

600 Shaftesbury Blvd. Winnipeg MB R3P 0M4; 1-866-888-6785 (toll free); [resources@mennonitechurch.ca](mailto:resources@mennonitechurch.ca); [www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre)

## WORSHIP CALENDAR

Feb 1 – Church Education Sunday  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/828](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/828)

Feb 25 – Ash Wednesday  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/491](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/491)

April 5 – Palm Sunday  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/160](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/160)

April 9 – Maundy Thursday  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/161](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/161)

April 10 – Good Friday  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/162](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/162)

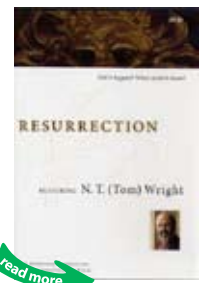
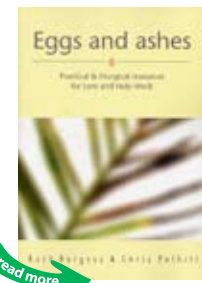
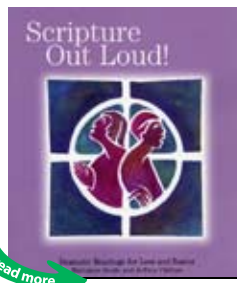
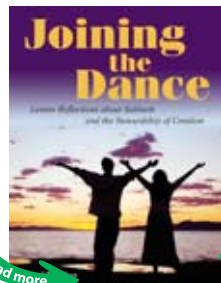
April 12 – Easter  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/163](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/163)

May 31 – Pentecost  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/164](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/164)


## Lent/Easter Resources

Here's your link to curriculum, devotional, drama, family, and worship resources for Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Tenebrae, Stations of the Cross, Seder meal) and Easter.

➔ [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/132](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/132)




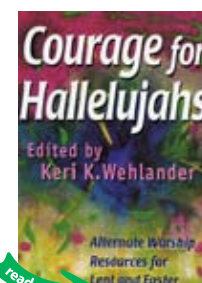
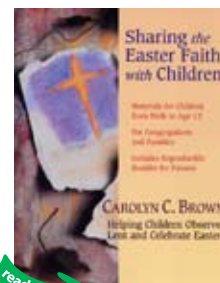
## MAKE THE MOST OF THIS UPDATE:

 **Circulate** widely - to librarian, pastor, worship planners, education coordinator, and church secretary

 **Invite** friends/committee members to subscribe: [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/347](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/347)

➔ **View** this issue electronically: [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/857](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/857). And take advantage of the many "Read More" links

 **Submit** your own original worship service or congregational event for inclusion here and on the web.



## Children's Corner Resources for the library, home, Sunday School or Sunday morning storyteller.



**Before You Were Born** by [Nancy White Carlstrom](#) and [Linda Saport](#), Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2002. What child isn't curious about those first days of life? This book celebrates the mystery of how each child is a part of God's plan and the wonder of how a family grows and changes when a child arrives. With vibrant colours and joyful images, it tenderly conveys the excitement and love with which parents welcome children into their lives. This lyrical celebration of every child's life takes its inscription from Psalm 139.

➔ For additional children's books, see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/168](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/168).

## 2009 Resource Advocate Team



Five volunteer Resource Advocates (l-r) – Maurice Martin (Eastern Canada), Alissa Bender (Alberta), Heidi Epp (British Columbia), Marion Bueckert (Saskatchewan), Don Engbrecht (Manitoba) – are in place and eager to help guide congregations to Christian-Anabaptist teaching and learning resources.

Resource Advocates serve as an extension of the Resource Centre and Mennonite Publishing Network, a personal contact for individuals, pastors, and laity in local Area Churches who are seeking print, audio, and video materials to help them grow spiritually and enhance the worship and education experience in local congregations. They will also be glad to hear from readers about any congregational resourcing needs and will be available at upcoming Area Church delegate sessions. Please also feel free to contact them directly – for details see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/855](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/855).

### **DID YOU KNOW?** Resource Centre Facts

There are now over 1000 print, audio and video files available to download free from our online catalogue? These include regular *Equipping* materials, publications from MC Canada, and items submitted from our churches. In 2008 these items were downloaded over 51,000 times (an increase of 88% from the previous year)! Submit your original creations now!

**Extra 2009 Assembly Posters (Youth and Adult) and Wall Calendars are available at no cost from the Resource Centre!**



## In on the Action?

2008 set another circulation record, surpassing the previous record in 2007 by a whopping 23%! Are you – and others in your congregation – in on the action?

### 2008 Top 3 Requests

**read more...** [Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy](#). Analyses the Amish community's acts of forgiveness following the 2006 killings at Nickel Mines, PA.

**read more...** [Remembering Russia: 1914-1927 DVD](#). Otto Klassen's film that offers a historical snapshot of the cataclysmic events leading to the immigration of the Russian Mennonites to Canada in the 1920's.

**read more...** [Maskipiton: Peace Chief of the Cree](#). A children's story of Maskipiton's love of God's word, his ability to forgive the man who killed his father, and the transformation of a man of violence to a man of peace.

**View the other top loans of 2008 –**  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/858](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/858)

### From our Churches

Original materials from our constituency



**read more...**

**Difficult Conversations**, by Ken Bechtel. Those drums! Should we pave the parking lot, or send the money to New Orleans? Sex! How can we have those necessary conversations in ways that build rather than destroy the body?

In this workshop outline (as presented by Ken Bechtel for the MC Sask Equipping Day, October 29, 2005) he offers some reflections and helps around the topic of church conflict and difficult conversations. Included is also a sampling of additional materials on the topic.

Download at [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/863](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/863)

**For other original materials, see**  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/479](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/479)

Submit your original worship service or congregational event for inclusion on the web!

**CMU Bookstore**  
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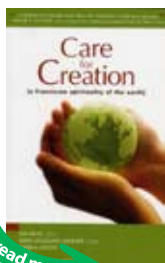
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## New Resources

There are 3 new resources added each day. Check [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/480](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/480) for a complete listing.

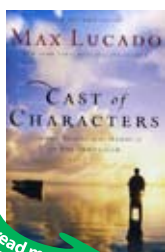


**Care for Creation: A Franciscan Spirituality of the Earth** by [Ilia Delio](#), [Keith Douglass Warner](#), [Pamela Wood](#), St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2008.

Three Franciscan authors combine good science with solid theology and practical applications to develop a Franciscan spirituality of the earth following in the footsteps of Jesus with the guidance of St. Francis of Assisi.

read more...

→ For other “creation care” resources, see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/422](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/422).



**Cast of Characters: Common People in the Hands of an Uncommon God** by [Max Lucado](#), Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2008. A re-telling of some of the extraordinary biblical stories, highlighting: Mary, Peter, Matthew, Joseph, Nicodemus, the woman at the well, David, Esther, Job, the Samaritan Woman, John, the rich Young Man, and many more. Includes discussion questions.

read more...

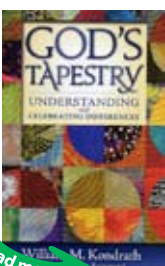
→ For other “Bible story” resources, see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/837](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/837).



**Hope Indeed! Remarkable Stories of Peacemakers** by [N. Gerald Shenk](#), Good Books, 2008. A collection of stories of stunningly ordinary people living with extraordinary hope in many difficult places around the world.

read more...

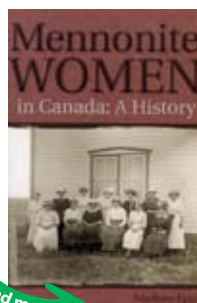
→ For other “peace stories,” see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/838](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/838).



**God's Tapestry: Understanding and Celebrating Differences** by [William M. Kondrath](#), Alban Institute, 2008. Kondrath shows us how to embrace our true multiculturalism – our differences of race, gender, age, theology, language, sexual identity – by exploring differences on four levels: personal, interpersonal, institutional, and cultural.

read more...

→ For other “multi-cultural ministry” resources, see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/861](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/861).



**Mennonite Women in Canada: A History** by [Marlene Epp](#), University of Manitoba Press, 2008.

read more...

Female voices were scarcely heard in the historical record of the Mennonites. Often invisible, in both name and deed, Mennonite women were nevertheless influential in shaping their own and the larger Canadian society. *Mennonite Women in Canada*, the first comprehensive history of Mennonite women, writes them back into the historical record and traces their complex social history over the past 200 years.

→ For other historical resources on “Mennonite women,” see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/839](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/839).



**Souls in the Hands of a Tender God: Stories of the Search for Home and Healing on the Streets** by [Craig Rennebohm](#), Beacon Press, 2008. Since 1987, Craig Rennebohm has ministered to people on the streets of Seattle who are homeless and struggling with mental illness. As Rennebohm reaches out to each one, their stories become parables that explore mental illness and the spiritual heart of care and recovery, helping us understand what it means to be human, on a pilgrimage together toward wholeness.

read more...

→ For other resources on “poverty,” see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/744](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/744).



**Creating Change: The Arts as Catalyst for Spiritual Transformation** ed., [Keri K. Wehlender](#), Woodlake Publishing, 2008. Stories from artists and congregations reveal how the arts breathe new life into prayer, worship, theological reflection, and the work of justice. It looks at how the arts allow us to express our spirituality with an individuality and depth that truly celebrates our connection to God.

read more...

→ For other resources on the “arts and spirituality,” see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/860](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/860)

**The Bookshop**  
at PANDORA PRESS

We stock all books included in this Resource Update including those books written and published by Mennonites.

33 Kent Ave, Kitchener, ON, N2H 3C1  
Phone: 1-866-696-1678 [www.pandorapress.com](http://www.pandorapress.com)



**Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers: Prayer for Ordinary Radicals** by [Shane Claiborne](#); [Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove](#), Intervarsity Press, 2008. Biblical examples of how a life of prayer fuels social engagement, giving new meaning to feeding the hungry and advocating for international debt relief.

[read more...](#)

For other “spiritual life” resources, see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/718](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/718).



**Questions from the Pickle Jar: Teens and Sex** by [Ron De Boer](#), Faith Alive Resources, 2008. In sex ed classes, teachers sometimes let kids write down anonymous questions about sex and put them in a big jar (like a pickle jar). Kids can ask anything they want, and they get their answers without a side order of embarrassment. In this resource, teens will find lots of advice about sex, how God made it

[read more...](#)

to be, and how to handle it when the pressure's on. An accompanying [DVD](#) is also available for loan.

For other resources on “youth and sexuality,” see [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/862](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/862)

## From our Partners

New from SmallTall Music



[read more...](#)

**Membership** links you with a network of people who support the creation, testing, and sharing of new “songs of faith for small and tall.” Members receive electronic deliveries of these songs 3 times/year.

**Free downloads** – audio files with lyric sheets, activity ideas and musical notation available from [www.smalltallmusic.com](http://www.smalltallmusic.com).



[read more...](#)

**New CD – My Money Talks: Songs for Worship**, 2007. Incorporates a variety of musical genres that mirrors the different worship styles in our congregations and speaks to the often difficult topic of stewardship.

[And download the CD's accompanying artwork by Lynette Wiebe.](#)



[read more...](#)

## From our Press

New from Mennonite Publishing Network



Use the links below to borrow or purchase these items:



[read more...](#)

**Like a Mustard Seed: Mennonites in Paraguay** by [Edgar Stoesz](#), Herald Press, 2008. Edgar Stoesz tells the inspiring story of the Russian, Canadian, and Mexican Mennonites who, beginning in 1927, immigrated to Paraguay and made a new homeland out of the jungle wilderness.



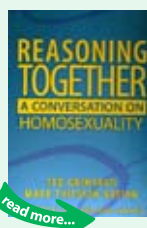
[read more...](#)

**First Be Reconciled: Challenging Christians in the Courts**, by [Richard P. Church](#), Herald Press, 2008. Richard P. Church seeks to recover the church as a unique reconciled body in a world of enmity, particularly in terms of civil litigation.



[read more...](#)

**Pax Avalon: Conflict Revolution** by [Steven “Reece” Friesen](#), Herald Press, 2008. Graphic novels are an expression of the struggle to bring peace and order to our lives. The world of Pax Avalon embodies this struggle, with the added element of hope that there actually is a way that leads to peace.



[read more...](#)

**Reasoning Together: A Conversation on Homosexuality** by [Ted Grimsrud](#); [Mark Thiessen Nation](#), Herald Press, 2008. This book emerges from a series of public conversations on homosexuality by two Mennonite theology professors with clearly different perspectives on the issue. The book concludes with a short chapter sketching areas of agreement amidst the disagreements that have been the focus of the earlier chapters. Also includes two annotated bibliographies.

## Preview a Periodical



[read more...](#)

**Purpose.** Filled with inspirational articles, illustrations, and verse, this monthly periodical offers a practical guide for daily Christian life. Includes regular columns on food, peace, humour, and resources for faithful living.