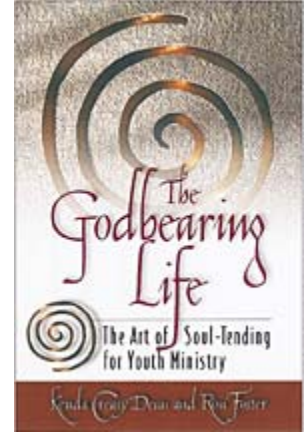


Best Resources for Youth Ministry National Youth Event 2004

***The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry* by Kenda Creasy Dean and Ron Foster (Upper Room Books, 1998), \$15.00**

In *The Godbearing Life*, the authors offer a lively spiritual primer and practical guide for those who pastor young people. Dean and Foster re-chart a course for youth ministry through the classical spiritual disciplines of the church. The book identifies families, congregations, and mentor relationships as the “holy ground” where young people are most likely to say “Yes!” to God.



- *Single most mentioned resource recommended by UCC colleagues!*
- *From Connecticut Conference: This is not just my own recommendation; some of my Partners In Education colleagues here in CT would even put this as the number one “required reading” for youth workers (and I might even include for workers with children because of its emphasis on relationship.)*
- *From Massachusetts Conference: I really hesitate to give names of resources, because I don’t believe that there are really many good resources to help people develop youth ministries. Most of what is published is geared to developing youth groups. My number one read and recommendation is *The Godbearing Life*. This is what I recommend to folks who are wondering how to get transform their youth ministry. This is not an answer book, but one that will help people to begin to articulate youth ministry as opposed to youth group.*

***Soul Tending: Life-Forming Practices for Older Youth and Young Adults* (Abingdon, 2002), \$12.00**

Soul Tending expands on the ideas Kenda Creasy Dean and Ron Foster put forth in *The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry* (published by Upper Room) and offers a practical way for senior high youth and young adults to study spiritual disciplines while strengthening relationships among participants. The study includes lessons on inward, outward, and corporate disciplines. The goal is that Christ would be formed in each participant. Youth and adults co-journ together as they examine classical and contemporary disciplines, supporting one another, and intentionally seeking encounters with God.

***Devo'Zine Magazine* (Upper Room Books) \$20.00 one year subscription**

www.upperroom.org/devozine



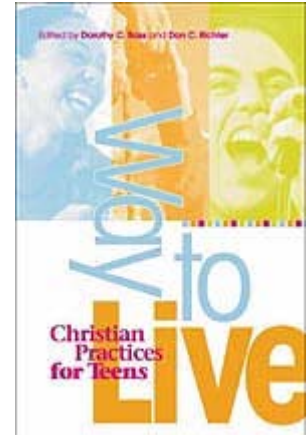
Devo’Zine is a teen magazine about real life, written by real people about a real God. This unique magazine for teens is designed to link teens to their peers and to help strengthen their faith. Devo’Zine Online features sample meditations from the magazine and the DZ Question. Each issue of the bi-monthly, 64-page, full-color magazine focuses on nine themes, one for each week. Each theme includes weekday meditations and a feature article on the weekend. Meditations may be read in chronological or random order.

***Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens* edited by Dorothy C. Bass and Don C. Richter (Upper Room Books, 2002), \$16.00, free Leader's Guide**

www.practicingourfaith.org

I want to find a way to live that keeps me involved in what God is doing in me and in the world around me. Do you know a way to live that is like that? Eighteen teens and 18 adults tackle that question in *Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens*. Their different points of view and personal stories make living a Christian life **real**. Find out how Alexx dealt with all his stuff, how Marie expressed her creativity with a paint roller, what Jack learned about play. These are just a few of the Christian practices this team of writers explores. Some ancient Christian practices turn up as ways to deepen awareness of God's presence in our lives today. Discover how to use your imagination when reading the Bible – à la Saint Ignatius – and practice tuning in to God like Brother Lawrence of the 17th century. This graphics-filled book will start teens on the spiritual journey of a lifetime! Find even more stories and conversations at www.waytolive.org, a website for youth and youth leaders.

- *From Iowa Conference: That whole "series" is superb and would provide good material for leaders of youth. The first/basic book is Practicing Our Faith: A Way Of Life For A Searching People (Jossey-Bass Publisher, 1997) edited by Dorothy Bass.*



***Our Whole Lives: Sexuality and Our Faith* (United Church of Christ, 1999), training required for purchase**

www.ucc.org/justice/owl/index.html

Our Whole Lives is a series of sexuality education programs for four age groups: grades K-1, grades 4-6, grades 7-9 and grades 10-12. Written by professional sexuality educators, the programs provide accurate information for parents, teachers and pastors to use with children and young people to help them learn about sexuality in the affirming and supportive setting of our churches. The resources are based on the

Guidelines for Comprehensive Sexuality Education produced by the National Guidelines Task Force, a group of leading health, education and sexuality professionals assembled by the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States. There is a Parent Guide to *Our Whole Lives* Grades K-1 and Grades 4-6 that accompanies the *Our Whole Lives* resource for those age levels.



Contact:

Ms. Ann L. Hanson
Minister for Children, Families and Human Sexuality Advocacy
700 Prospect Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44115
216-736-3718
hansona@ucc.org

Faith Formation leading to the Rite of Confirmation

Affirming Faith - Congregation's Guide, United Church Press \$ 25.00

Affirming Faith - Confirmand's Journal, United Church Press \$ 11.00

The Access Bible, Oxford University Press \$ 29.99

My Confirmation - Revised and Updated, United Church Press \$ 13.00

The Rite of Confirmation: Moments when Faith is Strengthened, Peter Monkres
and R. Kenneth Ostermiller \$ 13.00

Becoming & Belonging, William R. Meyers \$ 13.00

Leaving Home with Faith, Elizabeth F. Caldwell \$ 15.00

Blessing New Voices, Maren C. Tirabassi \$ 10.00

Daybook for New Voices: A Calendar of Reflections and Prayers by and for Youth edited by Maren C.
Tirabassi and Maria I. Tirabassi \$18.00

Confirmation Certificates - Inclusive Language, United Church Press \$ 24.00

Confirmation Certificates - Traditional Language, United Church Press \$ 24.00

The Day I Was Confirmed, Hal Harrison \$ 12.00

The Evangelical Catechism, United Church Press \$ 6.00

The Heidelberg Catechism, United Church Press \$ 6.00

Confessing Our Faith, Roger L. Shinn \$ 11.00

Hidden Histories in the UCC, Volume 1, Barbara Brown Zikmund \$ 15.00

Hidden Histories in the UCC, Volume 2, Barbara Brown Zikmund \$ 15.00

Pot Likker Stories for Teachers and Learners, Larry Grant Coleman \$ 10.00

Words for the Journey: Letters to Our Teenagers about Life and Faith by Martin B. Copenhaver and
Anthony Robinson \$16.00

A User's Guide to the Bible (Insights Bible Study), Lynne Mobberley Deming \$ 5.00

The Bible and Spiritual Disciplines (Insights Bible Study), Holly W. Whitcomb \$ 5.00

Get Me to The Church Online, Cheryl Perry \$ 24.95

Youth Spirit, Cheryl Perry \$ 19.95

Youth Spirit 2, Brenda Eatman Aghahowa \$ 19.95



***Blessing New Voices: Prayers of Young People and Worship Resources for Youth Ministry* by Maren C. Tirabassi (United Church Press, 2000), \$10.00**

This book presents poems and reflections from more than 160 young writers (between the ages of twelve and twenty-one) in a medley of worship resources and prayers covering such far-reaching topics as anorexia, new relationships, teenage motherhood, suicide, remarriage of apparent, and many others. Created for the United Church of Christ National Youth Event in 2000, it was the first book of its kind.

- *From Massachusetts Conference Youth Ministry Staff: Maren Tirabassi's Blessing New Voices is superb. I think I have sold or given away 100's of these. The prayers help put leaders in touch with the thinking of youth and the chapters she writes are great for creating worship with youth. I am assuming that her new book to be introduced at NYE will be equally as good.*



***Daybook for New Voices: A Calendar of Reflections and Prayers by and for Youth* edited by Maren C. Tirabassi and Maria I. Tirabassi (The Pilgrim Press, 2004) \$18.00**

This is a collection of prayers, poems, and reflections for every day of the year, written primarily by youth. The book encourages listening to youth voices beyond the ordinary and “special” days such as Youth Sunday and Children’s Day, and contains two thoughtfully chosen biblical reflections per month. First distributed at the 2004 National Youth Event of the United Church of Christ.

***Words For The Journey: Letters to Our Teenagers about Life and Faith* by Martin B. Copenhaver and Anthony Robinson, (The Pilgrim Press, 2003) \$16.00**

Today, more and more parents are searching for ways in which to share their faith with their children. In response, two United Church of Christ pastors have joined together to write letters to their middle teenaged children to discuss what they call “matters of the heart.” The authors have composed letters about: God, church, Bible, vocation, relationships, and difficult matters. They discuss such topics as faith, doubt, prayer, sex, abortion, race, and homosexuality. Additionally, they discuss what God had their faith means to them in words that share love and deep hopes of their faith.

- *Massachusetts Conference: I also am currently recommending Words for the Journey by Copenhaver and Robinson. This is a super book for youth leaders, parents and teens. I can see confirmation being taught with this. I am sure you are aware of both of these as they are Pilgrim Press resources, but I want to add my endorsement to both of these, as it is good to know how they are being used in the local church.*
- *From another staff colleague in the Massachusetts Conference: This book is a real gem. It is written in very accessible language. It includes Letters about God, Letters about the Church, Letters about Social Issues and Tough Subjects. I actually think it could form the basis of a really good confirmation program. It really should be in every youth leaders library and given as a gift to the youth in our churches.*

***Trouble Don’t Last Always* by Evelyn L. Parker (The Pilgrim Press, 2003), \$19.00**

This book seeks to answer questions related to African American youth, critically examining African American adolescent spirituality and offering congregations a new theological framework for ministry with African American adolescents in the face of injustice and hopelessness. What results is the formation of a wholesome spirituality.

More Youth Ministry Books from United Church Press

Amistad, Helen Kromer \$ 16.00

Black and White Styles of Youth Ministry, William R. Myers \$ 18.00

Children Together, Kathyrn Goering Reid \$ 15.00

Coming Out Young and Faithful, Leanne McCall Tigert \$ 15.00

Daughters Arise!, Sally Windecker \$ 10.00

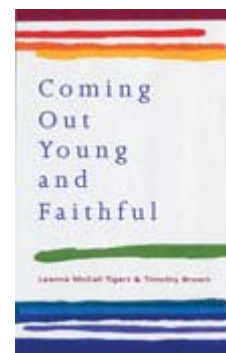
Daughters Arise!, Donna Humphreys \$ 25.00

Life with Your Parents, Herman C. Ahrens \$ 2.50

Making a Home for Faith, Elizabeth F. Caldwell \$ 15.00

Youth at Risk, Peter Christian Olsen \$ 14.00

More Speaking of Sex, Meg Hickling \$ 19.95



Youthworker: The Contemporary Journal for Youth Ministry (Salem Publishing/CCM Communications), \$39.95/year (six issues per year)

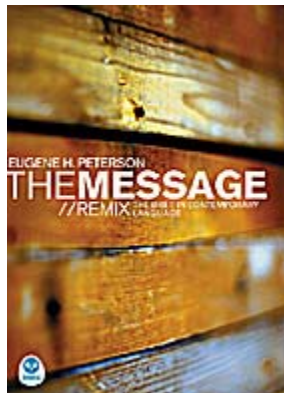
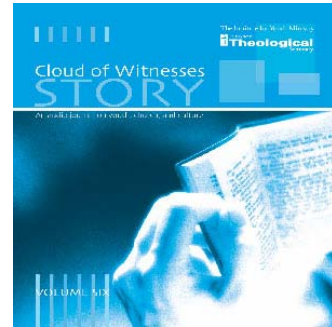
Youthworker journal is a bimonthly publication addressing the professional and personal concerns of serious youth workers in church and parachurch settings. Each issue includes in-depth articles exploring various aspects of that issue's theme (some past themes: Reinforcing Theology, New Horizons, Helping Kids in Pain, Spreading the Word, Student Worship) as well as nonthematic pieces. Article formats include thematic overviews, provocative responses from youth workers to pointed questions, interviews, first-person accounts of life in the youth ministry trenches, and columns focused on junior high ministry, family ministry, parachurch ministry, and volunteers.

- *From Connecticut Conference: When we had a person on our staff for youth ministry, he asked me to subscribe to Youthworker magazine. It has good, timely articles.*

Cloud of Witnesses: An Audio Journal (Princeton Theological Seminary Institute for Youth Ministry), free

Web site: www.ptsem.edu/iym

Cloud of Witnesses is an audio journal that offers theological reflection on youth ministry. It brings together a cloud of witnesses – scholars, pastors, lay people, and youth to encourage and support church leaders in their ministry. The journal is for anyone concerned with reaching young people with the good news of Jesus Christ. *Cloud of Witnesses* will feed your soul and rekindle your passion for ministry with thought-provoking interviews, excellent sermons, and inspiring voices.



The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language by Eugene H. Peterson (NavPress, 2002), \$39.99

The Message is a contemporary paraphrase of the Bible from the original languages, crafted to present its tone, rhythm, events, and ideas in everyday English.

The Message Remix: The Bible in Contemporary Language by Eugene H. Peterson (NavPress, 2004), \$24.99

In *The Message Remix*, there are new verse-numbered paragraphs that will help you study and find favorite passages.

Seasons of the Spirit: Lectionary-base Resources Connecting Worship, Learning, and Service (Seasons of the Spirit Publishers)

www.spiritseasons.com

Seasons of the Spirit provides God's people with lectionary-based, ecumenical resources that empower all ages to be transformed in Christ as they:

- explore meaning and mystery in the Bible;
- celebrate in worship, sacraments, education, and service;
- engage in ministries of love, justice, and witness; and
- live in inclusive communities of faith shaped and led by the Holy Spirit.



Seasons of the Spirit (2004-05) Ages 12-14 (9 Month) United Church Press \$ 135.00

Seasons of the Spirit (2004-05) Ages 12-14 (Summer) United Church Press \$ 45.00

Seasons of the Spirit (2004-05) Ages 15-18 (9 month) United Church Press \$ 135.00

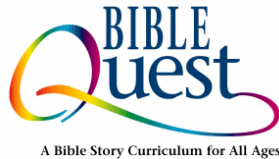
Seasons of the Spirit (2004-05) Ages 15-18 (Summer) United Church Press \$ 45.00

Bible Quest: A Bible Story Curriculum for All Ages (Bible Quest Publishers)

www.biblequestlink.com

Bible Quest brings together the traditions and insights of ten Christian denominations to offer leaders and learners a richer, deeper understanding of the Bible stories and how they relate to our lives. The resources are organized into four themes that emerge over a four-year time span and during that time most of the major stories of the Hebrew and Christian heritage are covered.

Grades 6-8, Leader's Guide, \$13.50, BQ Student Resource, \$5.00



Push It! Young Adults Engage the Bible, Vol. 1 Sidney Fowler \$ 10.00

Push It! Young Adults Engage the Bible, Vol. 2 Sidney Fowler \$ 10.00

Push It! Young Adults Engage the Bible, Vol. 3 Jana Norman \$ 10.00

Push It! Young Adults Engage the Bible, Vol. 4 Jana Norman \$ 10.00

Bookmarks, Volumes 1-6, \$16.00 each

Synago: Senior High Student-Led Small Groups (Abingdon Press). Leader's Guide \$10.00 Student Guide \$6.00 each

Order from Cokesbury: www.cokesbury.com/curriculum

Synago is the Greek word for "come together." The goal of this resource is to strengthen members' spiritual relationship with God and Jesus Christ. Secondly, it will build Christian community within a circle of friends, in which group members practice and experience what it means to be in ministry to and with one another. This first of four volumes, *Light in the Dark*, provide 16 sessions for student-led senior high small groups. It also includes the necessary information for setting up and maintaining this approach to reaching and teaching senior high youth. The cell-group design calls for two student leaders, two adult "encouragers," and up to six additional youth members, usually friends—both church and unchurched. When the group reaches ten, it splits. The two new groups then grow again to ten. The model has proven effective in numerous areas and is especially appealing to senior-highs because it gives them leadership, encourages them to invite others, creates a safe place of spiritual intimacy, and deals with integrating Bible, life, and faith. Sessions covered in this study include: Caring for the earth, forgiveness, relationships, dating, temptation, and doubt.



- *From Minnesota Conference Resource Center Director: While I don't always agree with their theology, I like the concept of student-led groups.*

Generation Why Bible Studies (Mennonite Publishing House) \$12.99-\$14.99 per course

www.mph.org/flr/youth-genwhy.html

In a time of violence, injustice, materialism, and hard questions, *Generation Why Bible Studies* help a new generation of youth apply the Bible to real life. With easy-to-use teaching materials, creative activities, hard-hitting discussion questions, and reproducible student sheets, these studies tackle the complicated issue of following Christ in the real world. Generation Why Bible Studies offer a topical yet systematic approach to the study of Scripture. The studies require no student pieces and are appropriate for Sunday school, youth group, retreats, or small group study.



- *From Massachusetts Conference: Another one of my favorites which has been around for a while is the “Generation Why?” Bible Study series for Youth produced by Faith and Life Resources. These Bible studies address issues of God, Jesus, the Church but also address social issues. It helps teens to put their faith into action and creates a marriage of faith life and secular life. The Fastlane series for Jr. High Youth by the same publisher is very good as well.*
- *From Minnesota Conference: It is an excellent curriculum resource. I just want to clarify that it is jointly published by Faith and Life Press (a Mennonite publishing entity) and Brethren Press (the Church of the Brethren publishing house). Both traditions bring a strong commitment to Bible, peace, and justice to the development table.*

Every Picture Tells a Story: 48 Evocative Photographs for Inspiring Reaction and Reflection by Mark Oestreicher (Youth Specialties, 2004) \$29.99

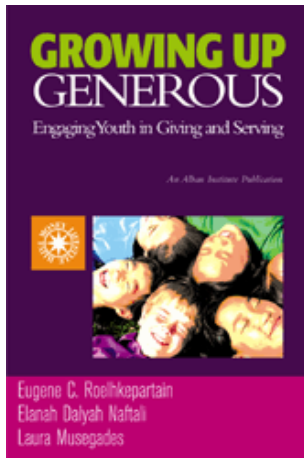
When you trigger your students’ emotions, memories, and dreams, you’ll also unleash more God-driven conversation, insight, and truth than you ever thought possible! Great theory. But how? Visually, of course! We scouted the planet for 48 evocative, black-and-white photos that beg for reflection and contemplation. The 32-page leader’s guide offers creative ways—with lots of Bible references—to use these images to stir up spiritual longings, launch discussions, open doorways into personal reflection, and kick-off Bible studies. Plus, after purchasing, you can visit www.youthspecialties.com/store/epts/ to download the images for use in MediaShout or PowerPoint presentations!



- *From Connecticut Conference: A number of our youth workers have used Zondervan’s “Every Picture Tells a Story” with great creativity. It comes with 48 (I think) evocative black and white photographs and several suggestions for ways to use them. At least one church then had their young people go out and take their own photographs -- with quite profound results.*
- *From Massachusetts Conference: Every Picture Tells A Story by Youth Specialties is also a great resource tool. I have never read the instructions that come with this, but have developed my own ways of using this resource. Again, this helps get youth talking about spirituality.*

***Beyond Leaf Raking: Learning to Serve/Serving to Learn* by Peter L. Benson and Eugene C. Roehlkepartain (Abingdon, 1993), \$15.00**

The research evidence is clear: Not only is serving others theologically appropriate, but youth who serve others are more likely to have a positive outlook on life and are less likely than other youth to be involved in at-risk behaviors. *Beyond Leaf Raking* presents a foundation for youth service, shows how to integrate service-learning into youth ministry, and features stories and illustrations from congregations. In addition, this resource includes practical checklists, worksheets, surveys, guidelines for congregations, and a formal evaluation tool for measuring the impact of service of youth.



***Growing Up Generous: Engaging Youth in Giving and Serving* by Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, Elanah Delyah Naftali, and Laura Musegades (Alban Institute, 2004) \$27.95**

The authors create a mosaic of what is happening, and what could happen, in American Jewish and Christian congregations to cultivate in young people a deep and lasting commitment to giving and serving. Based on a two-year project by Search Institute, a nonprofit research and education organization that specializes in the healthy development of children and adolescents, the book recognizes and highlights the roles of various congregational leaders (not only youth leaders) in shaping the attitudes of young people.

***Making a Difference: Leading Students in Life-Changing Service* (Group Publishing) \$59.99**

www.grouppublishing.com

Taking clothes or food to others in need...it seems like a simple thing to do. But how do you lead teenagers to have a “servant’s heart” all of the time? In this outreach adventure, guide teens to the “heart” of service with the exceptional experiences found in *Making a Difference*. Students will learn, serve and share by “adopting” a family to care for, studying biblical examples, discussing, journaling, and taking part in creative worship presentations--all reinforcing what it means to serve. Kit includes: CD, video, 1 leader guide and 6 student journals.

***40 Developmental Assets (Search Institute) Putting Assets in Action* booklet, \$14.95**

www.search-institute.org/assets/

Search Institute’s 40 developmental assets are concrete, common sense, positive experiences and qualities essential to raising successful young people. These assets have the power during critical adolescent years to influence choices young people make and help them become caring, responsible adults.



Faith in Motion Series (Abingdon) Leader's Guide, \$12.00, Student Guide \$7.00 per course

www.cokesbury.com

Tested with churches across the United States, this new undated curriculum received high marks from users for layout, ease of planning and teaching, clear life application message, and youth enjoyment. The series will include sixteen topical studies for grades 6-8. Each book has 7 sessions with new studies released each quarter. Each quarter, one release focuses on a life issue and the other release focuses on a faith issue. The highly graphic, slimline Student Book provides youth with helpful information about the topic, questions related to the session and their lives, practical help for next steps, a key Scripture or important quotation, and a challenge for the week. The Leader Guide includes step-by-step plans for seven sessions, plus a retreat model, a worship service, and a field trip or service project.

- *From Connecticut Conference Resource Center Director: I've bought several titles from Abingdon's "Faith in Motion" series. Each one deals with a topic of particular concern to the age group (eg. peer pressure); has seven sessions plus a plan for a retreat. The materials, which include a Leader's Guide and a Student Journal, are attractive and colorful. Again, I've had positive feedback from people who have used them.*

Messy Spirituality...My Life Is A Mess by Michael Yaconelli (Zondervan, 2002) \$14.99

What!? You're not perfect? That's all right, God loves you anyway. God even loves the author of this book, and he's really a mess. There is a spirituality for people who often don't feel very spiritual and it will bring you closer to God. Find it in this book. See article on this book at:

www.zondervan.com/pathways/archive/volume1/issue2/messy_spiritual.htm

- *From Massachusetts Conference Youth Ministry Staff: My second favorite is Messy Spirituality by Mike Yaconelli. In reading this, I walked away thinking that Mike stole my life story. There were so many parallels. What Mike writes is so applicable to youth ministry and how we can help youth to connect spiritually.*



Reel to Real (Abingdon), \$5.00 each

Order from Cokesbury: www.cokesbury.com/curriculum.aspx

New downloadable resources at www.ileadyouth.com

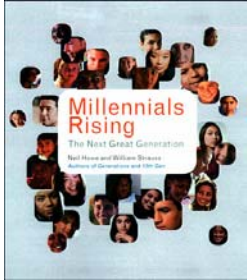


Reel to Real uses the most popular and meaningful movies for youth to get them talking about life, faith, and values. *Reel to Real* deals with movies rated G, PG, and PG-13 that are available on videocassette for rental. *Reel to Real* provides teaching plans for sessions that connect the movies and Scripture. *Reel to Real* includes: at least one movie-based retreat in each issue, and sessions based on viewing the whole movie and ones based on viewing clips only, from the Video Viewing Charts for each movie. *Reel to Real* includes a parental consent form that may be photocopied and information about legal, copyright, and licensing issues. Search on www.ileadyouth.com for specific titles and topics.

***Millennials Rising: The Next Great Generation* by Neil Howe and William Strauss (Vintage Books, 2000) \$14.95**

www.millennialsrising.com

The authors show how today's teens are recasting the image of youth from downbeat and alienated to upbeat and engaged. The authors also show



- how Millennials are held to higher standards than adults apply to themselves
- how they're a lot less violent, vulgar, and sexually charged than the teen culture older people are producing for them
- how, over the next decade, they'll entirely recast what it means to be young and
- how, in time, they could emerge as the next great generation.

***Making God Real for a New Generation: Ministry with Millennials Born from 1982-1999* by Craig Kennet Miller and MaryJane Pierce Norton (Discipleship Resource, 2003) \$15.00**

www.discipleshipresources.org

The Millennial Generation is on the verge of a key moment in its life. By 2006 we will see a youth boom larger than any of the youth booms of the past. Fueled by the largest generation the world has ever seen, this youth boom will shape the values and trends for the next 20 years. Perhaps the greatest challenge facing the church today is to be God's witness to our children and young people — to make God real for this new generation. Making God Real for a New Generation begins with an article entitled "Who Are the Millennials?" that gives an overview of some of the key characteristics of Millennials and issues they are facing. Following this introduction are four sections, each section focusing on how congregations and families can be witnesses for this generation.

***Adolescents in Crisis: A Guide for Parents, Teachers, Ministers, and Counselors* by G. Wade Rowatt Jr. (Westminster John Knox Press, 2001) \$18.95**

The Sept. 11 attack on the United States apparently has caused other national tragedies to pale in comparison. Some of these tragedies, including the Columbine massacre, involved school violence. In this book, Wade Rowatt focuses on the underlying reasons for school violence. Plus, he focuses on many other areas that are causing crises for today's youth. This is a very detailed book that will require careful reading. It is full of insights that are both frightening and enlightening. If you are a parent, someone who works with youth, or even cares about youth, this book belongs in your library.

***A Place at the Table: Struggles for Equality in America* (Teaching Tolerance).
Video, One copy free**

www.tolerance.org

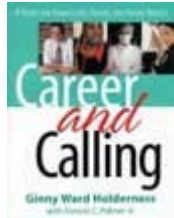
A Place at the Table tells the story of our nation's struggle to ensure liberty and justice for all. One major element sets the video apart from most historical documentaries: It is narrated entirely by young people. The book component explores this history in greater depth, while the teachers' guide provides 13 detailed lesson plans for use in the middle and upper grades. The kit includes: The film, *A Place at the Table*, in which young people describe how their families have found a place at the "American table," available in VHS format; the 144-page text, *A Place at the Table*; and the Teachers' guide.



***Teaming Up: Shared Leadership in Youth Ministry* by Ginny Ward Holderness (Westminster/John Knox, 1997) \$18.95**

Best-selling Christian educator Ginny Holderness gives us a comprehensive guide and workbook that involves youth in their own ministry programs and encourages them to become the church leaders of the future.

***Career and Calling: A Guide for Counselors, Youth, and Young Adults* by Ginny Ward Holderness (Geneva Press, 2001) \$19.95**



Career and Calling is an excellent guide for discovering God's calling. Written for students, young adults, and those who work with them, it contains a six-session, small group career counseling program that focuses on God's calling; individual's interests, gifts, and talents; and the world of work. The program also encourages the development of spiritual disciplines, scripture reading and study, journaling, mentoring, and conversations with professionals.

***Ted and Lee TheaterWorks* (Mennonite Media), Video, \$24.95 each**

www.mennomedia.org

This Mennonite Comedy duo is dynamite when it comes to introducing youth to scripture, often offering a different perspective. Some of the video titles include: Fish Eyes (a series of Gospel stories), Creation Chronicles (90 minutes telling the overarching story of the Old Testament), Vocation Vocation Vocation (on Vocation), Bridge to Forgiveness (on Reconciliation), Don't Just Sit on Your Stuff (on Stewardship), and The Kingdom is Big Enough for You: God's Amazing Acceptance (on Grace).

***Beyond the News: Parenting Adolescents* (Mennonite Media), Video, \$24.95**

www.mennomedia.org

This is a video on parenting for anyone who works or lives with adolescents. It looks at the culture influencing adolescents today, adolescent development, parenting issues, community and church involvement, and what it takes for adolescents to experience this stage of life as a positive time of growth. The 55-minute video has eight segments. Issue oriented video that goes beyond current headlines. It comes with a Study Guide and is segmented for easy use in multiple sessions. It is a dynamic discussion starter.

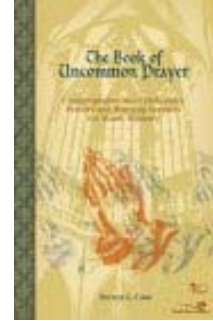


***Alternative Worship: Resources from and for the Emerging Church* compiled by Jonny Baker and Doug Gay with Jenny Brown (Baker, 2003) \$24.99**

The book is amazing. It takes a part worship components from several worship gatherings and spaces in England and puts them into book form to inspire, teach, and to be used in your own context. The book has a lot of theological and creative richness in it and is a book that you will probably return to again and again for ideas and help in your own worship setting. I have seen parts of it used in traditional parishes and in brand new alternative worship spaces as well as seeker services. You may not use all of it but you will appreciate the time and effort put into all of it. The CD that comes with it is okay but the inability to cut and paste from it is a minor irritation.

***The Book of Uncommon Prayer* by Steven L. Case (Zondervan, 2002) \$19.95**

The CD is worth the cost of the book. The Book of Uncommon Prayer is an excellent resource for combining the energy of youth ministry with postmodern culture and the treasures of liturgical tradition. This book cuts across denominational lines. It comes with a “postmodern Eucharist CD” which is energy laden and reverent. The book contains worship ideas for many occasions. If you work with youth, avail yourself of this resource and take your youth deeper than the customary parties, games, snacks, and discussions on dating.



Prepared by
R. Kenneth Ostermiller
Minister for Curriculum Development
Local Church Ministries,
A Covenanted Ministry of United Church of Christ
700 Prospect Ave 5th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44115
216-736-3866 ostermik@ucc.org
Toll Free: 866-822-8224 Ext. 3866
Visit education resources on the UCC home page
www.ucc.org/education/index.html
www.ucp.com