dangerous consequences.

Some of the subplots deal with sexual relations, honesty, and true friendship. Based loosely on the Book of Esther, this is a good book for Jewish teenage girls who are balancing their social world and their faith. —*Mary Lou Henneman*



Bully.com: A Novel

Joe Lawlor. Eerdmans, 2013. 246p. \$8.00, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-8028-5413-1. www.eerdmans.com Fiction Cyberbullying—Fiction. Bullying—Fiction. Middle schools—Fiction. Schools—Fiction. Asian Americans—Fiction.

Jun Li is a smart seventh grader—so smart he can challenge his teacher on a bonus question marked wrong on a social studies test. When he bypasses the security system on the library computer to get the needed information

to support his claims, someone hacks into his email to send pictures and messages that hurt the reputation of Kimmie, a classmate. Because of past incidents, the school has a zero tolerance policy concerning cyberbullying. Jun, because of his record as a model student and his knowledge of computers, is given one week to clear his name. The problem is that Kimmie has used social media in the past to hurt other students, and the list of suspects is long, including both adults and students. Jun needs the help of his friend Chris—the female Dr. Watson to his Sherlock Holmes—to solve the mystery.

Because it addresses how bullying, and cyberbullying in particular, can be handled, *Bully.com* is a good book for congregational libraries. —*Mary Lou Henneman*



Prophet

R. J. Larson. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 350p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-0971-0. Available as an ebook. www.bethanyhouse.com Fiction Prophets—Fiction. Series: Books of the Infinite, #1



Judge

R. J. Larson. Bethany House (an imprint of Baker), 2012. 361p. \$14.99, paperback. ISBN: 978-0-7642-0972-7. Available as an ebook. www.bethanyhouse.com Fiction Prophets—Fiction. Series: Books of the Infinite, #2

Ela Roeh of Parne cannot understand why her Creator, the Infinite, has chosen her to be His prophet. Why would He choose an ordinary seventeen-year-old girl to be His messenger? Why is she given visions of events to come? Why must she tell kings and leaders what actions they must take as directed by the Creator? She accepts her calling because of her pure faith in the Infinite, even knowing that her own fate will lead to an early death.

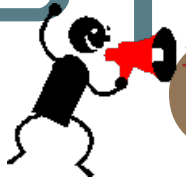
In *Prophet*, the first in the Book of the Infinite series, Ela accepts her role as the first female prophet and begins her journey, carrying the sacred vinewood branch as her symbol of authority. The Creator guides her along the way with visions and wisdom as each situation occurs. Soon she forms an alliance with Kien, the young Trace-land ambassador, and the two try to bring reconciliation to their warring countries.

In *Judge*, the second installment in the series, the Creator commands Kien to warn the people of ToronSea to trust the Infinite and not ignore His teachings. In the meantime, Ela is trying to save Parne, her hometown, from destruction.

R. J. Larson masterfully weaves a story of faith and complete dedication to the Creator. YA readers will enjoy elements of suspense and intricate subplots involving Ela’s sister and the romantic connection between the two heroes. This is a good Christian fantasy series. The third book in the series, *King*, was to be released in July. —*Mary Lou Henneman*

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CHAPTER Chatter



Northeastern Ohio Chapter

“Keys to Congregational Library Ministry” was the theme of this chapter’s Annual Meeting/Spring Event, held April 13, 2013. The program consisted of topics covering several aspects of congregational library work. Linda Dahl provided ideas for library promotion, including the use of a mobile library (cart or wagon) that enables visits to education classes and meetings—wherever people are, encouraging teens to serve on a library advisory board, having a library scavenger hunt, and creating innovative and interesting displays of library materials.

Phyllis Wendorf spoke on ways to extend the library’s ministry beyond the building. Among her tips: support the ministerial and support staff of the congregation, connect with families with newborns, make available themed book bags containing books and activity sheets appropriate for various ages that can be used during a service and/or to take home, and donate materials to homeless shelters, hospital waiting rooms and other similar areas.

Here’s an example of extending the library’s ministry: Volunteers from four congregations, including Mantua Center Christian Church, partnered with a local primary school to celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday in a “Family Literacy Night” event. Additional volunteers from various town agencies were on hand, and numerous businesses donated materials and funds. A special passport was given to each family that encouraged them to participate in the numerous games and activities. If a child completed the passport, that child would receive a Dr. Seuss

book to take home and keep. Thanks to Pay Magyarics for providing this information.

Resource Description and Access (RDA) is the big news on the cataloging front as this new standard for record creation is beginning to be implemented. Dr. Meghan Harper, faculty member in Kent State’s School of Library and Information Science, provided an overview on



RDA’s purpose and development and gave useful tips on how to apply this new standard. She will be providing additional RDA articles to the chapter’s newsletters in the coming year. (As a cataloger myself, let me tell you that RDA is indeed a “big deal”!)

Guest speaker was Katie Wetherbee of Key Ministries. This agency conducts free workshops that provide information to congregations on how they can



Katie Wetherbee

include people of all ages who have disabilities, whether the disabilities are obvious or hidden. For more information, please go to this website: <http://keyministry.org>.

Earlier in the year, the Youngstown/Warren Area group of the chapter met on February 19, with bulletin boards as the featured topic. Elements to keep in mind when creating a bulletin board display: an interesting and effective color scheme, appropriate background material, use of texture and dimension, and distance from which most people will view the board.

On a sad note, we remember chapter member Kaethe Karabinus and her family and friends in our prayers— Kaethe passed away in early April of this year. Some of you may remember that she was awarded CSLA’s Outstanding Congregational Librarian Award in 1997.

Florida Suncoast Chapter

The chapter’s winter meeting, held February 21, featured Jan McMahon’s presentation on “Serving Library Clients with the Digital World.” Two recommended books on this topic are: *No Shelf Required: eBooks in Libraries* (ISBN 978-0838910542,) and *No Shelf Required 2: Use and Management of Electronic Books* (ISBN 978-0838911457,) both by Sue Polanka and published by the American Library Association. Maryann Barth then led a discussion on “Low Tech Solutions for High Tech Problems.”

Guess what? Florida Suncoast is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year—congratulations!

Indiana Chapter

The theme of Indiana's spring workshop on April 13 was "The Art of Marketing." The first presentation was "Marketing Your Library—Creating a New Brochure" given by Ellen Flexman, Indianapolis Public Library. For the second presentation, "Marketing Your Book—Publishing Trends," three authors shared their experiences with publishers and

in self-publishing: Sarah Forgrave (<http://www.sarahforgrave.com>), Nancy Cavin Pitts, and Virginia Shugert (<http://vshugert.tateauthor.com/about-the-author/>.)

If there are additional news items from your chapter members that aren't covered in your chapter's newsletters and that you would like to include in future issues of

Congregational Libraries Today, please let me know!

Marcia Trauernicht
Chapters Coordinator
marciatmail@gmail.com



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Saturday morning at Lake Junaluska offered an opportunity for the early arrivers to tour several local church libraries.

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The Rodda Award Committee

c/o Judy Janzen, CSLA Administrator
10157 SW Barbur Blvd. #102C
Portland, Oregon 97219

OR email:
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All members of CSLA can nominate up to 3 books each year.

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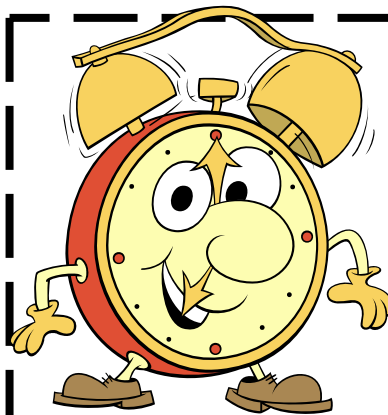
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