

Being the Church

2023 DISCIPLESHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION GUIDE

Includes
Judson Press
Curriculum
Catalog

American Baptist Home Mission Societies

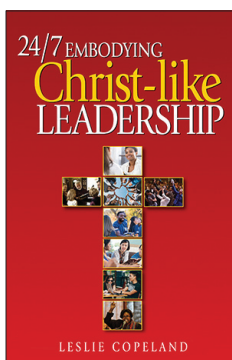
abhms.org

American Baptist Churches USA



ABC Reads 2023-2024

The ABC Reads program brings American Baptists together through the power of shared reading of books. Sponsored by the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, ABC Reads traditionally highlights a Judson Press book appropriate for reading and discussion in small-group settings. Because Judson Press will celebrate its 200th Anniversary in 2024, we offer two selections for this momentous year in the life of Baptist publication.



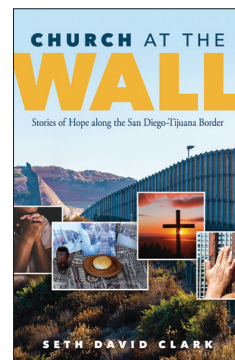
24/7 Embodying Christ-like Leadership by Leslie Copeland asks Christians who lead in any context to reflect deeply on how they embody Christ-like leadership daily. This book encourages us to examine and make real our aspirations to do as Christ would do. Copeland encourages us to set aside time to truthfully explore our own lives, and plan for maturing as servant-leaders for Christ. She reminds leaders that such characteristics as courage, commitment, and compassion are essential. Through Scripture, illustrations, and storytelling, she invites us to examine realities that beg the question of solid Christian leadership traits. As you read, you may ask if you are being, feeling, thinking, and doing the best for God and yourself? And if

not, how might things be different? Read this practical work by Leslie Copeland and share her book of leadership traits with co-laborers in the Lord's fields of ministry.

978-0-8170-1837-5 Judson Press website price \$14.39

The Church at the Wall: Stories of Hope along the San Diego-Tijuana Border

by Seth David Clark tells the powerful story of how the Border Church, founded and pastored by John Fanestil, worships on the San Diego-Tijuana border without a building. Every Sunday afternoon, the author, who serves as the US-side pastoral coordinator of the church, gathers with people of goodwill from both sides of the border at Friendship Park to build the kingdom of God. Their love of Christ is exhibited through celebrating communion, singing, and using their pinkies to pass the peace through the mesh metal walls between the US and Mexico. Readers will get to know this remarkable international church community—and its distinctive expressions of theology, justice, righteousness, and love—through the eyes of active participants.



978-0-8170-1830-6 Judson Press website price \$14.39

To order, visit www.judsonpress.com for a 20% discount. Save an additional 15% when you order 10 or more copies. Enter the promo code ABCREADS in the discount box during online checkout.

800-458-3766 | www.judsonpress.com

JUDSON PRESS
PUBLISHERS SINCE 1824

Executive Director
Dr. Jeffrey Haggray

Editor
Rev. Rebecca Irwin-Diehl, MTS, MA

Publisher, Judson Press
Rev. Cheryl Price, PhD

Designer
Danny Ellison

Production Manager
Lisa Blair

Editorial Assistant
Leda Carter

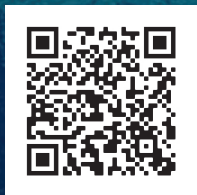
A publication of:
American Baptist Home Mission Societies
American Baptist Churches USA
1075 First Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Copyright © 2023
American Baptist Home Mission Societies
abhms.org

Available online at www.abhms.org> Publications & Resources> Discipleship and Christian Education Guide. Additional print copies may be requested through customer service at 800-458-3766.

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture translations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. Scripture translations are also from the New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

To support this publication or other ministries of ABHMS, visit www.abhms.org> Give Now



Contents

2	Welcome!
3	The Theme Being the Church
4	Being a Baptist Church Today
6	Being a Church in Transition
8	Being a Church in the World
10	Revised Common Lectionary 2023
13	2023 Year-at-a-Glance Calendar
14	Month-by-Month Planning Calendar
22	Resources for Discipleship and Faith Formation
27	Christian Education Resources from Judson Press
	LITANIES
39	Litany of Presence
39	Letanía de presencia
40	Litanie de présence
40	神同在的啟應文



ABHMS CENTER FOR
CONTINUOUS LEARNING
ccl.ministrelife.org

Welcome!

“Change is the only constant,” we have heard it said. No wonder, then, that a full year since the release of the *2022 Discipleship and Christian Education Guide* we are still talking about change in congregational ministries of faith formation and discipleship. We must keep talking about it because the changes keep coming—and COVID-era ministry teaches us that more change is needed if the church is going to maintain a place of redeeming relevance in the world.

Not all change is easy, but without it we know that life does not continue. Jesus himself told us, “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit” (John 12:24). Not that I am sanguine about that reality. Far from it! We have all suffered losses in recent months and years—of loved ones, of beloved traditions, of cherished institutions and of long-awaited milestones.

Of course, much of what we have lost is connected to changes that are inevitably part of life—rites of passage at every stage of living. The challenge has been finding ways to mark those celebrations and sorrows without the traditional rituals of our cultures and communities.

The changes we are experiencing in the church are analogous. The trends about who is returning to church, how they are returning and if they are returning at all—these were all underway pre-COVID-19. Pandemic accelerates them—and discloses the weaknesses, *and the strengths*, of our congregations and communities to respond to such changes.

In her Welcome to the *2022 Discipleship and Christian Education Guide*, my colleague Rev. Cassandra Carkuff Williams, EdD, reminded us, “While the Christian church rests on ancient tradition, which we might be inclined to preserve by insulating ourselves from change, the ability to be *untraditional* is essential to that very tradition. Adaptability makes possible preservation of the tradition for each new age and context.” Adaptability, creativity, experimentation, innovation—these allow us to respond to the gospel’s call in ways that welcome new life and new voices into new spaces, physical and virtual.

In the months since writing that Welcome, Casey herself retired after seventeen years of ministry with American Baptist Home Mission Societies—an exciting change for her that bequeathed to me this traditional church resource. Her transition ripples into other changes that you will see reflected in these pages. For example, we still provide

access to our classic Workshops on Church Life and Leadership, but we highly recommend new learning experiences through the ABHMS Center for Continuous Learning (CCL)—a ministry innovation that came into its own in 2022. The CCL provides a new platform for delivering the practical mission education you expect from ABHMS in faith formation, leadership development and passonary training.

Much has *not* changed, however! The *2023 Discipleship and Christian Education Guide* begins with discussion of the theme (pages 4–9), followed by the Revised Common Lectionary readings, Year-at-a-Glance Calendar and monthly planning pages with Judson Press book highlights (pages 14–19). The resources section (pages 22–38) describes CCL offerings and includes the Judson Christian education catalog. You’ll also find a litany (pages 39–40) for worship in English, Traditional Chinese, French and Spanish!

We continue to pray that these ABHMS offerings will help your congregation become more responsive and innovative in ministries of faith formation and discipleship. As always, we welcome feedback! Please contact Leda Carter at leda.carter@abhms.org or 888-792-2467, ext. 2028, with comments or questions.

Rev. Rebecca Irwin-Diehl has served ABHMS since 2006, currently as director of the Center for Continuous Learning (ccl.ministrelife.org) and previously as longtime editor for Judson Press. She is a PhD candidate with Villanova University’s Theology and Religious Studies program.

The Discipleship and Christian Education Guide is published annually by American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS). Print copies are mailed to all American Baptist regions and churches, and to individuals by request. A PDF may be downloaded at www.abhms.org> Publications & Resources> Discipleship and Christian Education Guide, and additional print copies can be requested through customer service at 800-458-3766.

The Theme | Being the Church

By now you have surely heard the news. Media headlines, research studies and titles of books and articles declare that the Christian church in North America is not what it once was.

Some church leaders face this reality and mourn deeply. Many of us came of age there; we embraced our call to gospel ministry there; we created family there; we have served God long and well there. We love that church. It has been our home, our village, our life support in times of celebration and sorrow. We lament and even rage against what feels like an attack on our way of life, on our legacy and on the God and institution we love.

Other church leaders hold their grief more lightly, more hopefully. Yes, there are losses, but didn't Jesus say that a grain of wheat has to fall and die before it can bear fruit? Aren't we a resurrection people who see potential for new life even in places of death? Isn't it possible, we ask, that the dark and dank tomb may become for God's people a dark and fruitful womb?

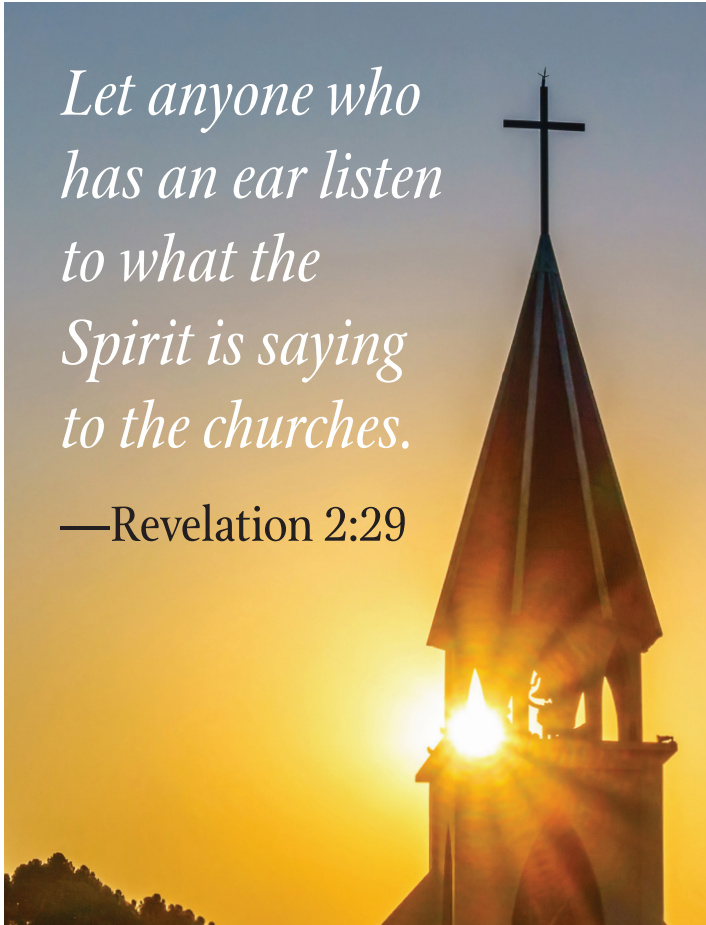
But let's face it: even for those of us who call ourselves a resurrection people, it is not always easy to recognize or welcome new life when the past we loved seems to be dying. This year, in this *Discipleship and Christian Education Guide*, we take seriously the challenges presented by declines in church attendance (Dones), the rise of religious disaffiliation (Nones) and the changes in how people experience and express their spiritual identities and seek community.

What is the Spirit saying about how we can be the church in this day and age?

In his article about "Being a Baptist Church Today" (pp. 4–5), Rev. Jeffrey A. Johnson, PhD, reminds us that Jesus followers are called out into the world, not into a building, and considers anew the gifts of Baptist identity today. Rev. Dr. Rachael Lawrence reflects on "Being the Church in Transition" (pp. 6–7), particularly in a COVID era of rapid

change and challenge. And Rev. Cheryl Price, PhD, explores the challenges and opportunities of "Being the Church in the World" (pp. 8–9), highlighting creative wisdom from Judson Press authors about embodying Christian ministry in our communities.

The challenges are also opportunities to create and innovate, to experiment and encounter, to listen and learn. What are the needs today's generations are expressing? Let us have ears to hear what ministries of faith formation, healing, and transformation the Spirit is calling us out to do.



*Let anyone who
has an ear listen
to what the
Spirit is saying
to the churches.*

—Revelation 2:29

What might the Spirit be saying to your local church? Consider **Missional Frontiers**, a six-part on-demand course based on the blended ecology approach of pastor, teacher and author Michael Adam Beck. Honor the steadfast saints in your pews today and discover a new vision for "church" relevant to those we hope to reach in our surrounding communities. Features a leader guide for small-group study. Learn more at ccl.ministrelife.org



Being a Baptist Church Today by Jeffrey A. Johnson

The church is not the building. This is one lesson the novel coronavirus pandemic has taught tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of Christian congregations. The church of Jesus Christ does not need a building to survive, let alone thrive. Baptists in North America have known this truth for centuries, although sadly we have forgotten or neglected this awareness. COVID-era ministry has revived its importance in our daily lives.

Baptist faith is among the oldest expressions of Christianity in North America, having begun in 1638, nearly 150 years before the Declaration of Independence was signed. It would have been unthinkable in the first two centuries of our Baptist history to put the word *church* on the structures where Baptist communities of faith gathered. That moniker

would not be used for our buildings until well into the 1800s. Before that time, Baptist believers gathered in *meetinghouses*, which became the sacred spaces where the church, the body of Christ, gathered to worship and then scattered to serve. It was in meetinghouses where Baptist believers met collectively to take care of business with God and take care of the business of the congregation. It was where they lived out their calling as the “called-out ones” (*ekklesia*), being first called out of the world into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ and then called back into the world from which they came to be salt and light. Up and down the eastern seaboard of the United States, you still find old buildings with “Meetinghouse” chiseled into their foundation stones. In those first centuries of US Baptist history, *church* was used exclusively to describe the people not the property.

When Jesus said in Matthew 16:18, “I will build my church,” he was speaking of community not concrete. So then, what does it really mean to talk about being a *Baptist church*? To begin, it means what being any Christian church means: being a living entity, comprised of baptized believers in Jesus, who are relevant in their context and sensitive to the culture. But there are distinctive things about a Baptist church—practices that define us among myriad expressions of the Christian faith. Let’s look at a few of these distinctives.

First and foremost, Baptist churches hold to the authority of the Bible. The Scriptures are the basis for all that is distinctively Baptist. We believe they are good for doctrine (what is right), for correction (what is not right), for reproof (how to get right) and for instruction (how to stay right) (2 Timothy 3:16). Thus, the Bible is the foundation for what we believe (faith) and what we do (practice).

Baptist churches also affirm that **All** members are ministers, a belief known as the priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:9). This doesn’t mean every member is called to ordained ministry, but it affirms that every believer is called to *some* ministry—a vital belief borne out in pandemic. Additionally, the priesthood of believers affirms that any believer may go to God without a human intermediary; we all have direct access through the Holy Spirit.

As members of a Baptist church, we are called to be **Prophetic** (Isaiah 1:17). While some Christians emphasize a future-oriented sense of that word (foretelling), Baptists have been committed to the prophetic spirit that speaks in the present day (forth-telling). In the tradition of the



“Will the real founder of the Baptist faith please stand up?”

Cartoon by Danny Ellison, published in *The Unofficial Baptist Handbook* by Lora-Ellen McKinney (Judson Press, 2012).

Hebrew prophets, Baptists are willing to stand on the front line of many struggles for social justice, not the least of which has been the protest line, where we have sought to raise awareness about injustice, speaking truth to power and demanding change.

Being a Baptist church also means that we are **T**otally autonomous congregations. *Every* Baptist congregation is independent, whether it belongs to a national convention, state association, or other regional affiliation. Such voluntary associations may empower other bodies to influence the local church, but they may not interfere without consent from the congregation. Ultimately, each local church decides its own affairs (1 Peter 5:1-3).

Being a Baptist church also involves a respect for **I**ndividual conscience and soul liberty (Romans 14:12). The phrases *individual conscience* and *soul liberty* mean that each Baptist believer has, by the very presence of the Holy Spirit in their life, the ability to engage the Bible and understand it for themselves without an individual or institution telling them what they should or have to believe.

Soul liberty extends to religious liberty, and Baptist churches are all about **S**eparation of church and state (Mark 12:17). Historically, this commitment was about the government staying out of the church's affairs (and not vice versa). Religious liberty insists that the government neither sponsors nor hinders the individual's right to practice any religion. As a Baptist, I may not agree with your choice, but I agree that you *have* a choice.

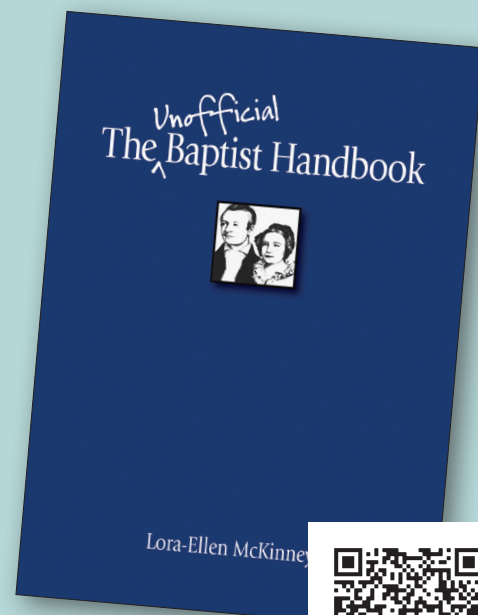
Being a Baptist church also means that we affirm **T**wo ordinances or spiritual observances: believer's baptism (Matthew 28:19) and the Lord's Supper or Communion (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). We believe these two rites alone were instituted by Jesus, practiced by the early church, and explained in the later New Testament. They are given to us to draw us closer to Christ and to one another.

The universal church is the living, visible body of Christ in our world today—and a Baptist church is one expression of that body. As such, Baptists are committed to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), and we practice the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40). Let it be said of us that “the church has left the building”—to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a world that so desperately needs God's transforming love.

Rev. Jeffrey A. Johnson, PhD, is national coordinator of faith initiation (evangelism) and discipleship with American Baptist Home Mission Societies.

Did you notice the acrostic created by the capitalized letters in the paragraphs above?

They spell *BAPTIST* and are intended to help you and other learners remember our Baptist distinctives. If you are interested in learning more about Baptist history and identity, see the Judson Press website for additional resources. Lora-Ellen McKinney's *The Unofficial Baptist Handbook* (Judson, 2012) is a playful place to begin!



Being a Church in Transition by Rachael Lawrence

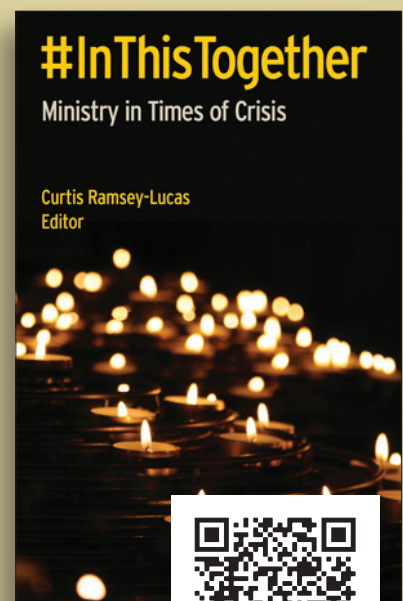
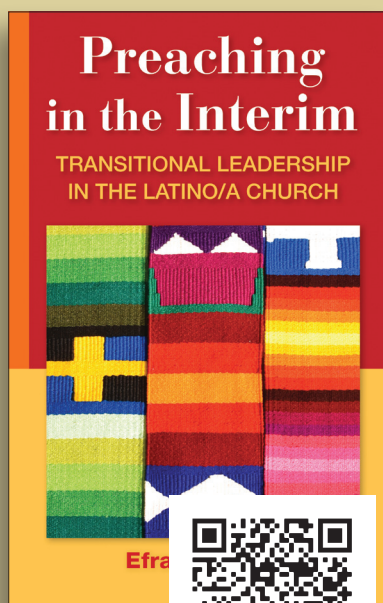
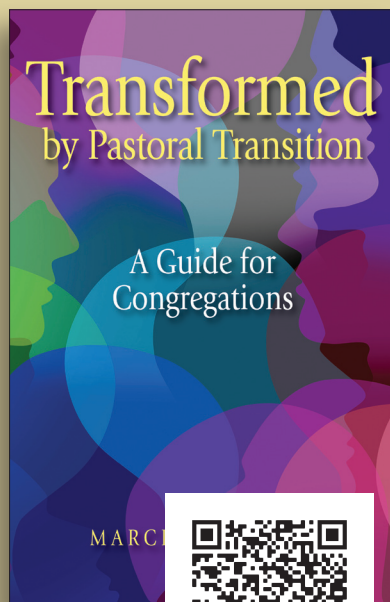
Human beings notoriously fear change. Change is stressful, fear-provoking and unavoidable in all aspects of life—including the church.

The pandemic heightened those common tensions around change. COVID-era life changed the way people work, socialize and worship. Pastors are no exception to these trends,¹ and churches have also changed—in how they worship, offer Christian education and serve in the world. We have needed to shift and adapt in many ways because the world has changed. God calls us as disciples to meet the world's needs as it *is*, not how it was. What wisdom can we draw about *being the church in transition* from other disciples?

Change as Spirit-Led

Marcia Bailey, in her book *Transformed by Pastoral Transition*, reminds churches to turn to God's Word in times of transition. While the Bible offers many examples of transitions, Bailey reminds us of perhaps the most powerful transition: Jesus to the disciples to the early church. She writes,

In all four Gospels, Jesus spoke to his followers about what lay ahead, yet they did not fully understand his meaning. After Jesus' resurrection, they grieved his loss for a second time, but he assured them that with the help of the Holy Spirit, the ministry would continue and they would be empowered to lead it (Acts 1:6-8). Following the story from the Gospels into the Acts of the Apostles, we see how this empowerment transformed both the disciples and the community (Acts 2:1-36). New leaders arose... and indeed the gospel continues to effect change in all who hear its liberating message. This transition story is a powerful reminder of God's faithfulness to the entire community in the midst of dramatic, ongoing change.²



From the church's very beginnings, in times of transition followers of Jesus have listened for the Holy Spirit guiding us on a new path. Change makes us dependent on such Spirit-led wisdom on the way to Spirit-led action.

Change as Future-Focused

Sometimes the Spirit reveals to us new goals as part of the transition process. As a seminary leader and interim pastor, Efrain Agosto knows this well. His book *Preaching in the Interim: Transitional Leadership in the Latino/a Church*, offers a sermon reflecting on Philippians 3:13-14. He asks, "If I am in the process of reaching the goal, what do I do *during* that process? What do I do *now* to get *there*?" He continues,

*Paul offers two answers in this context. First, he argues that we should not care too much for the past. Rather, we are to keep the past in proper perspective as we move forward toward the future. Therefore, second, he exhorts the Philippians to extend themselves toward the future. The image Paul describes is of an athlete in a race who, when nearing the finish line, extends the chest to cross the finish line first. If the runner takes even a quick look back, he or she might fall, or someone might overtake him or her. The runner's gaze needs to be on the finish line. Any deviation could mean the loss of the race. "Don't look back," Paul exhorts. The past has already happened, including, as a runner and a believer, your preparations; you did the necessary exercises to prepare for the race; you trained well. Now it's a matter of keeping your eyes on the end goal.*³

The desire to look back is strong, but it can prevent needed change for the church in transition. As disciples, let the Holy Spirit guide us; setting our vision toward the future is essential.

Change as Invitation

We know change is inevitable. Even the first disciples experienced traumatic change and transition. How do today's disciples learn to "fear not" when it comes to trust-

ing the new thing God is doing in our lives (see Isaiah 43:19)? In *#InThisTogether: Ministry in Times of Crisis*, contributor Lauren Lisa Ng invites us to reframe the feeling of being "pushed" by a crisis to being "prompted or invited" by the Holy Spirit:

*If we trust that God's Spirit prompts us in times of crisis—if we believe we are never abandoned to the deep—then perhaps we can view change as an invitation rather than a forceful push. What if we are not being pushed into the deep end but are being prompted by the one who called Peter out upon the water with the simple word, "Come" (Matthew 14:29). In times of crisis we are especially attuned to the Creator's invitation to ask critical questions concerning the church's identity and purpose. The invitation has always been there, but in times of relative calm, it can be easy to ignore. In these times, we have learned innumerable lessons and gained immeasurable insights about being the church, especially when it comes to our creativity and connectivity.*⁴

Transitions offer us an opportunity and invitation to change, through casting a new vision and setting new goals. While transitions may challenge the church, especially in times of crisis, as disciples we can draw on wisdom from God's Word, the Holy Spirit's guidance, and Jesus' assurance to be with us always to move through it and thrive!

Rev. Dr. Rachael Lawrence is senior editor with Judson Press.

1. Barna Research Group, "38% of US Pastors Have Thought about Quitting Full-Time Ministry in the Past Year," November 16, 2021, <https://www.barna.com/research/pastors-well-being/>.

2. Marcia B. Bailey, *Transformed by Pastoral Transition: A Guide for Congregations* (Valley Forge, PA: Judson, 2021), 75–76.

3. Efrain Agosto, *Preaching in the Interim: Transitional Leadership in the Latino/a Church* (Valley Forge, PA: Judson, 2018), 20.

4. Lauren Lisa Ng, in *#InThisTogether: Ministry in Times of Crisis*, Curtis Ramsey-Lucas, editor (Valley Forge, PA: Judson, 2020), 78.

Being a Church in the World by Cheryl Price

The world is full of complex problems, issues, joys and victories. How people navigate everyday life and the world around them is part of who we are collectively and individually. Our feelings, thoughts and actions are shaped and influenced by our choices. Our choices are shaped by our environment, culture and world events. For most people in our congregations, the Christian church remains primary among those influences, and together we are the body of Christ and the ongoing expression of God's love at work in the world.

Since the people are the church, what does the church look like, and how does it function? Jesus demonstrated through his life, ministry, death and resurrection that his disciples are expected to be very much a part of God's love in action.

Whether the church is meeting in a building, virtually or in the wilderness, the ministry of Jesus must continue. In the features below, find insights from Judson Press authors who offer practical applications for *being the church* today and more.

Being Peculiar, Not Perfect

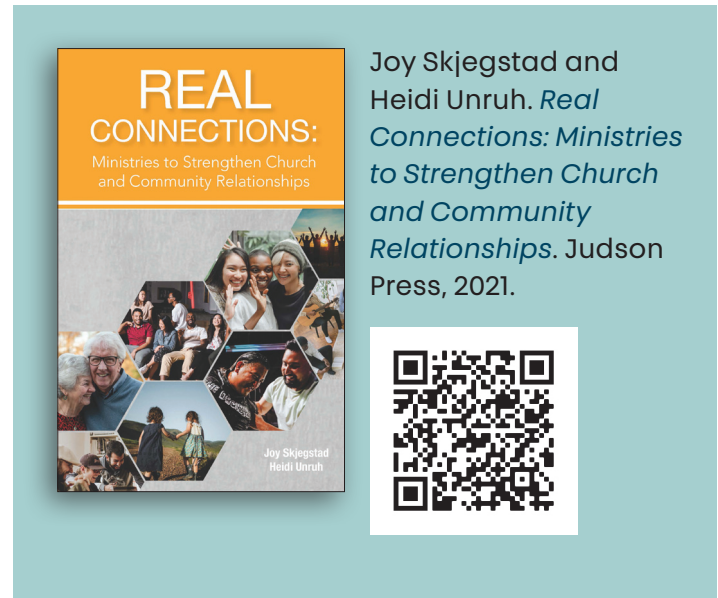
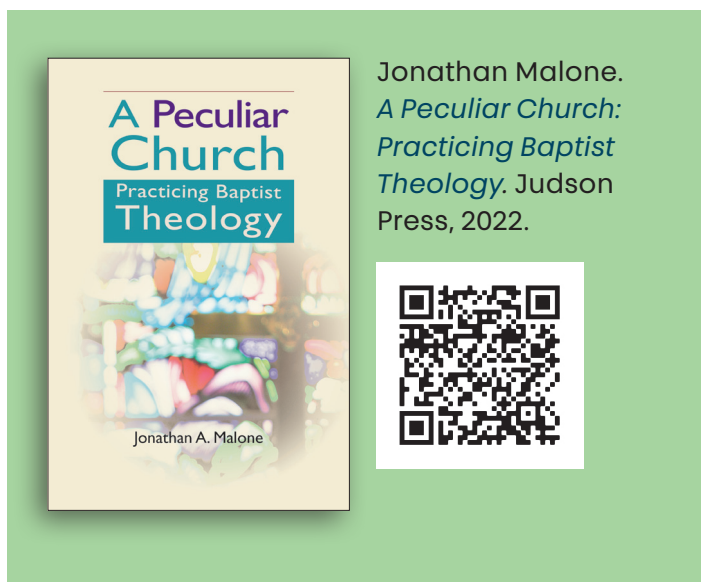
In *A Peculiar Church: Practicing Baptist Theology*, Jonathan Malone asserts that there is “no perfect Baptist church.” The church has its flaws, including bitterness, judgment and times of despair. Yet Malone proclaims the church may also be a place of grace and joy, where possibilities are present to show “the church in its glory and [not only its] shame.” Malone's book examines the definition

of the church, worship theology, practice and denominational structure and values. These topics invite us to take a deeper dive into the multiple ways Baptist churches live out and think about their faith.

Matthew 28:20 offers a direction for God's people to move forward. After commissioning the Eleven to go into the world and make disciples, Jesus added an exhortation and a consolation, urging his followers to teach others “to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (NRSVUE). Malone asks us to take a moment to stop and reflect on how Jesus' words influence and inspire us to make a “change, adopt, or add” in the context of their own experiences of the church. What does this Scripture mean to you, individually and as a church community, especially as you engage in ministry outside the church?

Being Creative about Being Connected

In their book *Real Connections: Ministries to Strengthen Church and Community Relationships*, Joy Skjegstad and Heidi Unruh address concerns about how to build richer



relationships in the body of Christ. As we learned during the pandemic, the church needs diverse opportunities to make connections among people—both in and beyond the church building. Persons in our congregations love God, but God's love is action-oriented and demands tangible expression. Skjegstad and Unruh encourage today's disciples to seek out new people in the church.

One creative idea they recommend is the development of affinity groups in your congregation. These groups help people to connect in person and virtually by creating small communities based on life experience, current issues, or a favorite activity. Let your church members decide and extend their own invitations. Try opening these kinds of affinity groups to your local community, creating opportunities to form relationships with neighbors—even those you might otherwise find challenging. Creating genuine connections fortifies the body of Christ beyond the walls of the church.

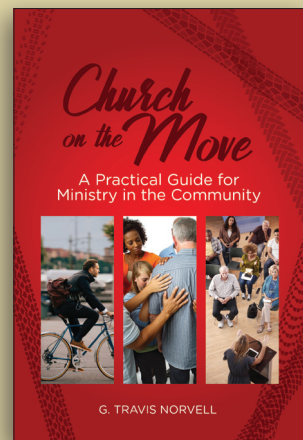
Ministries in Motion

Why have a church building? Who should have access to the church building or property? What are the governing rules for utilizing the church building and its outside properties? G. Travis Norvell answers these questions and more in his book *Church on the Move: A Practical Guide for Ministry in the Community*. Norvell reveals how the church, the people and the building miss out on opportunities to open to, share with and invite people to experience what the church offers. Norvell learned by regularly riding his bike through the community that the church community encompassed not just a few blocks but expanded to places and events he never realized.

Norvell encourages churches to open their spaces to community groups and other events. Sharing the good news

of Christ includes making a place at the table or in an unused room during the week. If your church is in the suburbs and has outdoor space, use it to expand your involvement and invite other groups or faith communities to use the grounds. If your church is in the city, take a slow walk around the blocks surrounding your church. What needs and opportunities do you observe? Be open to new or collaborative possibilities.

Rev. Cheryl Price, PhD, is publisher of Judson Press.



G. Travis Norvell.
*Church on the Move:
A Practical Guide
for Ministry in the
Community.* Judson
Press, 2022.



Whether the church is meeting in a building, virtually or in the wilderness, the ministry of Jesus must continue.

Revised Common Lectionary 2023

YEAR A

January 1: New Year's Day
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Psalm 8
Revelation 21:1-6a
Matthew 25:31-46

January 6: Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

January 8: Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 15

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 22

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

January 29

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

February 2

Malachi 3:1-4
Psalm 84 or Psalm 24:7-10
Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

February 5

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20

February 12

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

February 19

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

February 22: Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 26: First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

March 5: Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

March 12: Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

March 19: Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

March 25: Annunciation of the Lord

Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 45 or Psalm 40:5-10
Hebrews 10:4-10
Luke 1:26-38

March 26: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

April 2: Palm or Passion Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29;
Matthew 21:1-11
Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a;
Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11;
Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54

April 3–April 8: Holy Week

Monday: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11;
Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11
Tuesday: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1
Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36
Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70;
Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32
Maundy Thursday: Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10),
11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians
11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Good Friday: Isaiah 52:13-53:12;
Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25 or
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42
Holy Saturday: Job 14:1-14 or
Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24;
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8;
Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

April 9: Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

April 16: Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

April 23: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

April 30: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

May 7: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 14: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 18: Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

May 21: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 28: Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21
John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

June 4: Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 11

Genesis 12:1-9 and Psalm 33:1-12
Hosea 5:15-6:6 and Psalm 50:7-15
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 18

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) and
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
Exodus 19:2-8a and Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

June 25

Genesis 21:8-21 and Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
 Jeremiah 20:7-13 and Psalm 69:7-10,
 (11-15), 16-18
 Romans 6:1b-11
 Matthew 10:24-39

July 2

Genesis 22:1-14 and Psalm 13
 Jeremiah 28:5-9 and Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
 Romans 6:12-23
 Matthew 10:40-42

July 9

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and
 Psalm 45:10-17 or Song of
 Solomon 2:8-13
 Zechariah 9:9-12 and Psalm 145:8-14
 Romans 7:15-25a
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16

Genesis 25:19-34 and Psalm 119:105-112
 Isaiah 55:10-13 and Psalm 65:(1-8), 9-13
 Romans 8:1-11
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23

Genesis 28:10-19a and
 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
 Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 or
 Isaiah 44:6-8 and Psalm 86:11-17
 Romans 8:12-25
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30

Genesis 29:15-28 and Psalm 105:1-11,
 45b or Psalm 128
 1 Kings 3:5-12 and Psalm 119:129-136
 Romans 8:26-39
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

August 6

Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15
 Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
 Romans 9:1-5
 Matthew 14:13-21

August 13

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 and Psalm 105:1-6,
 16-22, 45b
 1 Kings 19:9-18 and Psalm 85:8-13
 Romans 10:5-15
 Matthew 14:22-33

August 20

Genesis 45:1-15 and Psalm 133
 Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 and Psalm 67
 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
 Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

August 27

Exodus 1:8-2:10 and Psalm 124
 Isaiah 51:1-6 and Psalm 138
 Romans 12:1-8
 Matthew 16:13-20

September 3

Exodus 3:1-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
 Jeremiah 15:15-21 and Psalm 26:1-8
 Romans 12:9-21
 Matthew 16:21-28

September 10

Exodus 12:1-14 and Psalm 149
 Ezekiel 33:7-11 and Psalm 119:33-40
 Romans 13:8-14
 Matthew 18:15-20

September 17

Exodus 14:19-31 and Psalm 114 or
 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
 Genesis 50:15-21 and Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13
 Romans 14:1-12
 Matthew 18:21-35

September 24

Exodus 16:2-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
 Jonah 3:10-4:11 and Psalm 145:1-8
 Philippians 1:21-30
 Matthew 20:1-16

October 1

Exodus 17:1-7 and Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
 Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 and Psalm 25:1-9
 Philippians 2:1-13
 Matthew 21:23-32

October 8

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19
 Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15
 Philippians 3:4b-14
 Matthew 21:33-46

October 15

Exodus 32:1-14 and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
 Isaiah 25:1-9 and Psalm 23
 Philippians 4:1-9
 Matthew 22:1-14

October 22

Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99
 Isaiah 45:1-7 and Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)
 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
 Matthew 22:15-22

October 29

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and
 Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
 Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1
 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
 Matthew 22:34-46

November 1: All Saint's Day

Revelation 7:9-17 and Psalm 34:1-10, 22
 1 John 3:1-3
 Matthew 5:1-12

November 5

Joshua 3:7-17 and Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
 Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43
 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
 Matthew 23:1-12

November 12

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7
 Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or
 Amos 5:18-24 and Wisdom of Solomon
 6:17-20 or Psalm 70
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123
 Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8,
 (9-11), 12
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Matthew 25:14-30

November 23: Thanksgiving

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 and Psalm 65
 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
 Luke 17:11-19

November 26: Christ the King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 100
 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 95:1-7a
 Ephesians 1:15-23
 Matthew 25:31-46

YEAR B BEGINS**December 3: First Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 64:1-9
 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:24-37

December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
 2 Peter 3:8-15a
 Mark 1:1-8

December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent (Christmas Eve)

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
 Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
 Romans 16:25-27
 Luke 1:26-38

December 25: Christmas Day

Isaiah 9:2-7
 Psalm 96
 Titus 2:11-14
 Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

Or

Isaiah 62:6-12
 Psalm 97
 Titus 3:4-7
 Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20

Or

Isaiah 52:7-10
 Psalm 98
 Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)
 John 1:1-14

December 31

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:22-40

Note: Following church tradition, the lectionary readings are provided in the color associated with the liturgical season (e.g., white for Christmastide and Eastertide, green for Ordinary Time, purple for Lent and Advent, red for Holy Week and Pentecost).

the secret place

“They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.” PSALM 145:5 (NIV)



Do you practice the spiritual discipline of meditating on God's Word? It can bring you great benefit and peace. *The Secret Place* daily devotional is a great resource for when you take time with God. The meditations share comfort and inspiration found in life's everyday details, providing both a timeless and timely perspective for contemplation that draws you closer to God in your daily walk as a Christian. If you've discovered the majesty of God through reading *The Secret Place*, why not share it with a family member or friend.

One-year subscription:

Regular print: \$8.50

Large print: \$10.50

Two-year subscription:

Regular print: \$12.50

Large print: \$17.50

To order a gift subscription, call Judson Press at 800-458-3766.

Christian Citizen Ambassador

ROOTED IN HEAVEN - GROUNDED IN LOVE

One thing we've learned from more than 25 years of religious journalism is that we're not in this alone. We give thanks for our faithful readers and supporters—those who engage with and share the content we publish with their friends, followers, and communities of faith. Take the next step. Become a Christian Citizen Ambassador today!

The Christian Citizen | Visit christiancitizen.us/members/

2023 Year-At-A-Glance Calendar

January 2023

America for Christ promotional window begins.

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 Epiphany
- 8 Baptism of the Lord
- 15 Christian Unity Sunday
- 18–25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 16 Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- 22 Green Lake Sunday
- 27 Holocaust Remembrance Day (International)

February 2023

Black History Month

- 1 Anniversary of the founding of the Women's American Baptist Home Mission Society (1877)
- 5 Baptist World Alliance Sunday
- 5 Boy Scout Sunday
- 12 Church Vocations Sunday
- 19 Transfiguration Sunday
- 19 Christian Legacy Sunday
- 19–25 Brotherhood/Sisterhood Week
- 20 Presidents' Day
- 22 Ash Wednesday / Lent Begins
- 25 American Baptist Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 26 Single Adult Awareness Sunday
- 26 First Sunday in Lent
- 27 Anniversary of the founding of the Baptist General Tract Society (1824)

March 2023

America for Christ Offering Month and Women's History Month

- 3 World Day of Prayer
- 5 Second Sunday in Lent
- 5 America for Christ Sunday
- 8 International Women's Day
- 12 Third Sunday in Lent
- 12 Girl Scout Sunday
- 12 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 12 American Baptist Seminary Sunday
- 19 Fourth Sunday in Lent
- 19 Women in Ministry Sunday
- 25 Annunciation of the Lord
- 26 Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 2023

Prevention of Child Abuse Month and Autism Awareness Month. One Great Hour of Sharing promotional window begins.

- 2 Palm or Passion Sunday
- 6 Maundy Thursday
- 7 Good Friday
- 7 World Health Day
- 8 Holy Saturday
- 9 Easter Sunday
- 16 American Baptist Volunteer Sunday
- 16–22 National Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 18 Holocaust Remembrance Day (US)

- 22 Earth Day
- 23 American Baptist Camps and Conferences Sunday
- 27 Anniversary of establishment of American Baptist Home Mission Society (1832)

May 2023

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Older US Americans Month

- 4 National Day of Prayer
- 5 May Fellowship Day
- 7 Peace Sunday
- 8–15 Family Week
- 14 Mother's Day
- 14 Rural Life Sunday
- 18 Ascension Sunday
- 20 Armed Forces Day
- 21 Baptist Heritage Day
- 28 Pentecost
- 29 Memorial Day

June 2023

One Great Hour of Sharing Month, Torture Awareness Month and Immigration Heritage Month

- 4 Trinity Sunday
- 4 One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday
- 4 Religious Liberty Sunday
- 4 International Environmental Sabbath
- 11 Children's Day
- 11 Baptist Youth Day of Prayer
- 14 Flag Day
- 18 Father's Day
- 19 Juneteenth
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 25 American Baptist Homes and Caring Ministries Sunday

July 2023

- 4 Independence Day
- 13 Anniversary of the arrival of Adoniram and Ann Hasseltine Judson in Burma
- 23 Parents' Day

August 2023

World Mission Offering promotion begins.

- 6 Transfiguration
- 6 Friendship Day

September 2023

Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15–October 15)

- 4 Labor Day
- 17 American Baptist Women's Sunday
- 17 National Back to Church Sunday
- 21 International Day of Prayer for Peace
- 22 Native American / First Nations Day
- 24 Christian Education Sunday

October 2023

Pastor Appreciation Month, World Mission Offering Month, National Disability Employment Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month

- 1 World Mission Offering Sunday
- 1 World Communion Sunday
- 8 American Baptist Laity Sunday
- 9 Indigenous People's Day/Columbus Day
- 16 World Food Day
- 21–23 National Observance of Children's Sabbath
- 22 Campus Ministry Sunday
- 22–28 National Pastoral Care Week
- 24 United Nations Day
- 29 Reformation Sunday
- 31 Reformation Day

November 2023

- 1 All Saints' Day
- 3 World Community Day
- 5 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 5 American Baptist College Sunday
- 6 Baptist Women's Day of Prayer
- 7 Election Day
- 11 Veterans Day
- 12 Stewardship Sunday
- 14 Anniversary of the founding of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society (1877)
- 19 Bible Sunday
- 19 Asian American Baptist Sunday
- 23 Thanksgiving
- 26 Christ the King Sunday—The Church Year Ends

December 2023

Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering Month

- 3 First Sunday in Advent—The Church Year Begins (Year B)
- 3 Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering Sunday
- 10 Second Sunday in Advent
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 17 Third Sunday in Advent
- 24 Fourth Sunday in Advent
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 24–Jan. 6 Christmastide
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26–Jan. 6 Kwanzaa
- 31 Student Recognition Sunday
- 31 New Year's Eve (Watch Night)

2023

JANUARY 2023

America for Christ promotional window begins. For more information on the America for Christ offering, visit www.abhms.org or contact Vincent Dent, Chief Development Officer, at vincent.dent@abhms.org.

Key Dates

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 Epiphany
- 15 Christian Unity Sunday
- 18–25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 16 Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- 22 Green Lake Sunday

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Polished King: Living Words of Martin Luther King Jr.* by Joseph Evans
- *Crossing the Lines We Draw: Faithful Responses to a Polarized America* by Matthew Tennant
- *Building Lasting Bridges: An Updated Handbook for Intercultural Mission* by Kathryn Choy-Wong, Lucia Ann McSpadden, and Dale M. Weatherspoon



FEBRUARY 2023

Black History Month

For information on the American Baptist Men's prayer breakfast, visit ABMen.org.

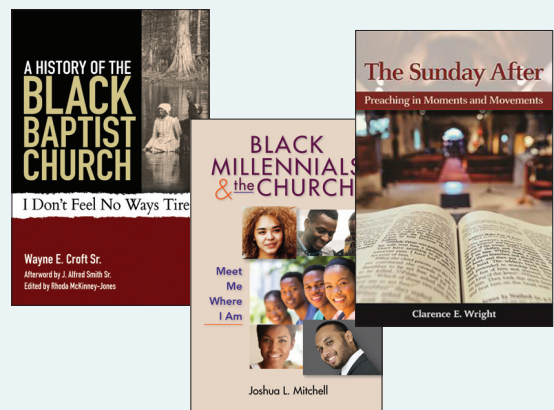
Key Dates

- 1 Anniversary of the founding of the Women's American Baptist Home Mission Society (1877)
- 5 Baptist World Alliance Sunday
- 12 Church Vocations Sunday
- 22 Ash Wednesday / Lent Begins
- 25 American Baptist Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 26 First Sunday in Lent
- 27 Anniversary of the founding of the Baptist General Tract Society (1824)

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *A History of the Black Baptist Church: I Don't Feel No Ways Tired* by Wayne E. Croft Sr.
- *Black Millennials and the Church: Meet Me Where I Am* by Joshua L. Mitchell
- *The Sunday After: Preaching in Moments and Movements* by Clarence E. Wright



MARCH 2023

America for Christ Offering Month and Women's History Month

Key Dates

3	World Day of Prayer
5	Second Sunday in Lent
5	America for Christ Sunday
12	Third Sunday in Lent
12	American Baptist Seminary Sunday
19	Fourth Sunday in Lent
26	Fifth Sunday in Lent

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Transformed by Pastoral Transition: A Guide for Congregations* by Marcia Bailey
- *Reclaimed: Faith in an Emerging Generation* by Denise Janssen



APRIL 2023

Prevention of Child Abuse Month and Autism Awareness Month; One Great Hour of Sharing promotional window begins.

Key Dates

2	Palm or Passion Sunday
6	Maundy Thursday
7	Good Friday
8	Holy Saturday
9	Easter Sunday
16	American Baptist Volunteer Sunday
22	Earth Day
23	American Baptist Camps and Conferences Sunday
27	Anniversary of establishment of American Baptist Home Mission Society (1832)

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Tentado a Dejar la Cruz: Renovando el Llamado al Discipulado* by Ernest R. Flores (also available in English)
- *On the Road to Emmaus: A Travel Guide Through Grief* by Myrlene Hamilton Hess
- *Envisioning the Reign of God: Preaching for Tomorrow* by Debra J. Mumford



MAY 2023

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month,
Older Americans Month, and Mental Health
Awareness Month

Key Dates

- 4 National Day of Prayer
- 5 May Fellowship Day
- 7 Peace Sunday
- 8–15 Family Week
- 14 Mother's Day
- 14 Rural Life Sunday
- 18 Ascension Sunday
- 29 Memorial Day

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Church on the Move: A Practical Guide for Ministry in the Community* by G. Travis Norvell
- *Mothering Heights: A Novel Approach for Christian Mothers* by Susan Brereton and Keitha Smith
- *My Fabulous Fifth Chapter: It's My Turn Now!* by Suzan D. Johnson Cook



JUNE 2023

One Great Hour of Sharing Month,
Torture Awareness Month, and Immigrant
Heritage Month

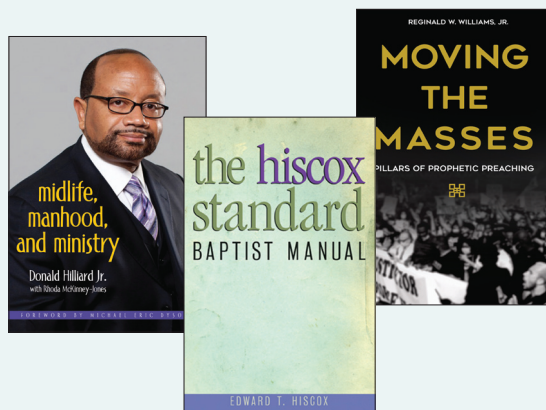
Key Dates

- 4 One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday
- 4 Religious Liberty Sunday
- 4 International Environmental Sabbath
- 11 Children's Day
- 11 Baptist Youth Day of Prayer
- 18 Father's Day
- 25 American Baptist Homes and Caring Ministries Sunday

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Midlife, Manhood, and Ministry* by Donald Hilliard Jr. with Rhoda McKinney-Jones
- *The Hiscox Standard Baptist Manual* by Edward T. Hiscox
- *Moving the Masses: Pillars of Prophetic Preaching* by Reginald W. Williams Jr.



JULY 2023

Key Dates

- 4 Independence Day
- 13 Anniversary of the arrival of Adoniram and Ann Hasseltine Judson in Burma
- 23 Parents' Day



Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Table Life: An Invitation to Everyday Discipleship* by Greg Mamula
- *The History of the Karen People of Burma* by Dr. Angelene Naw with Jerry Cain
- *Making Space at the Well: Mental Health and the Church* by Jessica Young Brown



AUGUST 2023

World Mission Offering promotion begins.

Key Dates

- 6 Transfiguration
- 6 Friendship Day



Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Total Praise: An Orientation to Black Baptist Belief and Worship* by Lora-Ellen McKinney
- *Real Connections: Ministries to Strengthen Church and Community Relationships* by Joy Skjegstad and Heidi Unruh
- *Got Style: Personality-Based Evangelism* by Jeffrey A. Johnson

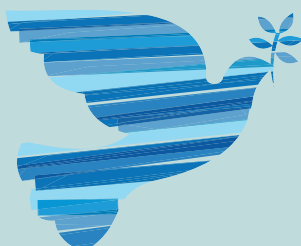


SEPTEMBER 2023

Hispanic Heritage Month
(September 15-October 15)

Key Dates

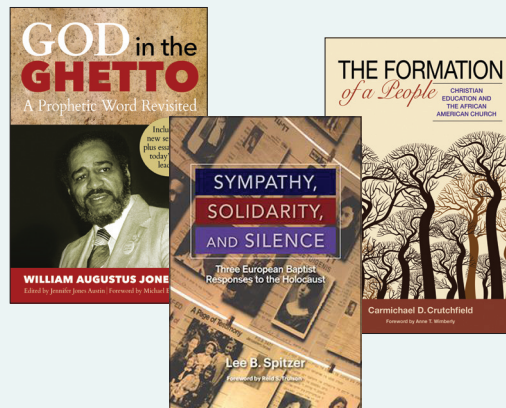
- 4 Labor Day
- 17 American Baptist Women's Sunday
- 17 National Back to Church Sunday
- 21 International Day of Prayer for Peace
- 22 Native American / First Nations Day
- 24 Christian Education Sunday



Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *God in the Ghetto: A Prophetic Word Revisited* by William Augustus Jones Jr.
- *Sympathy, Solidarity, and Silence: Three European Baptist Responses to the Holocaust* by Lee Spitzer
- *The Formation of a People: Christian Education and the African American Church* by Carmichael Crutchfield



OCTOBER 2023

Pastor Appreciation Month, World Mission Offering Month, National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Key Dates

- 1 World Mission Offering Sunday
- 1 World Communion Sunday
- 8 American Baptist Laity Sunday
- 21-23 National Observance of Children's Sabbath
- 22 Campus Ministry Sunday
- 22-28 National Pastoral Care Week
- 29 Reformation Sunday

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *New Rule for Radicals: TNT for Faith-Based Leaders* by Willard W. C. Ashley Sr.
- *Signs of Love: A Guide for Deaf Ministry* by Lori Buck
- *Listen to the Children: Conversations with Immigrant Families/Escuchemos a los Niños: Conversaciones con Familias Inmigrantes* by Elizabeth Conde-Frazier



NOVEMBER 2023

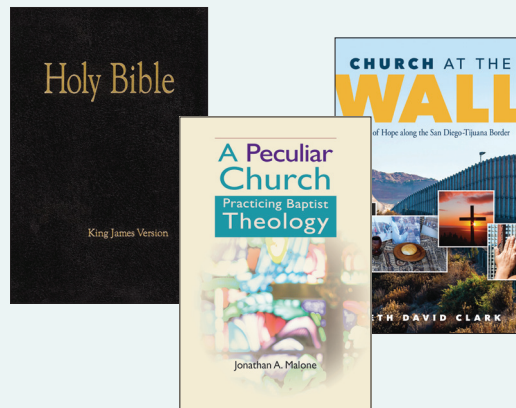
Key Dates

- 1 All Saints' Day
- 5 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 5 American Baptist College Sunday
- 6 Baptist Women's Day of Prayer
- 14 Anniversary of the founding of the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society (1877)
- 19 Bible Sunday
- 19 Asian American Baptist Sunday
- 23 Thanksgiving

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *The Original African Heritage Study Bible* (Leatherette Bible)
- *A Peculiar Church: Practicing Baptist Theology* by Jonathan A. Malone
- *Church at the Wall: Stories of Hope Along the San Diego-Tijuana Border* by Seth David Clark



DECEMBER 2023

Retired Ministers and Missionaries
Offering Month

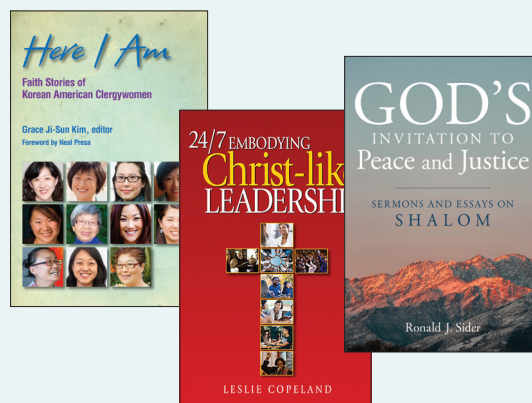
Key Dates

- 3 First Sunday in Advent—The Church Year Begins (Year B)
- 3 Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering Sunday
- 10 Second Sunday in Advent
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 17 Third Sunday in Advent
- 24 Fourth Sunday in Advent
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve (Watch Night)

Recommended Judson Press Books

(www.judsonpress.com or 800-458-3766)

- *Here I Am: Faith Stories of Korean American Clergywomen* edited by Grace Ji-Sun Kim
- *24/7 Embodying Christ-Like Leadership* by Leslie Copeland
- *God's Invitation to Peace and Justice: Sermons and Essays on Shalom* by Ronald J. Sider



Did you know there's a vibrant online community just for religious professionals?

ministrElife

There's something for everyone—pastors, chaplains, seminarians, and other specialized ministry leaders. This exciting platform features five areas for you to explore and interact with:

- **Extend**—Digital tools to extend your reach (e.g. web and video conferencing)
- **Enlighten**—Connect with subject matter experts to help guide your ministry
- **Equip**—Innovative tools and resources to help you minister more effectively
- **Employ**—Job services (for job seekers and employers)
- **Engage**—Public and private communities to interact with like-minded professionals

To begin your journey, visit www.ministrElife.org today!

ministrElife is an exclusive product of American Baptist Home Mission Societies

American Baptist Women's Ministries (ABWM) is a diverse and intergenerational ministry that creates and sustains communities of passionately faithful, Christ-centered women, young adult women, and girls. Through worship, service, webinars, events, leadership, and friendship, ABWM inspires innovative and relevant women's ministries.

Our ministries include immigration, cross-cultural relationships, building beloved community, economic empowerment, prevention and education of domestic violence and sex trafficking, and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (2030).

You can partner with ABWM through participation and giving! Your presence sparks fellowship. Your gifts facilitate Bible studies, free webinars, event scholarships, programs, resources, leadership training, and spiritual formation. We welcome you to join us at upcoming events.

Learn more at www.abwomensministries.org.

American Baptist Women's Ministries
1075 First Ave, STE C-210, King of Prussia, PA 19406
(610) 768-2288

www.abwomensministries.org



American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES



ABHMS CENTER FOR CONTINUOUS LEARNING



Equipping Mission, Effecting Change

WHAT WE OFFER

- Accessible and convenient
- High-quality and practical
- Diverse instructors and experienced facilitators
- A “one-stop” source for practical mission education that is . . . flexible, cost-effective, and convenient.

The Center for Continuous Learning (CCL) is pleased to announce our educational leadership themes for 2023. Presented both virtually and in-person, these topics will equip and engage disciples and leaders during this time of change.

- Cultural competency / humility
- Leadership skills for ministry innovators
- Chaplaincy skills for community ministry
- Baptist identity and polity

**Learn more on our website ccl.ministrelife.org
or contact us at ccl@abhms.org**

A ministry of American Baptist Home Mission Societies
1075 First Ave. | King of Prussia, PA 19406 | 888.79.ABHMS



Leading Disciples and Discipling Leaders

Resources from the ABHMS Center for Continuous Learning



DISCIPLESHIP

Being Baptist: Past and Present – Discover the historic roots of Baptist tradition, the branches of the Baptist family tree, and how distinctively Baptist identity shapes our ways of being the church in the world. A six-part series featuring pastors and scholars. Dates TBA. **Price: \$79**

Journeys through Advent: An Online Bible Study – A four-week virtual church school facilitated by the writers of *Journeys*, the Sunday school curriculum written by and for American Baptists, published by Judson Press. Coming in December 2023. **Price: FREE**

Missional Frontiers in Faith Formation – Learn principles and practices for transformed discipleship ministries, real-life examples of disciple-making in community, and new models of faith formation. This six-part asynchronous course features Michael Adam Beck. On-demand **Price: \$49**

LEADERSHIP

Building Cultural Intelligence: Navigate Differences with Greater Confidence and Skill – Learn to define and understand culture, to develop the capabilities of Cultural Intelligence (CQ) and to use your CQ in real-life ministry encounters. Webinar replay. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Chaplaincy Skills for Community Ministry – A popular six-week certificate course for leaders considering chaplaincy as a ministry or serving in chaplain roles in their communities. Learn from board-certified chaplains in this cohort facilitated by Patricia Murphy. Dates TBA. **Price: \$249**

Discovering the Gifts of Spiritual Direction – A new four-week certificate course for people interested in the practices of spiritual direction. Learn to ask the questions, discern the Spirit and provide gentle guidance in everyday life. Facilitated by certified spiritual directors. Dates TBA. **Price: \$199**

Entrepreneurial Ministry – Experiment, explore and risk as an experience of worship and discipleship in this four-week series with ministry innovator Tony Gapastione. How might your mission and vision shift in an ever-changing world? Date TBA. **Price: \$99**

Strategic Planning for Churches: Development and Implementation – Go beyond the basics of strategic planning and acquire the skills and tools for implementation of those strategies. Facilitated by professional trainer Jennifer Stewart. Webinar replay. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Understanding New Technology and Social Media as Ministry Tools – Explore social media applications, including ABHMS's own ministrElife platform for ministry professionals. Webinar replay. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

HEALING & TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Change Makers: Stories of the Past and Present for Tomorrow – Webinar replay featuring the late Yosh Nakagawa as well as Katie Choy-Wong and Ken Fong. Includes a small-group leader's guide focused on Yosh's comments. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Social, Emotional and Economic Health amid Racial Injustice – COVID-era hardships are long-lasting, especially for communities affected by anti-AAPI racism. Learn how to support people in being well, even as trauma persists. Webinar replay featuring Hyepin Im. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Trauma and Healing in Wounded Communities – Featuring Rita Nakashima-Brock, this webinar replay (original May 2021) focuses on practical tools for healing ministries with traumatized people, especially in multicultural communities. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

FAITHFUL FINANCE

Foundations for Faithful Finance – Discover your money personality and principles of time management, financial decision-making and generosity. A six-week series featuring Judson author and financial adviser Shayna Harvey. **Price: FREE**

Holy Currencies – A six-part video series from the Kaleidoscope Institute, expanding our understanding of available resources to include time and place, gracious leadership, relationship, truth and wellness. Also in Spanish. **Price: FREE**

Starting the Money Conversation – Expand your financial tool kit with this two-part series exploring common issues: bills, debt, credit and saving. Features trainers from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Savvy Student Loan Management – Student loan expert Heather Jarvis offers an engaging and practical presentation on managing student loans. Great for parents, youth leaders and recent college grads. Webinar replay. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Student Loan Forgiveness for Ministry Leaders – This “just in time” consultation is especially for clergy. Webinar replay of student loan expert Heather Jarvis’s March 2022 briefing about new rules to be implemented by summer 2023. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Tools for Financial Literacy – Equip Jesus’ followers with financial literacy through this self-directed course introducing the library of CFPB’s “Your Money, Your Goals” tools. Great for youth ministry and life-skills training. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

SPANISH-LANGUAGE

CeCaLi XXI – Our popular Spanish-language ministry training series for pastoral leaders. A four-part series with single-session and multi-course packages available. Dates TBD. Scholarships available. **Price: \$10 per session or \$30 per series**

De la Crucifixión de Jesús a la Resurrección de Cristo – A four-part Spanish-language Bible study exploring the narratives of Jesus’ passion, especially the implications of Christ’s death and resurrection. Facilitated by Samuel Pagán. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Intercambios Sagrados – A dynamic six-part video series from the Kaleidoscope Institute, expanding our understanding of available resources to include time and place, gracious leadership, relationship, truth and wellness. On-demand. **Price: FREE**

Contact: ccl@abhms.org
Learn More: ccl.ministrelife.org



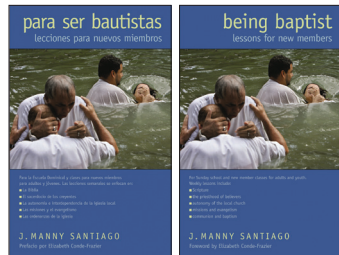
Teaching Tips for Faith Formation

Ministry in the church covers many areas and needs. In this feature, Judson Press publisher Cheryl Price spotlights four books that encourage Baptist history and youth faith formation. Examine these books at www.judsonpress.com and see which ones will assist your ministries of faith formation within the Baptist tradition.

“What Does It Mean to Be Baptist?”

New and seasoned Baptists may find new energy and life in rediscovering their Baptist roots and exploring what it means to be Baptist. If you or others you know ask this question, invest in a resource guide for small-group study. *Para ser bautistas / Being Baptist* by J. Manny Santiago is a concise, accessible bilingual resource, written in Spanish and English. The book includes Baptist principles and practices, including Scripture, missions, the priesthood of all believers, and the ordinances of the church.

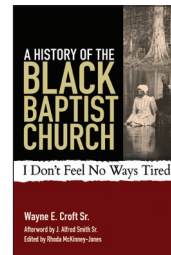
Teaching Tip: Record your lessons as videos with music, short skits or reenactment of a biblical narrative. Discuss with learners what they experienced and what insight they can apply to their lives. Invite them to create their own videos to illustrate next week’s lesson!



Where Faith and Culture Intersect

No matter the ethnic or cultural makeup of your congregation, *A History of the Black Baptist Church* by Wayne E. Croft Sr. delves into the struggles, challenges and triumphs of Black people in the United States, tracing that church history from the hush arbors of the invisible institution during slavery. Learn about the intersection of key leaders, social concerns and historical events, and their influence on the emergence of the Black Baptist conventions. Be encouraged by the endurance and faith of the Black church, which continues to provide hope in times of sorrow and freedom to all who accept the love of Jesus.

Teaching Tip: Work with the class to learn the history of your own congregation. Create a timeline that includes significant events in congregational life *and* historical moments in society that affected your church. Discuss the timeline together and consider presenting it to the larger church.

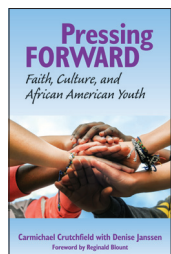


Vibrant Faith Formation for Young People

Intentional opportunities for faith formation with children and youth will help create a stronger identity as Jesus followers and as American Baptists. The following resources are designed especially for ministries with African American children and youth.

Pressing Forward in Faith

Why are so many young people disconnected from the church? Why are youth and young adults missing from traditional youth programs, Christian education classes and other events in the local congregation? Carmichael Crutchfield and Denise Janssen’s *Pressing Forward: Faith, Culture and African American Youth* (Judson, 2022) examines how identity and faith are connected to the development of African American youth. Harsh historical and social realities are part of the spiritual growth (or lack thereof) for African American young people. Carmichael and Janssen dissect how these life experiences cause youth to question their faith and

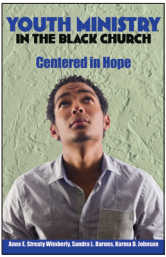


participation in the church. Learn how to help youth in your community create a meaningful faith connection by exploring the cultural and social issues that shape their identity.

Teaching Tip: Have youth create short audio recordings describing how knowing Jesus helps them in their lives. Listen to the recordings in your group, and give participants the opportunity to discuss what it means to live as a godly person in the world.

Centered on Hope

Need help implementing programs of faith formation through youth ministry at your church? Invite your youth ministry leader or team member to read and implement



quality practices for youth ministry. In their book *Youth Ministry in the Black Church: Centered in Hope* (Judson, 2013) Anne E. Streaty Wimberly, Sandra L. Barnes and Karma D. Johnson challenge the church to expand our vision and commitment to ministry with youth. We need dynamic teams of volunteers drawn from all parts of church and community life. This resource provides information to transform youth

ministries, strategies to lead effectively and inspiration to encourage congregational support.

Teaching Tip: Invite youth to select a video expressing their faith (e.g., music video, movie clip, spoken word or video they create themselves). They should be prepared to discuss why they chose the video. Plan to show three of these videos and discuss them. End your time together by formulating an action for them to do that reflects their faith values.

More ABHMS Resources for Leaders & Laity

The Christian Citizen

Provocative and prophetic. Reliable and relevant. This award-winning, digital-first publication features diverse voices at the intersection of faith and politics, discipleship and citizenship. Subscribe for free and get the best online content in two print editions each year! And don't miss our podcast, **Justice. Mercy. Faith.**

Learn more at christiancitizen.us.

Contact: Curtis.Ramsey-Lucas@abhms.org

ministrElife

Be equipped. Be enlightened. Be engaged. Since its launch in 2019, **ministrElife** has been a vibrant online community exclusively for ministry professionals. Register for free to engage with other ministry professionals in online community. Subscribe to access the employment registry, discounted Zoom membership and more! Start your journey at ministrElife.org today.

Contact: Erica.VanBrakle@abhms.org

Grants and Scholarships

From continuing education grants for American Baptist clergy to tuition scholarships for undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students, ABHMS is empowered by generous donors to support educational opportunities and financial assistance to our scholars of all generations and vocations.

Learn more www.abhms.org> Education and Scholarships.

Contact: scholarships@abhms.org

Discipleship Extras

From helpful articles to small-group workshops to bulletin inserts related to faith formation and leadership development, the ABHMS website offers a treasure trove of free resources to support your congregational ministries of Christian education and discipleship. To name just a few:

- **Workshops for Church Life and Leadership** – classic small-group studies, including the most popular in Spanish, French and Karen
- **Articles for teachers** on age-level faith formation, selecting curriculum, learning styles and more
- **Activities for children** for Advent, Christmas and Palm Sunday
- **Discipleship Matters** bulletin inserts with themes related to children, youth and significant days in the church year
- **Discipleship and Christian Education Guide** – this resource in PDF form!



Journeys

New look. New feel. Same quality.

Judson Bible Journeys for Adults is being redesigned to offer a more user-friendly, adaptable, and relevant format for today's American Baptists!

The more contemporary design still offers the features you know and love: high-quality Bible study, practical life application guides, daily devotional readings, and creative options for different settings and approaches to teaching.

NEW & CLASSIC FEATURES

- Real-life application of biblical wisdom
- Activities for use in group sessions
- Reflections for individual study and personal discipleship
- Prayers and litanies
- Options for multigenerational use (ages 14 and up)

NEW FORMAT

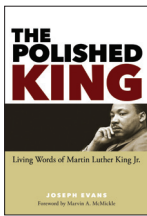
- Undated lessons for use anytime during the year
- Compact design format
- Streamlined and integrated for leader and students
- Online charts, maps, Baptist identity pieces, and more
- Supplemental lesson-related videos



American Baptist Home Mission Societies

JUDSON PRESS
PUBLISHERS SINCE 1824

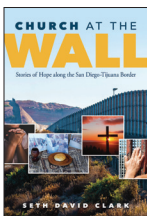
New Resources



The Polished King: Living Words of Martin Luther King Jr.

Joseph Evans

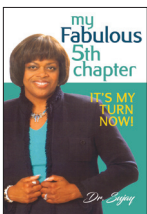
Joseph Evans analyzes how the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s preaching brought the “living word” and various rhetorical techniques together in ways that helped people understand, and be given hope by, his messages. The author observes that James Baldwin—himself a gifted writer and provocative thinker—considered King to be an “ideal preacher.” This book weaves Baldwin’s poetic and fiery words, passion for justice, and admiration of King’s oration into a detailed, thought-provoking examination of the rhythm of determination and transformative power in King’s speaking, writing, and faith. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1833-7



Church at the Wall: Stories of Hope along the San Diego-Tijuana Border

Seth David Clark

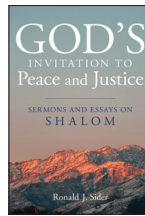
Seth David Clark tells the powerful story of how the Border Church, founded and pastored by John Fanestil, worships on the San Diego-Tijuana border without a building. Every Sunday afternoon the author, who serves as the U.S.-side pastoral coordinator of the church, gathers with people of good will from both sides of the border at Friendship Park to build the kingdom of God. Their love of Christ is exhibited through celebrating communion, singing, and using their pinkies to pass the peace through the mesh metal walls between the U.S. and Mexico. Readers will get to know this remarkable international church community—and its distinctive expressions of theology, justice, righteousness, and love—through the eyes of active participants. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1830-6



My Fabulous Fifth Chapter: It's My Turn Now!

Suzan D. Johnson Cook

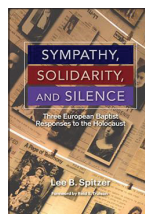
Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook, best-selling author, pastor, and former United States Ambassador, delivers another great read for women. This book focuses on the changes within a woman’s life as they mature into their fifties and beyond, allowing the courage to say yes to a new self, financial planning, maintaining healthy relationships, mental and physical health concerns, faith in God, and words of inspiration. This story encourages women to ask, “Am I stuck?” As you read thru this book, enjoy reflecting on your life and how you will shape and live in your fabulous present and future possibilities. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1828-3



God's Invitation to Peace and Justice: Sermons and Essays on Shalom

Ronald J. Sider

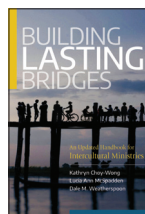
In this book, the author combines over 40 thought-provoking essays, sermons, speeches, prayers, and insights written and delivered across various time frames and events into topics from liberation, justice, and biblical shalom. Sider’s essays, sermons, and speeches focus on how injustice remains a way of life for many evangelical Christians. He challenges corporations, individuals, and believers, emphasizing evangelicals of all-ages to make the world just and peaceful according to God’s Word. The chapters include a brief introduction to connect the past to the present times. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1827-6



Sympathy, Solidarity, and Silence: Three European Baptist Responses to the Holocaust

Lee B. Spitzer

This resource retells how Baptists in the United Kingdom, France, and Germany responded to Nazism and the ensuing Holocaust. Drawing from historical documents from the Baptist World Alliance, newspaper articles from the Baptist Times and others, and the works of contemporary and historic German theologians, Spitzer weaves a narrative that engages hope and deeply disturbs. How did Baptist theology inspire some to save lives, while the Church was used as a tool to promote the most unthinkable of human behaviors in neighboring countries? How did the Baptist World Alliance respond to this deep conflict? Would the Baptist principles of freedom prevail? If these questions intrigue you, read on to see how European Baptists, along with the BWA, responded to this horrifying conflict. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1835-1



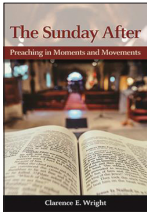
Building Lasting Bridges: An Updated Handbook for Intercultural Ministries

Kathryn Choy-Wong, Lucia Ann McSpadden, and Dale M. Weatherspoon

Authors Kathryn Choy-Wong, Lucia Ann McSpadden, and Dale M. Weatherspoon provide insights from three US-based faith leaders from diverse cultural and denominational backgrounds for understanding and bridging cultural divides. Revised for our time, this book offers a brief theology supporting diversity, followed by reflections from the authors on their personal journeys toward embracing diversity within

New Resources (cont.)

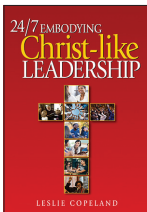
their faith context. Notably, the authors provide a practical pathway for building bridges, which will support everyone from beginning to advanced builders of bridges. The book features brief, easily accessible chapters with compelling questions for either personal or group reflection that will be perfect for intentional community-building group study or personal growth. A light, easy sense of humor is interspersed throughout the book, bringing some levity to an often-heavy topic. Supplemental materials for reflection and conversation are available online. Whether you are seeking to begin the conversation in your community or looking for inspiration to continue the journey toward the beloved community, this book is for you! ISBN: 978-0-8170-1836-8 A downloadable workbook is also available.



The Sunday After: Preaching in Moments and Movements

Clarence E. Wright

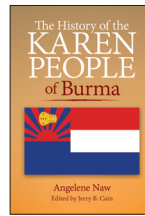
Clarence E. Wright offers perspective and guidance for effective preaching in moments of social upheaval and change. Drawing from the work of great historic preachers from the Civil Rights Movement to today, Wright emphasizes the importance of getting the message right from the pulpit to support the congregation in challenging times. He shares his growth as a pastor maturing in his role during the advent of the Black Lives Matter movement. Let this book inspire and shape your words and actions after major events. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1839-9



24/7 Embodying Christ-like Leadership

Leslie Copeland

24/7 Embodying Christ-like Leadership is a timely and refreshing book for leaders to reflect and rethink who they are as leaders. Leaders are encouraged to examine their lives truthfully and carefully to grow spiritually while faithfully operating as servant-leaders for Christ. Copeland reminds leaders that such characteristics as courage, commitment, and compassion are essential to good leadership. Copeland combines Scripture and intriguing illustrations from real-life examples of positive and negative leadership to identify and define the traits of solid Christian leadership. As Christian leaders read *24/7 Embodying Christ-like Leadership*, they will ask: "Am I being, feeling, thinking, and doing my best for God? If not, what am I being called to do differently in serving God?" Read this practical work by Leslie Copeland and share her book of leadership traits with another co-laborer in the Lord's fields of ministry. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1837-5



The History of the Karen People of Burma

Angelene Naw with Jerry Cain as editor

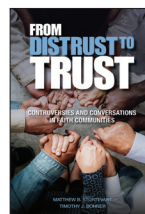
Angelene Naw along with Jerry Cain detail the Karen ethnic minority's many-centuries-long struggle with the Burmese majority in Burma/Myanmar. Told from a Christian Karen perspective, this book shares the history of Christian missionary work that predates Adoniram Judson. Additionally, Naw shares how the missionaries helped the Karen codify a written language, opening educational opportunities for a culture eager to learn; how religious differences have fueled open warfare for generations, and more. Stories of heroism and bravery amid suffering and oppression abound. Because the study of ethnic minorities is illegal in Burma, this book provides a unique perspective of someone who has not only studied but lived the experience. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1838-2



The Risk of Being Woke: Sermonic Reflections for Activists

Curtiss Paul DeYoung

Are you a Christian, an activist, or both yearning for justice to roll down like water? Are you seeking Biblically informed spiritual guidance while keeping your eyes open to challenging societal truths? This collection of sermonic reflections from Curtiss Paul DeYoung, CEO of the Minnesota Council of Churches, written following the murder of George Floyd, provides spiritual sustenance for the activist soul. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1843-6

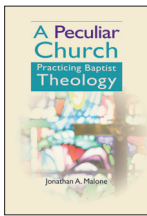


From Distrust to Trust: Controversies and Conversations in Faith Communities

Timothy J. Bonner and Matthew B. Sturtevant

Timothy J. Bonner and Matthew B. Sturtevant dive deep into how churches navigate politically divisive issues, stretching and growing to include worshipers with diverse experiences and beliefs. Based on their research into churches discerning whether to perform same-sex marriages, Bonner and Sturtevant identify model practices and pitfalls for churches engaging in potentially controversial decisions. Their work incorporates a variety of perspectives, drawing on the experiences of churches in the Midwest, as well as both coasts. This book's tools can help churches embrace trust through disagreements and grow in love. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1842-9

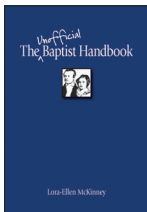
Baptist Membership Resources



A Peculiar Church: Practicing Baptist Theology

Jonathan A. Malone

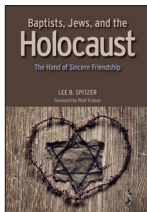
Jonathan A. Malone provides an excellent presentation of how Baptist theology emerged in the church historically and practically. This book is divided into three parts: first, the challenges and methodology associated with creating a Baptist Theology; second, worship and ordinances; and third, other aspects of church life and ministry such as baptism and funerals. A pivotal point in Malone's "doing theology" is rooted in convictions, which he describes as "centrally held statements out of which a theology emerges." Read this book to learn more about how Baptist theology is reflective of the responses of God's people to God's Word. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1831-3



The Unofficial Baptist Handbook

Lora-Ellen McKinney

With a sense of humor and a deep respect for the diverse expressions of Baptist faith and life, *The Unofficial Baptist Handbook* explores matters related to Scripture, to church life, and to Baptist identity. Author Lora-Ellen McKinney writes as one who has grown up in the Baptist church and loves it, with all of its quirks and charms. Perfect for those who are new to the Baptist tradition—and educational and entertaining for those who aren't so new but still have much to remember and learn. \$14.99



Baptists, Jews, and the Holocaust: The Hand of Sincere Friendship

Lee B. Spitzer

A thorough narrative history that explores the previously unknown work of Baptists in the United States during the Second World War.

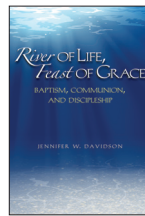
Rich with primary source material and covering the history of Northern (American) Baptists, Southern Baptists, and African American Baptists alike, this groundbreaking volume is a must-read for church historians, Holocaust scholars, Baptist history buffs, and anyone interested in interfaith relations. \$38.99



A History of the Black Baptist Church: I Don't Feel No Ways Tired

Wayne E. Croft Sr.

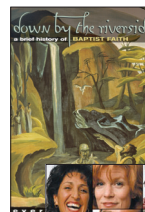
Highlights key leaders, theological concepts, historic events, and social concerns that influenced the growth of what we know today as the diverse Black Baptist family of churches. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1817-7



River of Life, Feast of Grace: Baptism, Communion, and Discipleship

Jennifer W. Davidson

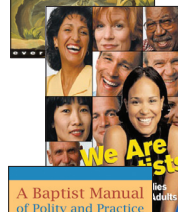
This book considers the historic theology of the Christian rites of baptism and communion from a Baptist perspective, and then explores the practical implications of these rituals for a life of radical discipleship. Online Leader's Guide available for small-group study! \$17.99



Down by the Riverside: A Brief History of Baptist Faith

Everett C. Goodwin

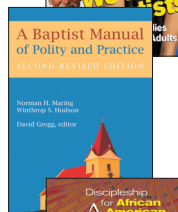
Book, \$13.00; Study Guide, \$7.00



We Are Baptists

Jeffrey D. Jones and Debra L. Sutton

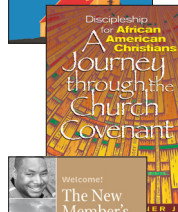
Book, \$10.00; PDF, \$8.00



A Baptist Manual of Polity & Practice, 2nd rev. ed.

Norman H. Maring and Winthrop S. Hudson; edited by David Gregg

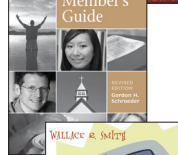
\$32.99



Discipleship for African American Christians: A Journey through the Church Covenant

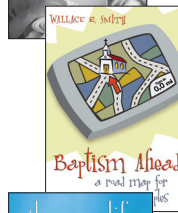
William C. Turner Jr.

\$15.00



The New Member's Guide, rev. ed.

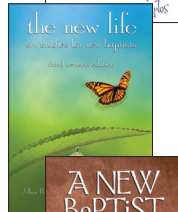
Gordon H. Schroeder



Baptism Ahead: A Roadmap for Young Disciples

Wallace R. Smith

\$7.00

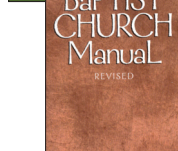


The New Life: Six Studies for New Baptists, 3rd rev. ed.

Allan R. Knight and Gordon H. Schroeder;

Foreword by Joe Kutter

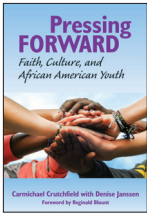
\$60.00



A New Baptist Church Manual, rev. ed.

\$6.00

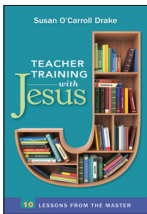
Christian Education Teaching & Learning



Pressing Forward: Faith, Culture, and African American Youth

Carmichael Crutchfield and Denise Janssen

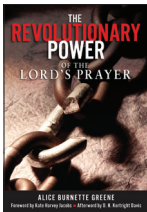
Carmichael Crutchfield and Denise Janssen have written a critical analysis of the significance of topics like self-identity, worship, pedagogy, music, and listening among African American youth, and they provide a dynamic guide for applying practical tools to foster a faith development that goes beyond memorizing Scripture for rewards. The authors utilize responses from adolescent focus groups to advocate for healthy internal and external faith formation. This book is a must-read for anyone wanting to better understand and assist in maturing the faith of African American youth. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1834-4



Teacher Training with Jesus: 10 Lessons from the Master

Susan O'Carroll Drake

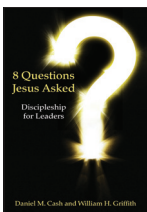
What habits, attitudes, or techniques can you learn from the world's Master Teacher? This book highlights 10 short lessons based on Jesus' model of teaching. Each lesson includes a Bible study, inspirational vignette, and practical suggestions to help you become more effective in teaching. Ideal for Christian educators, Sunday school teachers, and Bible study leaders. \$14.99



The Revolutionary Power of the Lord's Prayer

Alice Burnette Greene

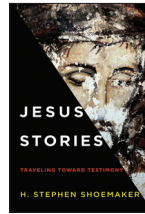
Offers today's Christian disciples new understanding of the potency and power this significant prayer delivers and the transformative effect it can have for sharing God's love in the world. \$15.99



8 Questions Jesus Asked: Discipleship for Leaders

Dan M. Cash and William H. Griffith

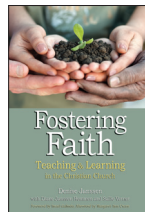
Focusing on eight powerful questions Jesus asked in the Gospels, explore each biblical situation with depth and analysis, and experience practical insights that you can use to improve leadership skills and engage the constant change you face in the world around you. Read independently for devotion or in a small-group study. \$13.99



Jesus Stories: Traveling toward Testimony

H. Stephen Shoemaker

Jesus Stories brings the critical research of "historical Jesus" scholars, the four Gospels, and the Spirit of Jesus alive and present with us together to usher you on a journey that moves from history into testimony. Get to know the "real" Jesus at work in your life and faith. Join the quest for the Jesus who is searching for us. Walk with Jesus toward God, with God, into God. \$17.99



Fostering Faith: Teaching and Learning in the Christian Church

Denise Janssen with Diane Janssen Hemmen and Sallie Verner

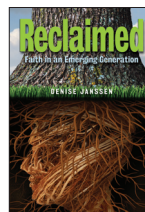
Fostering Faith proposes a shift from education as "schooling" to a holistic model of education as transformation, which equips and empowers Christian disciples for ministry. Valuable for clergy, lay leaders, and education ministry members, this resource seeks to strengthen the vital role teachers play in the church and in the world as learners and disciples themselves. \$14.99



Millennials in Ministry

Jolene Cassellius Erlacher

Based on a qualitative study of young adults (ages 18–35) from diverse denominations and countries serving in various ministry positions, *Millennials in Ministry* unveils the heart and vision of young leaders for the Christian church today. Highlighting the generational traits, values, and needs of millennials in ministry, this book offers helpful insights for churches and organizations working with this new generation of leaders. \$16.99

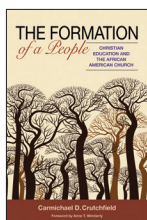


Reclaimed: Faith in an Emerging Generation

Denise Janssen

Pastor and professor Denise Janssen offers insights into why many young adults leave the church of their childhood—and why some of them eventually return. Based on in-depth interviews with young adults who, as teenagers, were highly active in church-based youth ministries and camps, this book traces their return to active congregational life as emerging and young adults. \$15.99

Christian Education Teaching & Learning *(cont.)*

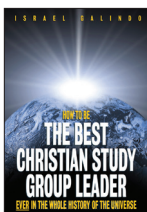


The Formation of a People: Christian Education and the African American Church

Carmichael D. Crutchfield;

Foreword by Anne T. Streaty Wimberly

Expands our understanding of education to encompass the larger life and ministry of the church, from practices of testimony, worship, and preaching to more traditional classroom contexts of Sunday church school and midweek Bible study. \$19.99



How to Be the Best Christian Study Group Leader Ever in the Whole History of the Universe

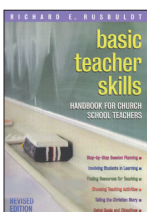
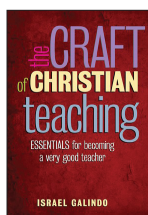
Israel Galindo

\$16.00

The Craft of Christian Teaching: Essentials for Becoming a Very Good Teacher

Israel Galindo

\$16.00



Basic Teacher Skills: A Handbook for Church School Teachers, rev. ed.

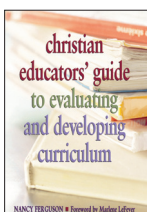
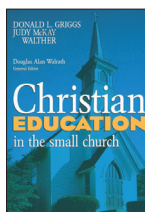
Richard E. Rusbuldt

\$12.00

Christian Education in the Small Church

Donald L. Griggs and Judy McKay Walther

\$13.00



Christian Educators' Guide to Evaluating and Developing Curriculum

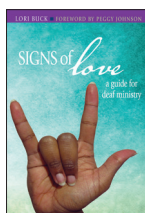
Nancy Ferguson

\$17.00

Signs of Love: A Guide for Deaf Ministry

Lori Buck

\$17.99



Church Activities & Programming from Rachel Gilmore

Church Programs & Celebrations for All Generations

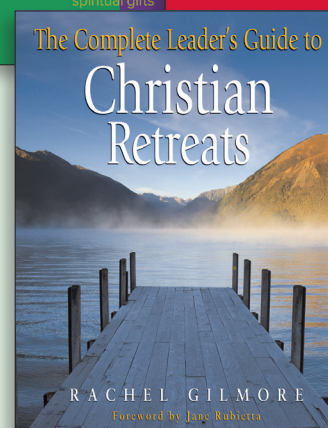
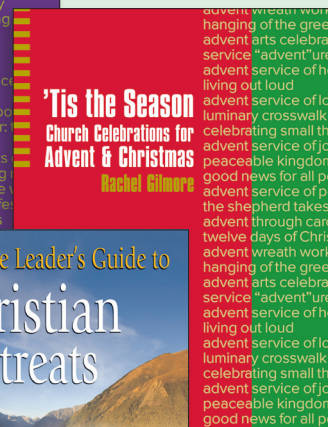
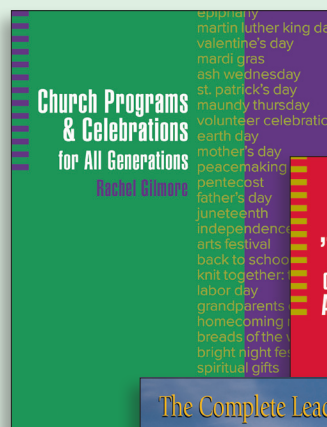
The 30 activities in this practical program book include everything from seasonal worship services to holiday-centered celebrations. \$18.00

'Tis the Season: Church Celebrations for Advent & Christmas

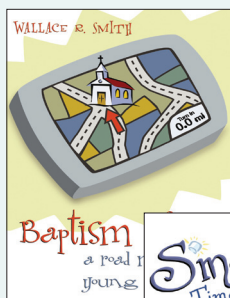
These 18 intergenerational programs and services engage participants in hands-on, experiential learning. \$14.99

The Complete Leader's Guide to Christian Retreats

Offers step-by-step guidelines for planning faith-based retreats and includes 11 complete sample retreats centered on a group-appropriate theme. \$17.00



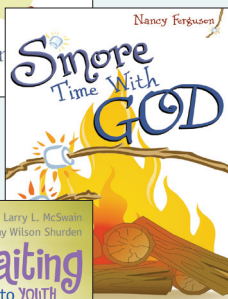
Children & Youth Ministry



Baptism Ahead: A Road Map for Young Disciples

Wallace R. Smith

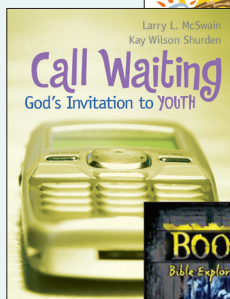
This innovative volume, designed as a seven-week/seven-chapter course, leads children ages 8–12 through baptismal preparation and a basic orientation to Christian discipleship and membership in the local church. \$15.00; downloadable leader's guide available at www.judsonpress.com, \$7.00



S'more Time with God

Nancy Ferguson

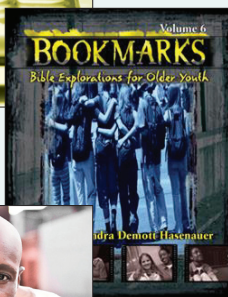
This interactive devotional for use with children includes weeklong themes. Each theme includes a song or Bible verse, questions or discussion ideas, an activity, Bible story, and closing prayer. \$12.99



Call Waiting: God's Invitation to Youth

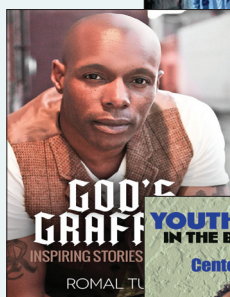
Larry L. McSwain and Kay Wilson Shurden

Helps older youth understand the nature of call, explore personal giftedness, and identify ways to walk in faithfulness to a unique and unfolding calling. \$10.00



Bookmarks: Bible Explorations for Older Youth

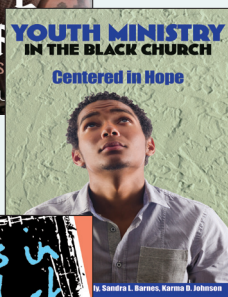
Each volume consists of 16 sessions grouped into four elective units—covenant, salvation, liberation and justice, and incarnation. In addition, each volume includes a story that runs throughout the course. Volumes 1–6, \$10.00 each.



God's Graffiti: Inspiring Stories for Teens

Romal J. Tune

Motivational speaker and author Romal Tune interweaves the stories of at-risk youth in the Bible with his own story, offering powerful inspiration for teens to overcome real-life obstacles and fulfill God's purpose as great leaders. Includes the biblical stories of Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Esther, and more. \$13.99



Youth Ministry in the Black Church: Centered in Hope

Anne E. Streaty Wimberly, Sandra L. Barnes, Karma D. Johnson

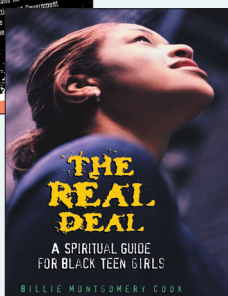
Using Scripture, anecdotes, best practices, and reflection points, this practical book invites youth leaders, pastors, and parents to participate in exploring hope-filled strategies for ministry to African American youth. \$16.99



Profiles in Black: Phat Facts for Teens

Marvin McMickle

This youthful history of Black America is a vital resource for educators, parents, and students alike. \$22.00



The Real Deal: A Spiritual Guide for Black Teen Girls

Billie Montgomery Cook

In a conversational, teen-appropriate language and style, the author addresses a wide range of topics, including body image, self-esteem, sexuality, fear, and friendship. \$18.99

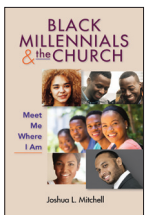
Young Adult Ministry

Urban Ministries, Inc.

Urban Faith (Ages 18-34)

Includes 13 lessons based on the International Uniform Lesson Series in a contemporary magazine-style format. Each lesson is carefully written to address real-life issues while leading to a higher level of spiritual development. Each issue also includes 6 to 10 feature articles that cover a variety of real topics that are relevant to today's young, African American adults.

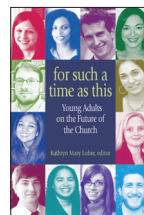
Teaching Success Kit	\$18.99
Teacher Manual	\$6.19
Student Leaflet/Take-Home Paper	\$4.50



Black Millennials and the Church: Meet Me Where I Am

Joshua L. Mitchell

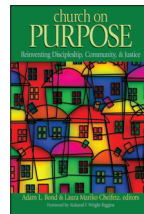
This practical resource equips church leaders with key insights to effectively attract and make disciples of this emerging generation of Black millennials. Drawing on the biblical narrative of Matthew 14, where Jesus invites Peter to come meet him on the water and supported by the research results from a nationwide study of young Black adults and real-life examples, Mitchell reveals specific principles, programming, and portraits of Black millennials that will help churches to engage, connect, and spiritually grow and develop them. \$16.99



For Such a Time As This: Young Adults on the Future of the Church

Kathryn Mary Lohre, editor

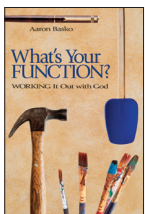
Discover an invigorating, new, and timely word from Christian young adults on issues such as eco-justice, immigration, interfaith relations, peace and justice, and inclusion. Designed for intergenerational study and discussion. \$15.99



Church on Purpose: Reinventing Discipleship, Community, & Justice

Adam L. Bond & Laura Mariko Cheifetz, editors

This collection offers "one big idea" from each of an array of emerging Christian leaders who are invested in addressing some of the concerns of today's church. The contributors share insights from their generational and vocational perspectives, critically engage in dialogue, and debate the traditional models of ministry and leadership. While appreciating what they have inherited, the authors display their faith in congregations' ability to change and adapt. \$15.99



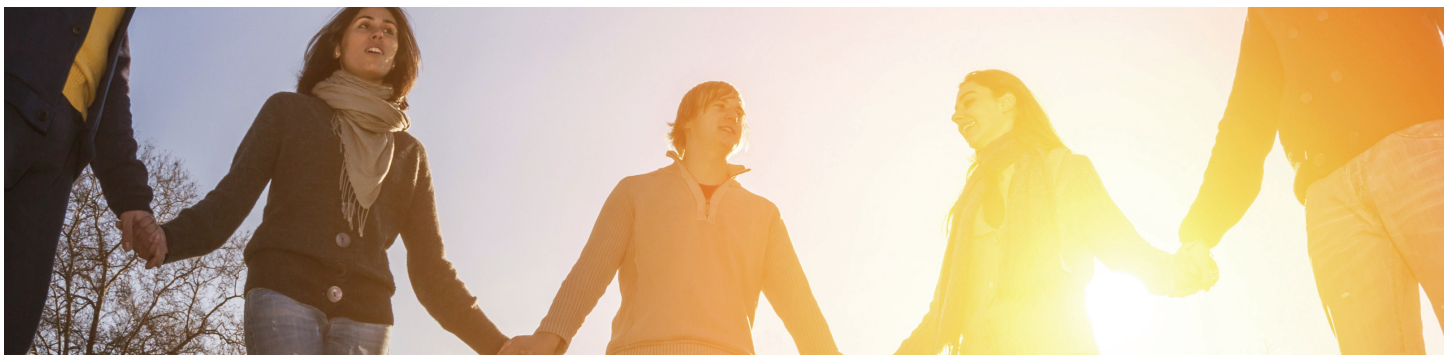
What's Your Function? Working It Out with God

Aaron Basko

God built you with a special function to fulfill in the world. Learn three keys for discerning the career that fulfills your function:

- Purpose—what you were born to do
- Inspiration—what you love to do
- Earnings—how you can make a living

\$13.99



Adult Ministry



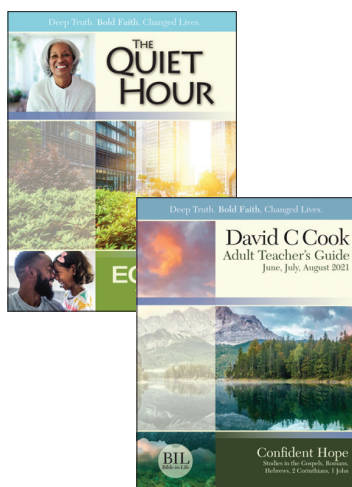
Journeys—Judson Bible Lessons

Offers one quarterly booklet for both teachers and students with comprehensive life application bible lessons. Scripture follows the Revised Common Lectionary with each month's entries having at least one lesson from the Gospels, the Epistles and the Old Testament. Also features undated lessons for use anytime during the year.

Quarterly print \$12.59

Quarterly e-publication \$9.99

Quarterly PDF \$9.99

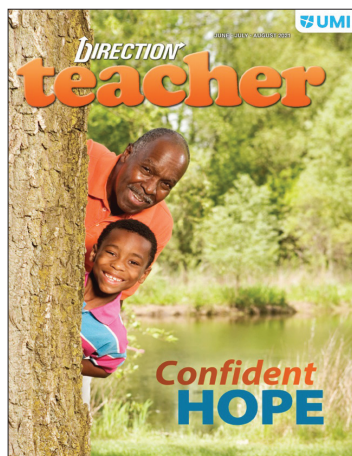


David C. Cook Bible-in-Life & Echoes

Comprehensive Bible Study

The standard in quarterly Bible study for more than 100 years, this student guide offers biblical commentary and life applications, plus prints Scripture references in both KJV and NIV.

	Bible-in-Life	Echoes
Comprehensive Bible Study Book (large print)	\$7.99	\$7.49
Comprehensive Bible Study Book	\$6.99	\$6.49
Lesson Leaflets for Visitors	\$6.49	
Power for Living Take-Home Paper	\$7.99	\$7.99
Adult Teacher's Guide	\$11.99	\$11.49
Creative Teaching Aids	\$24.99	\$24.99
The Quiet Hour		\$7.99
Teacher's Guide & Creative Teaching Aids Packet	\$34.99	\$32.99



Urban Ministries, Inc.

Direction

(Age 35+) Features 13 weekly lessons with Scripture passages, memory verses, and thought-provoking questions for class discussions, and suggestions to incorporate Bible truth into the lives of African American Christians.

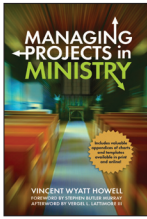
Teacher Success Kit \$18.99

Teacher Manual \$6.19

Student Manual \$4.50

Student Manual (large print) \$5.00

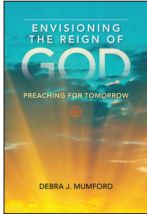
Leadership Growth & Development



Managing Projects in Ministry

Vincent Wyatt Howell

Learn how to apply the well-documented benefits of project management in your own church and with your own ministry endeavors! This practical resource provides the fundamentals of project management, while at the same time grounding its use with a biblical foundation. \$15.99



Envisioning the Reign of God: Preaching for Tomorrow

Debra J. Mumford

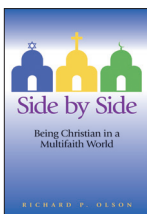
What we believe about the kingdom of God deeply affects how we relate to the world we inhabit here and now. Professor and scholar Debra Mumford takes the Christian study of “last things” (eschatology) and makes it practical for pastors and church leaders today. Each chapter considers the eschatological beliefs of a different preacher and how those beliefs shape the style and content of that leader’s ministry. \$21.99



MBA Quick Book for Ministers

*Vincent Wyatt Howell and
Vincent Wyatt Howell Jr.*

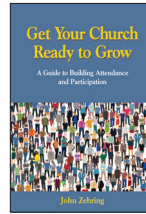
A new leadership paradigm that equips ministers to serve as chief executives for making disciples for Christ. This quick-book styled resource is designed to introduce ministers to “Pastoral MBA Competencies”—the practical knowledge of leadership and management skills that will benefit those serving today’s congregations and other ministry settings. This accessible resource also provides wisdom from clergy who have already completed a MBA degree. \$16.99



Side by Side: Being Christian in a Multifaith World

Richard P. Olson

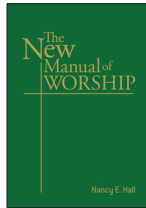
In just a few decades, the United States has changed from a largely Christian nation to the most religiously diverse country in the world. *Side by Side* reflects on living faithfully as a Christian in this new interreligious world. Reading the Gospels, the author finds fresh insight and guidance to live out our faith with respect, love, and regard for those who follow a different religious path. He focuses on relations among Christians, Jews, and Muslims, and with the “spiritual but not religious,” as well as on how to navigate conflicts between Christian traditions. \$16.99



Get Your Church Ready to Grow: A Guide to Building Attendance and Participation

John Zehring

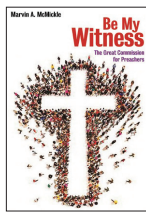
How can your church draw in the lost who need what your congregation has to offer? Beginning with a 12-question quiz to ascertain “How Ready Is Your Church to Grow?” author and consultant John Zehring goes on to offer a wealth of practical ideas and easy-to-implement strategies that are tailor-made for your local church’s stage of growth and readiness. Zehring urges church leaders to focus on meeting people’s needs—in the congregation and, even more, in the surrounding community. \$14.99



The New Manual of Worship

Nancy E. Hall

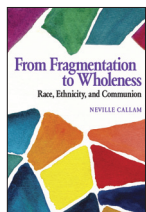
This new edition seeks to provide today’s ministry leaders with diverse materials for planning worship services of all kinds, encouraging them always to adapt the resources to the particular context, needs, and lifestyles of their own congregations. *The New Manual of Worship* features numerous updates and revisions, as well as 20 new services. \$19.99



Be My Witness: The Great Commission for Preachers

Marvin A. McMickle

Be My Witness explores the Great Commission as recorded in Acts 1:8. McMickle offers a unique approach to the preaching task and suggests a way for preachers today to declare the gospel with relevance to the many issues and challenges society faces. He also examines the implications of what it means to be a witness for Jesus and considers a threefold understanding of the word *witness*—seeing something, saying something, and suffering something—and develops a twenty-first-century theology for delivering the gospel message. \$17.99

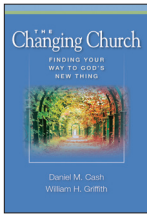


From Fragmentation to Wholeness: Race, Ethnicity, and Communion

Neville Callam

In an age of accelerating globalization that creates unprecedented experiences of diversity, Neville Callam offers a transforming vision of a world brought together through the power of the Lord’s Supper. This book reflects on the untapped power of Holy Communion as a force for reconciliation, healing, and restored wholeness in our fragmented churches and communities. \$19.99

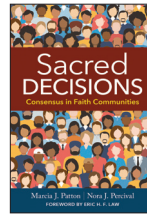
Leadership Growth & Development (cont.)



The Changing Church: Finding Your Way to God's New Thing

Daniel Cash and William H. Griffith

We've often heard that change is the only constant. This reality, along with a rapidly shifting culture, is often a major challenge for the Christian church. Discover eight key shifts in the New Testament that were used to connect, call forth, and reach God's people, alongside change-related elements we encounter in our day-to-day lives that will provide insight into new ways of being the body of Christ in our fast-paced world. Perfect for an eight-week study in small groups or Bible studies. \$16.99



Sacred Decisions: Consensus in Faith Communities

Marcia J. Patton and Nora J. Percival

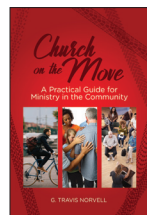
This book offers congregational leaders and others the opportunity to explore and implement consensus as a decision-making model. Authors Marcia J. Patton and Nora J. Percival clearly state what consensus is and what it is not. They provide a "how-to" resource for persons who want to change how their groups make decisions. Patton and Percival provide real-life examples, planning and meeting ideas, and essential steps to develop a consensus decision-making model. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1829-0



New Rules for Radicals: TNT for Faith-Based Leaders

Willard W. C. Ashley Sr.

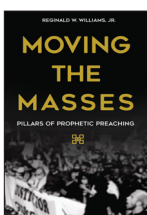
Willard Ashley revisits the need for radicals in a society that constructs systems and awards those who keep persons marginalized to maintain those in power and the status quo. Building community and national relationships are part of this effort. Ashley outlines strategies for radicals in creating relationships and striving for excellence, not mediocrity. His experiences, stories, collaborations, and leaning on his faith are given to encourage "new radicals." Ashley encourages new radicals to know their context, embrace conflict, and do their homework. Although radicals face strong and life-threatening opposition, Ashley advocates hope for change. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1826-9



Church on the Move: A Practical Guide for Ministry in the Community

G. Travis Norvell

G. Travis Norvell challenges church leaders and members—persistently asking them and their respective churches what they are doing to make a real difference in others' lives. The author proposes that the people of the "living church" start moving in, around, and with their communities to truly move toward renewal and social justice. The book provides concrete, practical ways for the church body and individuals to begin implementing this movement, including study questions, suggested resources, and "experiments" between chapters that can help them find the ways that work best in their respective contexts. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1832-0



Moving the Masses: Pillars of Prophetic Preaching

Reginald W. Williams Jr.

Reginald Williams understands and hears the divine calling of prophetic preaching as a connection of what happens between the internal preacher and the delivery that moves people to take action. In this book, Williams methodically lays out a definition of prophetic preaching. He selects a limited number of preaching practitioners whose written work examines what is prophetic preaching. Williams compliments his discussion on prophetic preaching with various methods of delivery. He illustrates the preaching methods with vivid examples and explanations that bring life to the listener, reader, and doer of God's Word. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1825-2

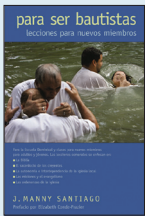


Real Connections: Ministries to Strengthen Church and Community Relationships

Joy Skjeggstad and Heidi Unruh

Authors Joy Skjeggstad and Heidi Unruh have a passion for helping persons build genuine relationships. In this book, they give strategies and suggestions for churches and their community to create authentic relationships within all age groups and various abilities. Skjeggstad and Unruh challenge churches and Christians to discuss and take healthy action on topics such as racism, sexual orientation, gender choices, loneliness, literally speaking to neighbors, and actively engaging youth and young adults. Real relationships and change can happen in church, community events, group activities, and individuals. ISBN: 978-0-8170-1824-5

Spanish Ministry Resources



Para ser bautistas: Lecciones para nuevos miembros / Being Baptist: Lessons for New Members

J. Manny Santiago

Diseñado para usar con adultos y jóvenes. Bilingüe. \$15.00
¡Ahorre al comprar en cantidad!
Paquete de 5-\$60.00; Paquete de 10-\$100.00



Predicando como interino (Preaching in the Interim) Liderazgo transicional en la iglesia Latina

Efraim Agosto

Un enfoque sermón del ministerio para una iglesia en transición. Con sermones que se predicaron en una congregación entre la temporada de Pascua y Navidad durante una temporada intermedia de transición pastoral, este libro presta atención a la necesidad de la iglesia de un liderazgo renovado, explorando la naturaleza de la iglesia para un nuevo día, mientras honra su historia y recordando a la congregación el contenido de la enseñanza cristiana, mientras avanza hacia un nuevo futuro. Incluye comentarios del autor sobre varias características pertinentes de los sermones, particularmente en el contexto de una iglesia urbana latina. ¡También disponible en español como edición de libro electrónico! \$11.50



Escuchemos a los niños: Conversaciones con familias inmigrantes / Listen to the Children: Conversations with Immigrant Families

Elizabeth Conde-Frazier, Prefacio por Luis Cortes

Padres, pastores/as, educadores/as y líderes en la comunidad son invitados a escuchar a escondidas estas conversaciones entre padres, hijos y guardians. Este recurso práctico y sensible a las necesidades emocionales y cultura de las familias ofrece una perspicacia a las emociones y percepciones de las familias inmigrantes. Bilingüe (Inglés/Español). \$13.99
Guía de estudio gratis está disponible para su descarga en línea (sólo en inglés).



Herencia e identidad: Historia, principios y prácticas bautistas

Ángel Luis Gutiérrez; Prefacio por José Norat-Rodríguez, Miriam Z. Gutiérrez y Juan A. Gutiérrez-Rodríguez, editores

Una investigación histórica detallada, incluyendo textos bíblicos, para explorar la herencia e identidad bautistas. De muchísimo valor para estudiosos, ministros, ministras, y personas laicas en Estados Unidos, Puerto Rico y más allá. \$18.00



Tentado a dejar la cruz: Renovando el llamado al discipulado

Ernest R. Flores

También disponible en Inglés: *Tempted to Leave the Cross: Renewing the Call to Discipleship*
\$14.00

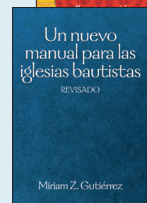
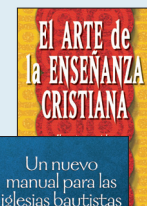
El Arte de la Enseñanza Cristiana

Israel Galindo

\$16.00

Un nuevo manual para iglesia bautista

\$5.00



"The Work of the Church" Series

Best Sellers

The Work of the Deacon and Deaconess, 2nd rev. ed.

978-0-8170-1755-2 \$12.00

5-copy set 978-0-8170-1574-9 \$54.00

The Work of the Church Trustee

978-0-8170-0825-3 \$11.00

The Work of the Usher

978-0-8170-0356-2 \$11.00

The Work of the Greeter

978-0-8170-1540-4 \$13.00

The Work of the Parish Church Nurse

978-0-8170-1740-8 \$16.00

The Work of the Church Officer

978-0-8170-1639-5 \$11.00

The Work of the Church Treasurer, new ed.

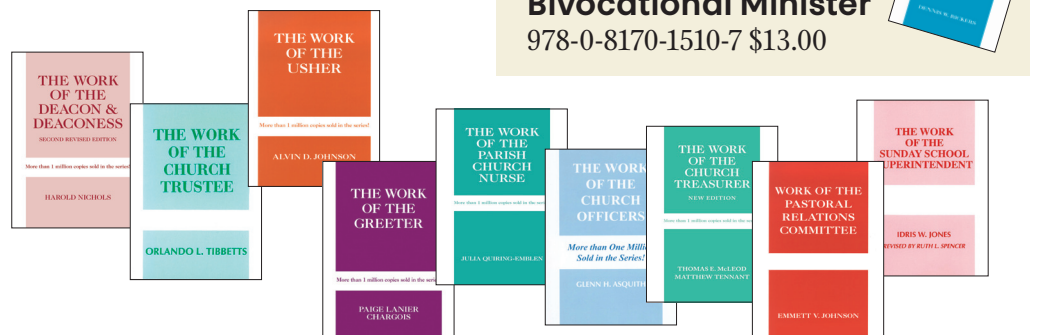
978-0-8170-1783-5 \$16.99

Work of the Pastoral Relations Committee

978-0-8170-0984-7 \$12.00

The Work of the Sunday School Superintendent

978-0-8170-1229-8 \$11.00



Pastoral Vocation Series

The Work of the Associate Pastor

978-0-8170-1709-5, \$16.00

The Work of the Chaplain

BEST SELLER!

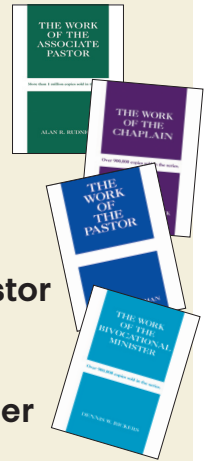
978-0-8170-1499-5 \$13.00

The Work of the Pastor

978-0-8170-1473-5 \$13.00

The Work of the Bivocational Minister

978-0-8170-1510-7 \$13.00



Church & Church School Supplies

Banners

Top-of-the-line quality banners made of the finest-quality brilliant blue satin acetate. Includes gilded wooden crossbar and silky gold hanging cord. 17" x 24".



068-4-6746-8014-2 Offering \$35.00

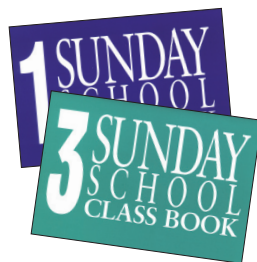
068-4-6746-8015-9 Class \$35.00

Judson Sunday School Class Books

A pocket-size record of attendance for each class for one full year, including space for email addresses. Sturdy paper cover. 6.25" x 4.25".

068-4-6745-3015-7 24 names, navy blue cover, 16 pages, per dozen, \$9.00

068-4-6745-3165-9 96 names, teal cover, 40 pages, per dozen, \$14.00

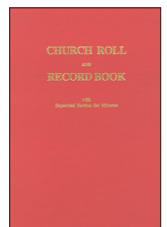


Church Roll and Record Book

Record alphabetically the names of church members and leadership; as well as weddings, baby dedications, funerals, and more. Includes 160 additional pages for minutes. Handsomely gold-stamped on red buckram.

8" x 11". 352 pages.

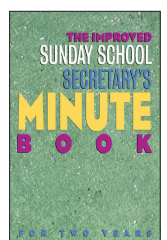
068-4-6745-5272-2 \$23.00 each



Improved Sunday School Secretary's Minute Book

Keep concise data for two years including attendance records, enrollment, new members, visitors, offering by departments, and minutes in this sturdy and comprehensive minute book. Spiral binding with wear-resistant paper cover.

5.5" x 8.5" 068-4-6745-3018-8 \$13.00 each



Church Sympathy Card

Envelopes included. Per dozen, \$13.00

NRSV, 068-4-6745-3019-5



Litany of Presence

One: The Scripture speaks your Word to us: “The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, [your] mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ‘The LORD is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in him.’”
(Lamentations 3:19-24)

Many: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

One: In times of danger and uncertainty, we find safety and welcome in your presence.

Many: Therefore, we will hope in you.

One: In times of helplessness, we find freedom to choose in your presence.

Many: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

One: In times of isolation and alienation, we find strength for our work together in your presence.

Many: Therefore, we will hope in you.

One: In times of suspicion and distrust, we find wisdom for renewed relationship in your presence.

Many: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

One: In times of weary spirits and worn bodies, we are empowered to persevere in your presence.

Many: Therefore, we will hope in you.

One: In times of loneliness and solitude, we find communion with one another in your presence.

Many: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

All: Great is your faithfulness, O God. Therefore, we will hope in you.

Written by Rev. Rebecca Irwin-Diehl. © 2022 by American Baptist Home Mission Societies.



American Baptist Home Mission Societies

Letanía de presencia

Líder: La Escritura nos habla tu Palabra: “Recuerda que ando errante y afligido, que estoy saturado de hiel y amargura. Siempre tengo esto presente, y por eso me deprimó. Pero algo más me viene a la memoria, lo cual me llena de esperanza: El gran amor del Señor nunca se acaba, y su compasión jamás se agota. Cada mañana se renuevan sus bondades; ¡muy grande es su fidelidad! Por tanto, digo: “El Señor es todo lo que tengo. ¡En él esperaré!”
(Lamentaciones 3:19-24, NVI)

Grupo: El gran amor del Señor nunca se acaba.

Líder: En momentos de peligro e incertidumbre, encontramos seguridad y acogida en tu presencia.

Grupo: Por lo tanto, esperaremos en ti.

Líder: En momentos de impotencia, encontramos la libertad de elegir tu presencia.

Grupo: El gran amor del Señor nunca se acaba.

Líder: En momentos de cuarentena y alienación, encontramos fuerza para trabajar juntos en tu presencia.

Grupo: Por lo tanto, esperaremos en ti.

Líder: En momentos de sospecha y desconfianza, encontramos sabiduría para una relación renovada en tu presencia.

Grupo: El gran amor del Señor nunca se acaba.

Líder: En momentos de cansancio en el espíritu y desgaste en los cuerpos, tenemos el poder de perseverar en tu presencia.

Grupo: Por lo tanto, esperaremos en ti.

Líder: En tiempos de soledad y aislamiento, encontramos comunión unos con otros en tu presencia.

Grupo: El gran amor del Señor nunca se acaba.

Todos/as: Grande es tu fidelidad, oh, Dios. Por lo tanto, esperaremos en ti.

Escrito por la Rvda. Rebecca Irwin-Diehl. © 2022 Derechos de autoría corresponden a las Sociedades Misioneras Nacionales Bautistas Americanas (ABHMS)



American Baptist Home Mission Societies

Litanie de présence

Leader: L'Écriture nous parle de ta Parole: Oh ! souviens-toi de mon humiliation et de ma vie errante, du poison, de l'absinthe dont je suis abreuvé ! Sans cesse, je m'en souviens, et j'en suis abattu. Mais voici la pensée que je me rappelle à moi-même, la raison pour laquelle j'aurai de l'espérance: non, les bontés de l'Éternel ne sont pas à leur terme et ses tendresses ne sont pas épuisées. Chaque matin, elles se renouvellent. Oui, ta fidélité est grande ! J'ai dit: L'Éternel est mon bien, c'est pourquoi je compte sur lui.

(Lamentations 3:19-24, BDS)

Congrégation: Le grand amour du Seigneur ne finit jamais.

Leader: Dans les moments de danger et d'incertitude, nous trouvons la sécurité et l'accueil en ta présence.

Congrégation: Par conséquent, nous vous attendrons.

Leader: Dans les moments d'impuissance, nous trouvons la liberté de choisir en ta présence.

Congrégation: Le grand amour du Seigneur ne finit jamais.

Leader: Dans les moments de quarantaine et d'aliénation, nous trouvons la force de travailler ensemble en ta présence.

Congrégation: Par conséquent, nous vous attendrons.

Leader: Dans les moments de suspicion et de méfiance, nous trouvons la sagesse pour une relation renouvelée en ta présence.

Congrégation: Le grand amour du Seigneur ne finit jamais.

Leader: Dans les moments d'esprits fatigués et de corps usés, nous sommes habilités à persévérer en ta présence.

Congrégation: Par conséquent, nous vous attendrons.

Leader: Dans les moments de solitude et d'isolement, nous trouvons la communion les uns avec les autres en ta présence.

Congrégation: Le grand amour du Seigneur ne finit jamais.

Tous: Grande est ta fidélité, ô Dieu. Par conséquent, nous vous attendrons.

Écrit par le Rév. Rebecca Irwin-Diehl. © 2022 Copyright, American Baptist Home Mission Societies.



American Baptist Home Mission Societies

神同在的啟應文

領: 聖經向我們講述了祢的話: 回憶起我的困苦飄流, 就像是苦蕓和毒草。每逢我的心想起往事, 我的心就消沉。但我的心一起下面這件事, 我就有指望。耶和華的慈愛永不斷絕, 祂的憐憫永不止息。每天早晨都是新的; 你的信實多麼廣大! 我心裡說: 「耶和華是我的業分, 所以, 我必仰望祂。」 (耶利米哀歌 3:19-24 新譯本)

眾: 耶和華的慈愛永不斷絕。

領: 當有危險和不確定的時候, 我們在祢裡面找到平安和接納。
眾: 故此我們在主內就有指望。

領: 當無助的時候, 我們在祢裡面找到選擇的自由。

眾: 耶和華的慈愛永不斷絕。

領: 當眾叛親離的時候, 我們在祢裡面找到合作的力量。

眾: 故此我們在主內就有指望。

領: 當懷疑和不信任的時候, 我們在祢裡面找到重建關係的智慧和。

眾: 耶和華的慈愛永不斷絕。

領: 當身心疲憊的時候, 我們在祢裡面找到支持下去的能力。

眾: 故此我們在主內就有指望。

領: 當孤單獨處的時候, 我們在祢裡面找到了彼此的交流。

眾: 耶和華的慈愛永不斷絕。

全體: 祢的信實多麼廣大! 神啊, 故此我們在主內就有指望。

由 Rebecca Irwin-Diehl 牧師撰寫。© 2022 美國浸信會本土宣教協會。

You asked. We listened.

The new MinistrElife is coming.
Packed with new features and improvements!

- New **CONNECTIONS**: with people & organizations that share your interests
- New **OPPORTUNITIES**: educational, internships, volunteer and more
- New **RESOURCES** hub: now you can share the resources you've designed
- New **PROFILE** features: Ecclesiastical endorsement credentials for chaplains and specialized ministers

All on our secure, private network where
your data is never sold to a 3rd party.

Join today to be the first to know when the
latest version of MinistrElife goes LIVE!

ministr**e**life

ministrElife.org



A ministry of American Baptist Home Mission Societies



American Baptist Home Mission Society
Judson Press
1075 First Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406
Source code: RET23

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Southeastern, PA
Permit No. 362

New in
2023

Signature Tracks



ABHMS CENTER FOR CONTINUOUS LEARNING

■ **Being Baptist** *Learning experiences for all levels of Baptist life*

New to ABC life or looking for a refresher on Baptist history and identity? This series offers modules on the history of Baptists in America from diverse perspectives, the values that make us distinctively Baptist, and practical application of Baptist identity in the church and the world.

From introductory webinars for new church members to a 6-week intensive for ordination candidates, this series has something for everyone!

■ **Chosen Generations** *Raising up future leaders in faith and justice*

Where have all the young folks gone? And how can God's people reach them with ministries of faith formation? This new signature track in the Center for Continuous Learning features practical training for and with ministry leaders in diverse contexts who are doing creative and mission-oriented ministries with youth and young adults.

Live or on-demand, a variety of courses designed for individuals and small groups.

■ **Listen to Your Life** *Vocational discernment in innovative ministries*

New cohorts in Spring and Fall 2023

A 6-week online series with interactive content tailored to the cohort participants, whether exploring a new vocation or discerning a transitional call. Featuring presenters from diverse ministry settings and vocations, each session includes opportunities to consider one's own call and possible paths forward.

PLUS FREE live webinars spotlighting specialized vocations and innovative approaches to ministry.

Learn more on our website ccl.ministrelife.org or contact us at ccl@abhms.org

A ministry of American Baptist Home Mission Societies