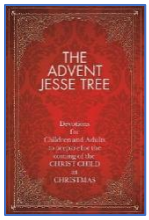
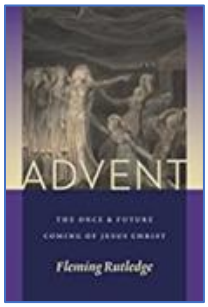



# Advent and Christmas Books for Adults

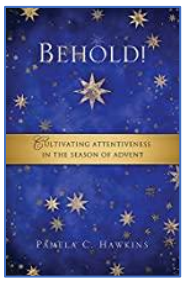
available to borrow from the **United Media Resource Center** http://www.igrc.org/umrc
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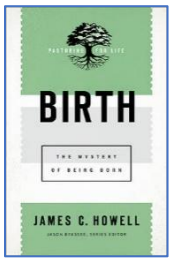

**ADVENT JESSE TREE (814054)** Author: Lambert, Dean Meador. Devotions for Children and Adults to Prepare for the Coming of the Christ Child at Christmas. Designed as a 25-day devotional guide, this book includes a short devotion each day for both children and adults. Suggestions for making an Advent Jesse Tree with ornaments is included. 96 Pages.




**ADVENT: THE ONCE AND FUTURE COMING OF JESUS CHRIST (818175)** Author: Rutledge, Fleming. A collection of fifty writings and sermons collected from over forty-five years of preaching. Not just about the Christmas season, they also discuss the second coming, the last judgment, the end of the world, and the ethical dimension of the life of waiting and watching while also seeking to live a life of meaningful action. 406 Pages.




**BEHOLD! CULTIVATING ATTENTIVENESS IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT (811057)** Author: Hawkins, Pamela. Allow the word "Behold!" to draw you into a prayerful Advent, whether individually or with a group. Be attentive to expectancy, preparation, faith, and promise. Then as you draw near to the manger, you will find what you seek and what God chooses to give. This book provides daily meditations as well as a weekly prayer practice such as praying with images, silent prayer, using prayer beads, and compline. A guide for leaders adapts this book for group use. 109 Pages.




**BIRTH: THE MYSTERY OF BEING BORN (821055)** Author: Howell, James C. This book explores the connections between our own birth, the experience of having children, and the new birth of the Christian life. Seasoned pastor James Howell offers theological perspectives on a variety of themes associated with birth, such as who we are in light of having once lived in utero, why people might have children, infertility, adoption, baptism, and how to make sense of it all in light of God coming to us first in Mary's womb and then as an infant. Chapters: In my mother's womb; My birthday; Unchosenness and being chosen; **Mary, mother of our Lord**; **The birth of Jesus**; **Jesus's first days**; Why have children?; Having children; The first days after birth; Infertility and medicine; When medicine fails; Adoption; Remember your baptism; You must be born again. Includes Scripture, subject, and name index. Part of the 'Pastoring for Life: Theological Wisdom for Ministering Well' series. 194 Pages.




**BLUE CHRISTMAS: DEVOTIONS OF LIGHT IN A SEASON OF DARKNESS (818179)** Author: Outcalt, Todd. This book is an honest Advent devotional that meets people where they are - in their hurts, fears, and disappointments - and offers them hope through the birth of Jesus Christ. Includes daily readings, a Blue Christmas worship service, and discussion questions for group study. 111 Pages.




**CHARACTERS OF CHRISTMAS: THE UNLIKELY PEOPLE CAUGHT UP IN THE STORY OF JESUS (819130)** Author: Darling, Daniel. Chapters: Introduction - Jesus, the greatest story of all; Joseph, the unsung hero of Christmas; A Christmas miracle - Zechariah and Elizabeth; Mary, the simple girl at the center of everything; The song of the angels; Room for Jesus - the innkeeper; The first to know - shepherds; Seeking and finding - the wise men; Herod, the monster of Christmas; The oldest bucket list - Simeon and Anna; The surprising people in Jesus' family; The even more surprising people in Jesus' family; Afterword - imagine yourself. Includes reflection questions. 178 Pages.

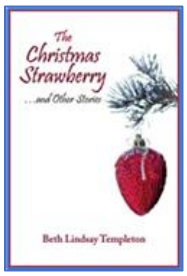
**CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL (806246)** Author: Scholl, Travis. With A Four-Week Bible Study for Advent. This spiral-bound book includes the original text of 'A Christmas Carol' complemented by a discussion guide for Christian individuals or groups. Intertwined throughout the story and the guide are the themes of hope, redemption, transformation, the work of the Spirit, and the Christian life. Session titles: Who Am I?; How Did I Get Here?; What Am I Doing?; Where Am I Going? Up to three copies available. 117 Pages.



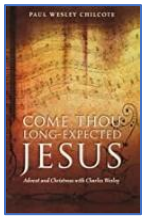

**CHRIST BESIDE ME, CHRIST WITHIN ME: CELTIC BLESSINGS (817268)** Author: Richardson, Beth. Sections: Through the day - celebrating God's presence in each moment; Holy moments - celebrating the gifts of life; Seasons - journeying through a year; Passages - special moments; Heart prayers - blessing the world; The struggling times - facing illness, loss, and grief; God is in - celebrating the presence. 96 Pages.



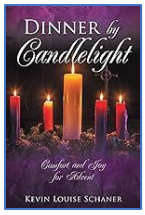

**CHRISTMAS CAROL BOOK AND BIBLE STUDY GUIDE (820047)** Author: Dickens, Charles and Vermilye, Alan. Book and Bible Study Guide Based on the Charles Dickens Classic "A Christmas Carol." Designed as a five-session study, this item includes the full text of the book as well as discussion questions. Session titles: 1) Marley's ghost; 2) The first of the three spirits; 3) The second of the three spirits; 4) The last of the spirits; 5) The end of it. Each participant will need a copy of the guide. Includes two supplemental guides: an answer guide and a list of Scripture references. 166 Pages.




**CHRISTMAS STRAWBERRY AND OTHER STORIES (819162)** Author: Templeton, Beth Lindsay. This collection of stories and poems reflects on the inherent contrasts of Advent and Christmas: joy and sorrow, traditions and just getting through, religious emphases and secular aspects, loneliness and love, wealth and poverty. Some people live more on one side than the other but in reaching out, all our lives are enriched. The author is founder and CEO of 'Our Eyes Were Opened, Inc.' whose mission is to enlarge understanding in order to decrease judgment and increase compassion. Larger than average print. 113 Pages.

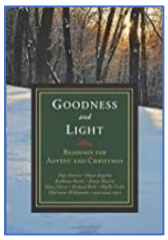



**COME THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS: ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WITH CHARLES WESLEY (807192)** Author: Chilcote, Paul Wesley. A special volume of Advent and Christmas meditations based on the seasonal hymns of Charles Wesley. Each daily meditation, keyed to the Scripture reading for the day and portions of Wesley's texts, concludes with a brief prayer based on the day's theme. Part 1: Hymns and Prayers for Advent. Part 2: Hymns and Prayers for the Twelve Days of Christmas. Part 3: Formats for Morning and Evening Prayer. Includes Scripture index and hymn tune and meter index. 112 Pages.

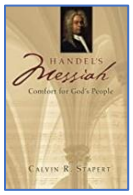



**DINNER BY CANDLELIGHT: COMFORT AND JOY FOR ADVENT (820144)** Author: Schaner, Kevin Louise. A collection of 29 short devotional readings for Advent. *2021-2022 UMW Reading Program: Spiritual Growth 81 Pages.

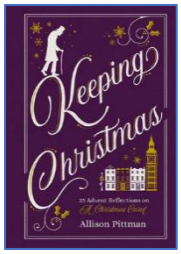
**EVERLASTING LIGHT: A RESOURCE FOR ADVENT WORSHIP (807224)** Author: Dixon, Sandy. A collection of worship resources for each Sunday in all three cycles of the Revised Common Lectionary. Also includes Hanging of the Greens and Christmas Sunday services. 82 Pages.



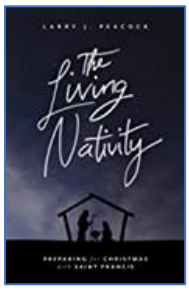

**GOODNESS AND LIGHT: READINGS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS (816043)** Author: various. An anthology of selections by beloved writers for every day of the season, from Advent to Christmas to Epiphany. Writers include: Frederick Buechner, Richard Rohr, Harper Lee, Willa Cather, Phyllis Tickle, Annie Dillard, Mohandas Gandhi, Kathleen Norris, Leo Tolstoy, Maya Angelou, Oscar Romero, and many others. Contains 48 entries, one each for November 21 through January 7. Includes author index. 269 Pages.




**HANDEL'S MESSIAH: COMFORT FOR GOD'S PEOPLE (818232)** Author: Stapert, Calvin. This book includes historical information surrounding Handel's 'Messiah' as well as commentary on the theological message of the words and the way Handel's music conveys and interprets that message. Includes bibliography and index. 173 Pages.



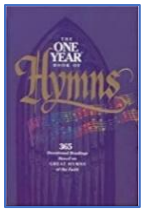

**KEEPING CHRISTMAS: 25 ADVENT REFLECTIONS ON A CHRISTMAS CAROL (821000)** Author: Pittman, Allison. Allison Pittman offers 25 readings for Advent, seamlessly bringing together the Word of God and the words of 'A Christmas Carol.' 124 pages.



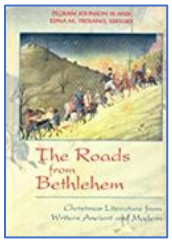

**LIVING NATIVITY: PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS WITH SAINT FRANCIS (818194)** Author: Peacock, Larry. This book, which explores the creation of the Christmas creche or nativity scene by Saint Francis of Assisi, incorporates daily readings and weekend activities to enhance the season for families, individuals, or study groups. Includes a leader's guide for a five-week study. 112 Pages.



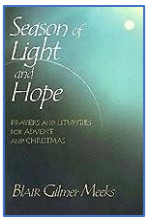

**MOMENTS & DAYS: HOW OUR HOLY CELEBRATIONS SHAPE OUR FAITH (816248)** Author: Van Loon, Michelle. This book explores the gift of time and takes a look at holidays in the Jewish and Christian calendars -- their stories, structures, and histories -- and offers suggestions on how you, your family, and your congregation can ponder their significance. Chapters: Measuring time, being measured by time -- the calendar; In the beginning -- introduction to the Jewish calendar; Day of yes, day of rest -- the Sabbath; Into freedom -- Passover, unleavened break, first fruits; Fifty days and first fruits -- Shavuot; May you be in scribed in the Book of Life -- Rosh Hashanah, Feast of Trumpets; Atonement and mercy -- Yom Kippur; God with us, us with God -- Sukkot / Feast of Tabernacles; Stones of remembrance -- Jewish history's holy days; From here to there -- introduction to the Christian calendar; **Longing for home -- Advent; Welcoming the Word made flesh -- Christmas; The Light to the world -- Epiphany**; Ashes to ashes -- Lent; Walking toward the cross with Jesus -- Holy Week; Living in resurrection time -- Easter; Signs, wonders, and new community -- Pentecost; Right here, right now -- Ordinary Time; Conclusion -- it's about time. Includes glossary and recipes. 213 Pages.




**ONE YEAR BOOK OF HYMNS: 365 DEVOTIONAL READINGS BASED ON GREAT HYMNS OF THE FAITH (816158)** Author: Brown, Robert and Norton, Mark, editors. Each entry includes a short reading about a hymn. Helpful indexes allow you to locate specific titles or hymn writers, or to look up hymns on specific topics. 210 Pages.



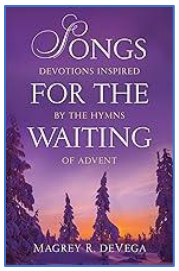

**ROADS FROM BETHLEHEM (824557)** Author: Johnson, Pegram and Troiano, Edna, editors. Christmas Literature from Writers Ancient and Modern. Chapter titles: Scripture and early traditions; The Middle Ages--from liturgy to literature; The Renaissance--visions individual and communal; The Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries--the age of sentiment; The Twentieth Century--the age of anxiety. 318 Pages.



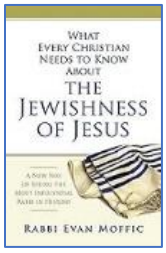

**SEASON OF LIGHT AND HOPE: PRAYERS AND LITURGIES FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS (806209)** Author: Meeks, Blair Gilmer. This book is a treasury of scripture-based prayers, liturgies, and other worship aids to enrich worship from the First Sunday of Advent through the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord (usually the second Sunday in January). 146 Pages.



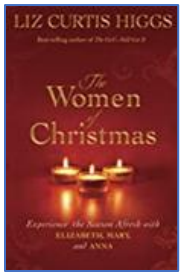

**SILENT NIGHT: THE STORIES BEHIND 40 BELOVED CHRISTMAS CAROLS (814055)** Author: McLaughlin, David. This small book includes short articles on 40 Christmas songs, blending history, tradition, and devotional insight. 192 Pages.



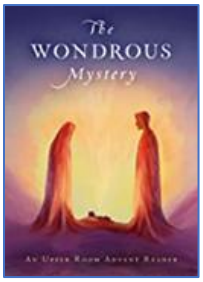

**SONGS FOR THE WAITING: DEVOTIONS INSPIRED BY THE HYMNS OF ADVENT (816212)** Author: deVega, Magrey. Each of the twenty-eight devotions in this collection are based on a portion of an Advent hymn and include a text of Scripture, a prayer, and questions for reflection or discussion. 102 Pages.




**WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT THE JEWISHNESS OF JESUS (816008)** Author: Moffic, Evan. A New Way of Seeing the Most Influential Rabbi in History. Chapters: A humble birth; An unexpected turn; Entering the waters; Surviving a wilderness of temptations; Calling the disciples; Do you believe in miracles?; Finding honey on the page; The Shema; The Lord's Prayer; The last days; Five rabbis explain Jesus. 203 Pages.




**WOMEN OF CHRISTMAS: EXPERIENCE THE SEASON AFRESH WITH ELIZABETH, MARY, AND ANNA (814210)** Author: Higgs, Liz Curtis. Liz Curtis Higgs explores the Christmas story through the stories of Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna. Includes discussion questions. 212 Pages.




**WONDROUS MYSTERY** (819184) During Advent we think about a wondrous mystery: that God chose to become human and lived among us. The Savior of the world was born a vulnerable child. The King who will rule all of creation lies in a humble manger. This book of short daily readings invites readers to reflect on several paradoxes that make up the Advent season: light and darkness, peace and strife, solitude and community, simplicity and complexity. Writers include Barbara Brown Taylor, Henri J. M. Nouwen, Esther de Waal, Walter Wink, Sue Monk Kidd, Wendy M. Wright, and other voices from Weavings: A Journal of the Christian Spiritual Life. 72 Pages.