

Resource Center for Churches

Resources for the Journey

Contact us: www.resourcesforthejourney.org

SPECIAL ISSUE

June 2010

New AccuCut Dies

Great for Cokesbury Galactic Blast VBS:

- ~Astronaut
- ~Planets (2)
- ~Space Shuttle
- ~Shooting Star

Some other new Dies:

- ~Door Hanger-Cross
- ~Book-Magic Cross.

Use of the AccuCut machine is free. **The machine will be housed at the UMC Conference office, 4th floor MCC building, during our summer closure.**

Summer Closure Dates

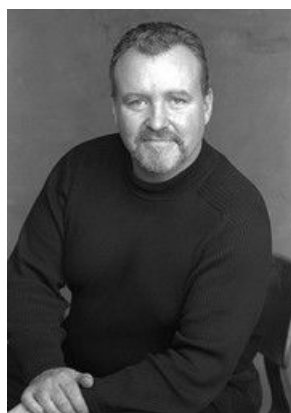
**Closing 4:00 p.m.
Friday, July 2**

**Reopening 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, August 3rd**

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Special Conference Issue

Garth Schumacher Named Acting Director of Resource Center for Churches



May 28, 2010--Rev. Garth Schumacher has been named acting director of the Resource Center for Churches, the organization's board announced.

Schumacher is a clergyperson ordained in the United Church of Christ. In addition to extensive experience in congregational leadership, he also has worked in youth ministry, education, theater, and sales.

"I bring problem-solving and presentation skills to this position," Schumacher says. "I have led churches and understand what churches need."

Schumacher appreciates that efficient adaptation of communication technology is crucial to the Resource Center's service to congregations. "People are obtaining increasingly more information over the Internet," he observes. "I intend to guide the Resource Center to help people with their research, and to help make the center's web site more user-friendly."

He also plans to evaluate the type of media that Christian education and church leaders prefer, and to enhance the center's holdings in those media.

"I want to get out the good news of the Center to more people," he says. "I want to connect more people with resources they will value for supporting the faith of children, youth, and adults."

Schumacher's congregational and educational experience enables him to advise Resource Center clients well on the kinds of DVDs, curriculum, and other materials they will find most useful for their education and faith-formation purposes. He holds a master of arts in religious leadership, with a Christian education focus, and a master of divinity, both earned at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

The Resource Center for Churches, supported by four denominational judicatories and several congregations, lends DVDs, books, curricula, music, and more to member churches. It is located at 122 W. Franklin Ave., Room 2, Minneapolis. Interested users can visit the center in person or at its web site, resourcesforthejourney.org. The center's staff, Garth Schumacher and Sally Vanderwerf, can be reached at (612) 870-0861 (in the metro area), (888) 293-9901 (toll free from Greater Minnesota), or info@resourcesforthejourney.org.

By: Victoria Rebeck



REINVIGORATING OUR RESOURCES

What's Old is New

Many of our VHS tapes are getting a new leased-on life. How? We are transitioning our still vital VHS tapes into the newer DVD format. So, many of the titles that have no longer been circulating because of outdated media may now be appropriate for your church's DVD player. And, WE NEED YOUR HELP! Because we literally have 100's of VHS tapes, we don't want to unnecessarily transition all of our tapes. We need YOU to call or email us to tell us which ones might be the most helpful for your ministry. In the meantime, we'll be previewing and vetting as many tapes as possible for appropriate transitioning.

Website Under Construction

The United Church of Christ Ashley Fund has donated several thousands of dollars to help us update our current website. We plan on making it more user friendly by creating many more cross-referencing features and hyper-links to sources outside our four walls and into the market place of ideas. Our hope is that the website will be the first place you go to look for any and all of your ministry and educational needs... and, if you can't find it here, that we can get you to your resource in the quickest most straightforward manner. Again, WE NEED YOUR HELP by telling us what aspects of a library/Amazon/eBay/publisher hyperlink connection are the most useful for your efforts in ministry. Please email or call with your suggestions.

Internet Access Now at the Resource Center

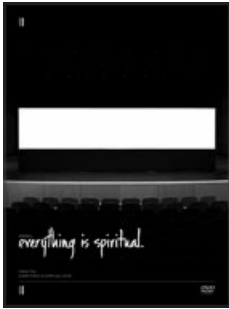
How many times have you been doing research at the library and not had access to the Web just when you needed to "find that book" or get some more ideas for this Sunday's lesson in order to "find that book or DVD!?" We now have internet access in the library so that visitors will be able to do research with their own laptop device or the library computer while sitting in the library study area. Planning and researching is now a simple matter of sitting at our grand conference table, looking up items and articles on the internet, and browsing the shelves for "just the right" resource. Enjoy!

info@resourcesforthejourney.org

or call:

612-870-0861 or Toll Free: 888-293-9901

NEW DVD RESOURCES FOR YOUR MINISTRY!



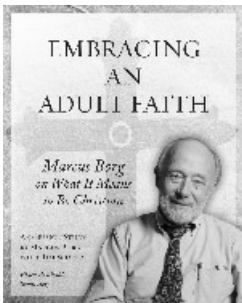
EVERYTHING IS SPIRITUAL

By: Rob Bell

Description:

In the Hebrew scriptures there is no word for “spiritual.” And Jesus never used the phrase “spiritual life.” Why? Because for Jesus and his tradition, all of life is spiritual. But what does that really mean?

Length: 1h 18m



EMBRACING AN ADULT FAITH

By: Marcus Borg

Author and Bible scholar Marcus Borg invites us to join him in revisiting Christianity’s most fundamental questions: Who is God? What does salvation mean? What place does Jesus hold in contemporary Christian faith?

In this five-session, faith-formation resource, participants enjoy the rare privilege of witnessing Marcus in dialogue with a small, diverse group of adults as they honestly — and sometimes painfully — confront the big questions and work together toward authentic answers. Each session includes a 10-minute presentation by Marcus Borg followed by interaction with the group. The program print resources are designed to help your small group “join the dialogue” in your own setting. The study addresses fundamental questions that adults struggle with as faith matures. It can be used as a resource for personal reflection as well as small group experience.

The five sessions include:

- God
- Jesus
- Salvation
- Community
- Practice



DREAM THINK BE DO

An overview of progressive Christianity for young adults, DreamThinkBeDo features the insights of over twenty-five theologians and teachers at the top of their game. Each of the twenty self-standing sessions contains a 20-minute DVD segment drawn from the critically acclaimed LtQ2 series -- updated with connecting narrations, graphics, and music to engage your young adults. Bundled in four five-session modules, each session is divided into convenient and easily navigable chapters. Use the DVDs and downloadable participant guides as is – or take advantage of the flexible format to customize the material for gatherings ranging from small groups to retreats to enhancing worship. However you slice it, DTBD is rich with the material you've been looking for in a format that will connect your young people with the best in today's theo-



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122 W. Franklin Avenue, Room 2
Minneapolis, MN 55404

612-870-0861 or 888-293-9901 (toll free)
Email: info@resourcesforthejourney.org
Website: www.resourcesforthejourney.org

Your Partner in Ministry

The Resource Center for Churches partners with congregations in ministry by providing print and audio-visual resources, consultation services, training, and networking to facilitate the journey of faith.

It is an ecumenical ministry of the: Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota; Minnesota Annual Conference United Methodist Church; Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ; Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area; Synod of Lakes and Prairies (PCUSA).

Staff

*Garth Schumacher, Director
Sally Vanderwerf, Resource Assistant*

Board

Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota OpenPositions: Minnesota Annual Conference, United Methodist Church: Victoria Rebeck, Gloria Roach Thomas, Paula Colton (President); Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ: Wade Zick (Treasurer), Brandon Perrine, Nancy Johnsen; Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area: Jan Snell (Vice President), Joanne Shingledacker (Secretary); Synod of Lakes and Prairies (PCUSA): Diana Barber.

NOTICE TO ALL RECIPIENTS:

Our Newsletter will be in electronic copy unless you have specifically requested a paper copy or you are picking this up at a conference display.

We will continue to forward the newsletter electronically to each of the judicatories for distribution and/or placement upon their websites.

We will post copies of the newsletter on our website:

www.resourcesforthejourney.org

If you want to be on the distribution list, please call

612-870-0861/888-293-9901 or email us at

info@resourcesforthejourney.org

—Garth Schumacher, Director

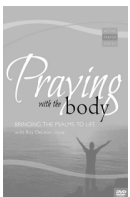
MORE DVD RESOURCES FOR YOUR MINISTRY



SERVANT OR SUCKER?

We've all been there. Someone who is obviously poor or homeless approaches you and asks for money. What do you do? Do you give money knowing there's a good chance it will be used on drugs or alcohol or do you say "no" or even ignore the person as you walk by?

No one wants to be a sucker in these situations, but at the same time Jesus' call to help the poor echoes in our hearts and minds. *Servant or Sucker?* will help viewers discern appropriate, Christ-centered actions when it comes to addressing poverty on a personal or organizational level. It includes the realities of poverty such as the concepts of time, relationships, money and values; a "poverty tour"; interviews with those who are homeless or poor; interviews with those who have helped and/or have



PRAYING WITH THE BODY

This informative, practical, DVD will guide you through the process of *Praying with the Body* as it is detailed in Roy DeLeon's book. Ideal for personal or group use. Each session includes an invocation, holy reading, silent reflection, and other easy-to-learn practices, making this DVD both a Praying with the Body workshop in itself, as well as the perfect compliment to the book.



FIRST LIGHT

First Light is a 12-session DVD and web-based study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God with two of the world's leading Jesus scholars on location throughout the Galilee and Jerusalem.

Participant Reader written by John Dominic Crossan: "It is all I have to say about Jesus after half a century of study--in succinct summary."