



# RESOURCE UPDATE

April 2005, No. 4

**Mennonite Church Canada**

A service of Mennonite Church Canada — Highlighting Resources for Sunday school, Family Ministry & Worship...

600 Shaftesbury Blvd. Winnipeg MB R3P 0M4; 1-866-888-6785 (toll free); 204-831-5675(fax); resources@mennonitechurch.ca; www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre

## CALENDAR

We offer resources for...

### April

3 Evangelism and Church Planting Sunday

### May

1 Stewardship Sunday  
8 Christian Family Sunday  
15 Pentecost

*Circulate your worship materials here!*

Congregations are always looking for current, tested resources from our member congregations. Email, fax or post us your copy of a special service, litany or celebration, and we'll pass it on.

## Mennonite Church Canada Resources

**Summer Worship: Three options that build a home-congregation connection:**

***God Gives Good Gifts, Cycle D Jubilee.*** Use the accompanying Worship/Education Guide to help plan congregational worship around the *Jubilee* summer curriculum. Incorporate the At-Home materials, compiled by Sandi Hannigan, that offer parallel worship themes for families at home. The Worship/Education guide can be previewed at the Resource Centre and purchased from Faith and Life Resources. The At-Home materials are free to download from our online catalogue.



***Messages from the Prophets and Spirit Fruit.*** Two summer themes for congregational worship, with accompanying at-home resources for family worship and response. Developed by Sargent Avenue Mennonite Church. Available at the Resource Centre.

***Weddings: Ideas and Resources from Mennonite Church Canada.*** A practical resource for pastors involved in the ministry surrounding marriages and weddings. Includes a discussion about the theology of Christian marriage, wedding and marriage preparation, the wedding as worship, and a list of many further resources. Available for loan or purchase at the Resource Centre.



## Update Subscription

Subscribe to this monthly Update and receive it free by email. Simply send your name, phone number and email address, with the instruction "subscribe" to [resources@mennonitechurch.ca](mailto:resources@mennonitechurch.ca)

## Certificates for Sale

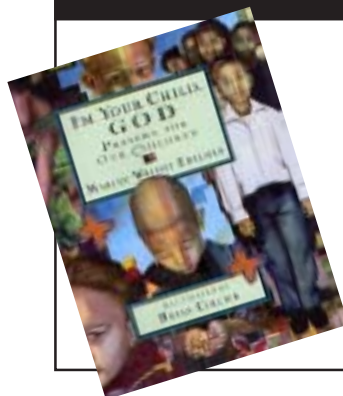
Dedication, Baptism, Membership, and Transfer of Membership certificates. All available for purchase at the Resource Centre.

## Children's Stories

Looking for weekly features for children's time in worship? Check out the worship resources in *Leader, Spring 2005*. After Pentecost, our writers will resume their weekly storytelling on our website.

## Children's Corner

*Resources for the church library, home, Sunday School class or Sunday morning storyteller.*



### ***I'm Your Child, God: Prayers for Our Children***

by Marian Wright Edelman. Illustrated by Bryan Collier. A collection of prayers which embraces issues that children and teens face in an increasingly complicated world. Included are prayers for happy, sad, hopeful, confused, joyful, scary, and lonely times, and for difficult family changes like a divorce, a move, and the death of a family member, friend, or pet. These prayers offer our children a powerful opportunity to connect with their own spirituality. The stunning collage-and-watercolour artwork captures the vibrancy of our multicultural world.

### *Route To:*

- Librarian
- Pastor(s)
- Worship Planners
- Education Coordinator
- Church Secretary

## Website Window

Anabaptist Online Resources

These links and many other electronic resources can also be found through our own online catalogue at [www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre).

### Mennonite Periodicals Online

Most offer a sampling of their current and past issues online.

[www.mcc.org/acp/](http://www.mcc.org/acp/) **A Common Place.** Mennonite Central Committee. Includes "stories of people living out their faith in extraordinary circumstances, spectacular photography and ways you can make a difference." Free subscription. Bi-monthly.

[www.mph.org/abs/](http://www.mph.org/abs/) **Adult Bible Study.** The electronic update to the adult teacher material. Written just prior to posting, this electronic service brings current events and Bible study together. Quarterly.

[www.canadianmennonite.org](http://www.canadianmennonite.org) **Canadian Mennonite.** Serves the people and churches of Mennonite Church Canada. Peruse the upcoming edition online prior to its distribution. Bi-weekly.

[www.grebel.uwaterloo.ca/cgreview/index.html](http://www.grebel.uwaterloo.ca/cgreview/index.html) **Conrad Grebel Review.** An "interdisciplinary journal of Christian inquiry devoted to thoughtful, sustained discussion of spirituality, theology and culture from a broadly-based Mennonite perspective." 3 times/year.

[www.mwc-cmm.org/MWC/corrcour.html](http://www.mwc-cmm.org/MWC/corrcour.html) **Courier.** Mennonite World Conference. Features news, articles, essays and testimony for Anabaptist-Mennonites around the world. Also available in Spanish and French. Free subscription. 3 times/year.

[www.cascadiapublishinghouse.com/dsm/](http://www.cascadiapublishinghouse.com/dsm/) **DreamSeeker Magazine: Voices from the Soul.** Cascadia Publishing House. Features "Anabaptist-related writers committed to exploring from the heart, with passion, depth, and flair, their own visions and issues of the day." Free email subscription. Quarterly.

[www.leaderonline.org](http://www.leaderonline.org) **Leader: Equipping the Missional Congregation.** For pastors and lay leaders in Anabaptist congregations. Includes feature articles and seasonal worship resources. Additional resources available free at their website. Quarterly.

[www.meda.org/publications/marketplace](http://www.meda.org/publications/marketplace) **Marketplace.** Mennonite Economic Development Agency. Faith and work magazine. Bi-monthly.

[www.themennonite.org/](http://www.themennonite.org/) **The Mennonite.** For members of MC USA and others interested in the Mennonite church. Bi-monthly.

[www.mbconf.ca/historian/index.en.html](http://www.mbconf.ca/historian/index.en.html) **The Mennonite Historian.** A publication of the Mennonite Heritage Centre and the Centre for MB Studies in Canada. Quarterly.

[www.goshen.edu/mqr/](http://www.goshen.edu/mqr/) **Mennonite Quarterly Review.** Journal devoted to Anabaptist-Mennonite history, thought, life and affairs. Quarterly.

[www.mph.org/rejoice](http://www.mph.org/rejoice) **Rejoice!** Based on scriptures from the lectionary and the Uniform Series daily reading plan, it offers daily devotions for individuals, families or groups. Quarterly.

[www.mennonitewomenusa.org/Timbrel.asp](http://www.mennonitewomenusa.org/Timbrel.asp) **Timbrel.** Discusses "issues close to women's hearts and celebrates how God is acting in our daily lives." Bi-monthly.

[www.mennovision.org/](http://www.mennovision.org/) **Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology.** "Helps church leaders reflect theologically on the identity, mission and practices of the church from an Anabaptist-Mennonite perspective." Twice/year.

[www.withonline.org/](http://www.withonline.org/) **With: The Magazine for Radical Christian Youth.** "Seeks to empower youth to be radically committed to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, to peace and justice, and to sharing God's good news through word and action." Bi-monthly.



## In on the Action?

### February's Top Picks

- **The Radicals.** Video or DVD that tells the story of the origins of the Anabaptist movement in Europe in the early 16th Century.
- **What's So Amazing About Grace?** A video set by Philip Yancey.
- **Cloud of Witnesses: Rediscovering Anabaptism.** VHS. What does faith mean in a society where the church is declining? What are our historical and spiritual roots?
- **Tent of Meeting.** Help youth grow spiritually through disciplines that have enriched the lives of Christians for centuries (Prayer of Examen, Fasting, Lectio Divina, Daily Office, Intercessory Prayer).
- **Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book.** Two-week cycle of morning and evening prayers.
- **Walk with Jesus: Stations of the Cross.** By Henri Nouwen. The meditations represent traditional stations of the cross, but seen through the passion and suffering of the world's poor.
- **Sacred Search: Encountering God During Lent.** Invites youth to know God, themselves, and others in deeper ways by doing a kind of "internal housekeeping" during Lent.
- **Leader: Equipping the Missional Congregation,** Faith and Life Resources. Our church ministry quarterly periodical.



## Resource Centre on the road

Bring the Resource Centre to your next gathering or attend one of the following events. Arlyn is available to provide a display of materials, lead a workshop/Sunday School, preach a sermon. Contact the Resource Centre to make arrangements.

April 22-23

Display at MC Eastern Canada sessions

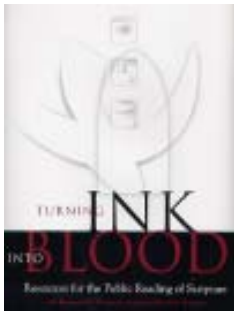
April 24

Sunday School and preaching at Hamilton Mennonite Church

## New Resources

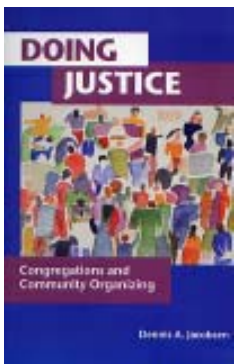
For a complete list of new acquisitions, click "Newest Resources" on the Resource Centre webpage

**Thermostat: How can we turn toward peace in a time of fear?** Mennonite Central Committee, 2005. A DVD for youth on war, peace and Christian conscience. Includes a wide variety of resources: Bible studies, role plays, stories, images, poetry, video clips, rap, and drama. A 100-page study guide organizes the three hours of video clips and activities into 33 different study units on the themes of peacemaking, imagination, allegiance, security, terrorism, camouflage, and nonviolence. Encourages inter-generational conversation and learning.



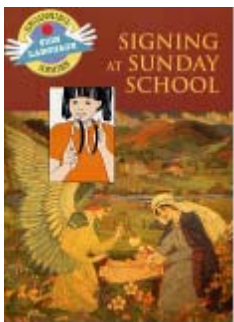
**Turning Ink Into Blood: Resources for the Public Reading of Scripture.** A video training resource for those who perform the important task of reading scripture when God's people gather for worship. Join Dr. Thomas Rogers for an in-depth workshop in training lay persons in the congregation to enter into the text in a new way so that the scriptures might become

alive in their reading. Dr. Walt Wangerin helps us understand the role of the lector in worship and speaks of the lector as invoking the presence of God in the reading of Scripture. Study guide included.

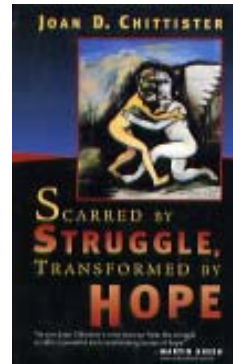


**Doing Justice: Congregations and Community Organizing** by Dennis A. Jacobsen. An introductory theology of congregation-based community organizing rooted in the day-to-day struggles and hopes of urban ministry. Illustrated with examples from the experience of community organizers, it weaves the theological and biblical warrants for community organizing into

concrete strategies for achieving justice in the public arena. Study guide included.



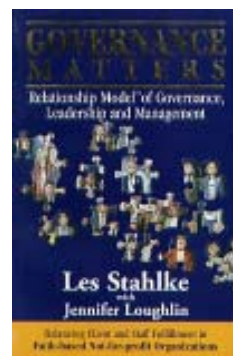
**Signing at Sunday School** by Jane Schneider. A helpful collection of signs, phrases, and Bible verses fashioned to bring hearing impaired and hearing church members closer in their exchanges and in their worship. Serves as a good introduction to sign language for young signers, presenting songs, the story of Jesus, and Bible verses all within a simple and illustrated signing vocabulary.



**Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope** by Joan Chittister. Everyone goes through times of pain and sorrow, depression and darkness, stress and suffering. It is in the necessary struggles of life that we stretch our souls and gain new insights enabling us to go on. Building on the biblical story of Jacob wrestling with God and on the story of her own battle with life-changing



**Loving Without Giving In: Christian Responses to Terrorism and Tyranny** by Ron Mock. John Paul Lederach writes about the book: "At a time when rampant fear and justified violence appear to be the primary strategic tools of both mainstream politics and terrorism, Ron Mock as provided a much needed Christian antidote: Love."

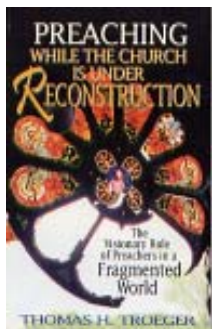


**Governance Matters: Relationship Model of Governance, Leadership and Management** by Les Stahlke. The most important principle, the author states, in this book, is that for an organization to be healthy, both staff and clients must be equally fulfilled. This book, detailing the author's "Relationship Model" examines the design of healthy relationships in the Old and New Testaments. Written specifically for board members, CEOs and staff of Christian, faith-based, not-for-profit organizations.



**Earth Trek: Celebrating and Sustaining God's Creation** by Joanne Moyer. The purpose of this journey is to learn to better understand creation and our place within it, and to move us to action. The guide is structured around the Genesis 1 story of creation, using each "day" as a starting point for examining the elements of creation.

## New Resources (continued)

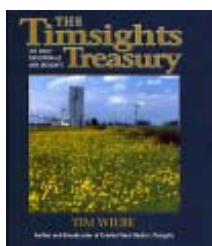


**Preaching While the Church is Under Reconstruction: The Visionary Role of Preachers in a Fragmented World** by Thomas Troeger. How does one preach in a fragmented world that has lost its certainty about God? Reclaim the imaginative and visionary role of the preacher. Employ the creative elements of preaching to help God's people imagine the new thing God is doing in our time. Encour-

ages the preacher to open himself or herself, through the disciplines of prayer and study, to the inspiring presence of God's Spirit.



**The Psalms: Soli Deo Gloria Singers.** Includes 18 choral pieces taken from the Psalms. Choir led by Paul Dueck and Helen Brown. The CD is also available for purchase from the Resource Centre.



**The Timsights Treasury: 365 Daily Devotionals and Delights** by Tim Wiebe. Pour yourself a cup of coffee, pull up a chair, and enter into daily conversation with Tim Wiebe, author and broadcaster of Golden West Radio's daily inspirational spot, "Timsights," since 1993. Get ready to cry a little, laugh a lot, and reflect even

more. Be prepared for a wide variety of subjects. Two threads bind this eclectic collection into a seamless whole: our call, as believers, to love God with heart, soul, mind and strength and our opportunity, each day, to love our neighbours as ourselves.



## Checked the Resource Centre web pages recently?

Our online catalogue now features:

- **Quick-Pick Bibliographies** — (fast references to recent resources on popular themes)
- **Seasonal materials** – check our Lent "display."
- **User-friendly Records** (Over 600 cover images and helpful annotations)
- **Files and Links** (A growing number of downloadable files and website links.)
- **Easy reference** to our Newest Resources at the Centre.
- **Resource Update Subscription link.** We'll send this newsletter to your email account free.

It's never been easier to access our 7000 titles!

[www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre)

## From our Press

New from Mennonite  
Publishing Network

Available from the Resource Centre for a free preview loan. To purchase, call MPN at 1-800-245-7894.



### New Vacation Bible School curriculum!

**Celebrate the Psalms: Our God is Awesome!** The Psalms represent every possible human emotion, and express children's feelings of joy, trust, fear, sorrow, and gratitude. Through song, prayer and Bible dramas, children can

celebrate God's presence in their worship and everyday living. For sample materials and order information, check [www.mph.org/vbs/](http://www.mph.org/vbs/)



### New Hymnal Supplement!

**Sing the Journey: Hymnal: A Worship Book Supplement 1** Coming summer 2005. This 200-page congregational songbook highlights themes of the missional church, with inspiring new hymns and praise songs, familiar standards, and over 15 pages of

fresh worship resources. An accompaniment resource is available separately. For order information, check [www.mph.org/cp/books/singthejourney.htm](http://www.mph.org/cp/books/singthejourney.htm)



### New Sunday School curriculum!

**Gather 'Round: Hearing and Sharing God's Good News.** Coming September 2006. For a

list of FAQ, check [www.faithandliferesources.org/pdf/GatherRound%20Q.A.pdf](http://www.faithandliferesources.org/pdf/GatherRound%20Q.A.pdf)