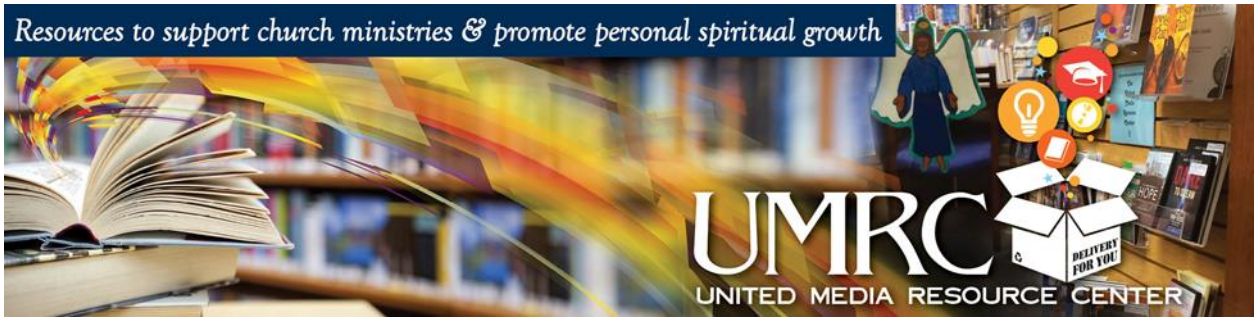
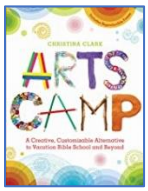


Summer holidays and activities

Books available to borrow from the **United Media Resource Center**
http://www.igrc.org/umrc
Contact us at umrc@igrc.org
or search for and request items using the online catalog



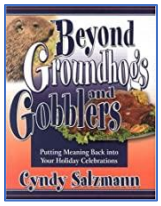
Ants Work Best Together: 31 Object Lessons from Nature (807236) From preschoolers through late elementary age, all children are interested in learning more about the world of nature. This book provides object lessons about ants, frogs, butterflies, grass, and more. 79 Pages.



Arts Camp: A Creative, Customizable Alternative to Vacation Bible School and Beyond (815171) Arts Camp uses music and song, visual art and media, drama and storytelling, and movement and game-playing to enter into Bible study around an established theme. This book offers the basics for creating your own version of Arts Camp as well as plans for five themed camps. Chapters: What is Arts Camp?; We've built an Arts Camp team, now what?; The morning program; Art, music, and movement/drama; Story, grace, lunch, playtime, and meditation/yoga; Arts Camp -- Praise!; Arts Camp -- EcoJustice; Arts Camp -- Who is my neighbor?; Arts Camp -- Interfaith peace; Arts Camp -- Saints and holy helpers. 123 Pages.



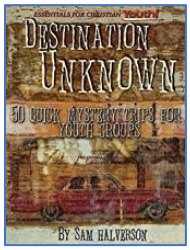
Best VBS Workbook Ever! (817037) This book provides information to help you build your own Vacation Bible School experience. Topics include planning the vision (audience, goals, theme), executing the vision (planning, staffing, marketing, budgeting, registering), living into the vision (music, arts and crafts, prayer and worship, games, snacks, decorations, etc.), and the vision becomes a reality (building a schedule, your staff, emergency preparedness, safety training, continuing the relationship). 150 Pages.



Beyond Groundhogs and Gobblers (804223) Putting Meaning Back into Your Holiday Celebrations. Put the 'holy' back into your holidays with this month-by-month guide. Includes New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Groundhog Day, St. Valentine's Day, President's Day, St. Patrick's Day, April Fool's Day, Easter Season, Mother's Day, **Memorial Day**, **Flag Day**, **Father's Day**, **Independence Day**, Birthdays, **Labor Day**, Columbus Day, Halloween/Halloween Alternatives, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas. Includes recipes. 135 Pages.

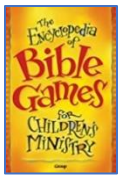


Deep Blue Year of Festivals: Intergenerational Celebrations (816165) Eight intergenerational celebrations organized to include worship, fun, and faith formation. Each plan includes schedules, activities, worship outlines, event setups, and suggestions for advertising and outreach into the community. Includes: Harvest jamboree; Fall festival; Reverse Advent celebration; New year praise and prayer; Lenten community pilgrimage; Pentecost planting -- salad in a pot; **Summer fun progressive picnic**; Costume party. 48 Pages.



Destination Unknown (804249) 50 Quick Mystery Trips for Youth Groups. Youth programs with a twist -- teens go to an unknown destination that relates the Bible to life in new ways. Includes Scripture index. 143 Pages.

Destination Unknown 2 (812136) 50 More Quick Mystery Trips for Youth Groups. Youth programs with a twist -- teens go to an unknown destination that relates the Bible to life in new ways. Includes Scripture and topical indexes. 144 Pages.



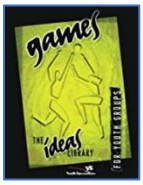
Encyclopedia of Bible Games for Children's Ministry (806175) Part 1: Bible Story Games. Part 2: Jesus Is…Games. Part 3: The Bible Is…Games. Part 4: Holiday Games (Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter, Mother's Day, **Memorial Day**, **Father's Day**, **Labor Day**, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas). Part 5: Wild 'n' Wacky Games. Part 6: Total Silence Games. Part 7: Travel Time Games. Part 8: Icebreaker Games. Part 9: Group Builder Games. Includes Scripture and Energy-level indexes. 270 Pages.



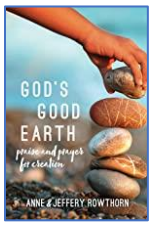
Every Step a Prayer: Walking as Spiritual Practice (818127) Discover how every step you take can bring you closer to God. Chapters: Teach me your paths; Prime mover; Moving to a larger rhythm; On the road; Coming home; Guide my feet. Each chapter has reflection questions and practical exercises to help you walk prayerfully. 127 Pages.



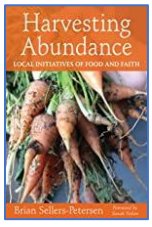
Faithful Celebrations: Making Time with Family and Friends (819091) Designed to meet the need for generations to learn together, this book provides activities (crafts, recipes, discussion, worship, drama, games) that will bring families together and build strong communities of faith, whether it is in the home or a congregational setting. Chapters: Earth Day; Cinco de Mayo; Mother's Day; **Memorial Day; Father's Day**; **Summer Solstice**; Fourth of July; **Summer celebration of God's creation**. 152 Pages.



Games for Youth Groups (808106) This book includes more than 400 indoor and **outdoor games**: balloon games, basketball games, indoor games for large groups, indoor games for small groups, living room games, mind reading games, ping-pong variations, volleyball games. 173 Pages.



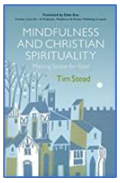
God's Good Earth: Praise and Prayer for Creation (819035) This book offers Christians and their communities an engaging resource for prayer, reflection, and worship that reflects and nourishes their efforts to serve God and care for God's creation. Compilers Anne and Jeffery Rowthorn have prepared 52 beautiful, ready-made prayer services, each around a specific theme, drawing from a rich variety of ecumenical resources: psalms and other responsive readings, Scripture, hymns, prayers, and reflections from the world's most engaging nature writers and interpreters of the social and cultural landscape. Units: God the Creator and God's glorious creation; God's physical universe; The diversity of God's creatures; The human community and its needs; The whole creation groaning in travail; Hope and the future. 352 Pages.



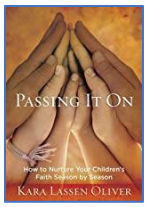
Harvesting Abundance: Local Initiatives of Food and Faith (817126) As Christians, we are called to be good stewards of the land and to share its produce. Learn how congregations, schools, and organizations across the United States are reaching out to their neighborhoods to share God's story of abundance through a variety of agricultural initiatives, offering inspiration to all of us to nurture out own relationship with our Creator -- and with each other -- by planting a garden and feeding the hungry. Includes color photos. 152 Pages.



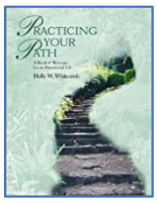
Holiday Ideas for Youth Groups (814220) Compiled from ideas submitted by youth leaders, this book contains over 200 festive activities, games, songs, and skits for use during the New Year, St. Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter/Lent, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas/Advent seasons. Also includes a few ideas for Super Bowl, April Fool's Day, Mother's Day, **Father's Day**, and **Graduation**.



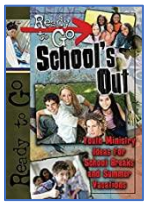
Mindfulness and Christian Spirituality: Making Space for God (820110) In this book, Tim Stead explores how practicing mindfulness can help Christians better live out their faith. He explains what mindfulness is and what is beneficial about it and reflects on how it can impact what and how we believe. Mindfulness practices that are designed to help readers make space for God in their everyday lives are included. Chapters: Mindfulness in its clinical and mainstream contexts; Mindfulness in the Christian tradition; My journey to mindfulness; God is one, God is love, God is now!; Jesus – the embodied one, the liberated one, the awakened one; The Holy Spirit – free will, decentering; Knowing God's presence; Trusting God; Knowing God's will; Finding peace; Inner healing; Prayer and worship; Practicing love; **Reconnecting with nature**; Daily living; Life in all its fullness. Includes bibliography. 144 Pages.



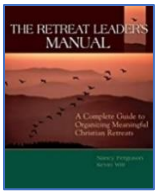
Passing It On: How to Nurture Your Children's Faith Season by Season (815174) Providing plans for four units (Advent -- preparing to receive the gifts of Christmas, Lent -- living in the awkward season, summer -- turning ordinary into extraordinary, and back-to-school -- growing fruit of the Spirit) this book provides plans for weekly family gatherings with age-appropriate activities. A leader's guide for parent groups using the book together is also provided. *2018 UMW Reading Program: Nurturing for Community 94 Pages.



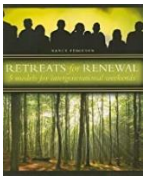
Practicing Your Path: A Book of Retreats for an Intentional Life (812086) This book offers seven one-day retreats that can be followed in the privacy of your own home or in the company of other spiritual seekers. Each retreat focuses on one component of classical Christian spirituality: Practicing Sabbath; Practicing Hospitality; Practicing Prayer and Action; Practicing the Fast; Practicing Giving Back to God; Practicing Your Call; Practicing Accountability. 125 Pages.



Ready-to-Go School's Out (809030) Youth Ministry Ideas for School Breaks and Summer Vacations. Here youth workers can find support and practical ideas that can help them minister to teens during times such as fall and spring breaks, **summer vacation**, Christmas break, New Year's Eve, and other special days such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, **Memorial Day**, Thanksgiving, and more. Also includes ideas for youth leader rest and renewal times. 96 Pages.



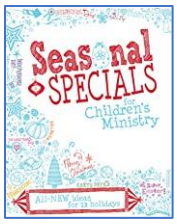
Retreat Leader's Manual (807056) A Complete Guide to Organizing Meaningful Christian Retreats. This book provides a solid base for faith formation in retreats, and is also a practical guide for organizing and leading them. It includes the nuts and bolts of how to plan a budget, the right questions to ask about a potential retreat site, and ideas for making Bible study and worship memorable for people of all ages. 126 Pages.



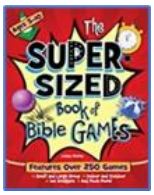
Retreats for Renewal (808037) 5 Models for Intergenerational Weekends. This book will help deepen and strengthen relationships within the whole congregation by offering a chance for all people of all ages within a congregation to praise God, find a shared story, learn about one another, and discover those things that bind them together in Christ. In addition to an overview of planning a retreat, including ideas for adapting the session designs for two- or three-day retreats, each retreat design has everything you need to plan and lead an intergenerational retreat. Retreat titles: 1) Follow the Good Shepherd; 2) Come to the Waters; 3) Shine the Light; 4) Sow Seeds of Faith; 5) Claim Your Name. 123 Pages.



Sacred Holidays: Less Chaos, More Jesus (818208) Holidays are meant to be more than chaos with glimpses of grace; they are meant to draw us closer to God and one another. This book helps you avoid what has tripped you up in the past and gives you insights, tips, and tools to make your holidays less chaotic and more about loving Jesus and others. Don't let your holidays be marked by regret, whimsy whirlwinds, or survival mindset. Let's celebrate every holiday together purposefully and worshipfully - loving Jesus and others well in every moment. Chapters: Regrets, better ways, and baby steps; Social experiments and all things whimsy; Holidays (read 30-60 days before holiday): New Year's, Valentine's Day, Lent and Easter, **Summer**, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas, Happy Birthday; Common struggles (read as needed): How to not be THAT Christian; Realistic expectations; Conflict, drama and all the feels; Budgets and generosity; Schedules and plans; Grief; Santa and the Easter Bunny; P.S. - be yourself and be with others. Appropriate for teachers and grandparents as well as parents. 242 Pages.



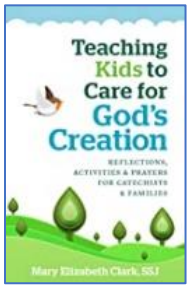
Seasonal Specials for Children's Ministry (814158) Celebrate 13 popular holidays with preschoolers through preteens, all from a Chris tian perspective. Each session includes a snack, craft, devotion, game, and more. Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas have extra activities to inspire, educate, and celebrate. Includes: New Year's Day; Valentine's Day; St. Patrick's Day; Palm Sunday; Easter; Earth Day; Mother's Day; **Memorial Day**; **Father's Day**; **Independence Day**; Halloween; Thanksgiving; Christmas. Includes index of activities by age-level. 158 Pages.



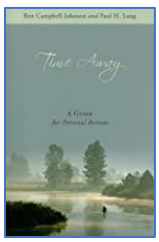
Super-Sized Book of Bible Games (818152) Over 250 games for ages 5-10. Each game includes a few discussion questions related to a Bible topic. Includes Old Testament games, New Testament games, ice breaker games, indoor active games, **outdoor games**, water games, ice and snow games, small group games, large group games, little ones games, quiet games, quick/no prep games, lesson review games, and memory verse review games. Includes index. 311 Pages.



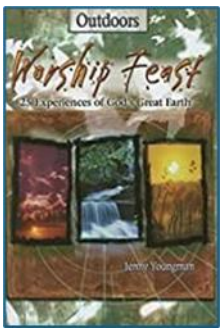
Tea Parties with a Purpose (811087) 10 Simple and Fun Party Ideas for Kids of All Ages. For moms, teachers, grandmas, Bible school leaders, or anyone who loves the idea of sharing a tea party with little friends, this book is for you! Valuable life lessons are taught through themed parties that are complete with recipes, craft instructions, song selections, and devotional messages. Themes: Under the Sea Tea; Snowflake Tea Party; Honeybee Tea; Happy Day Tea; Home Sweet Home Tea; Angel Tea Party; Hands and Feet Tea; Teddy Bear Picnic Tea; Asian Tea Party; Happy Birthday Jesus Tea Party. 119 Pages.



Teaching Kids to Care for God's Creation: Reflections, Activities and Prayers for Catechists and Families (820000) This book gives ideas to parents and teachers for helping young people and their families do the good work of keeping our planet livable and sustainable for coming generations. Chapters: On care for our common home; What is our common home?; What is happening to our home now?; What can I do about pollution?; Who lives in our common home?; How do we live in our common home?; What can I do about how I live?; What does Jesus in the gospels show us?; What can I do to be more like Jesus?; What does my faith teach me about how to live?; What does science teach?; What do I know about the mystery of the universe?; What can I learn from nature?; What are some ways I can be more creative?; How can I practice being in harmony?; How do I get along with people?; Steps to make a decision to keep the peace; How does technology help me to care?; What does food have to do with our common home?; What kinds of games can deepen our care?; What would a new way of being look like?; Ways to celebrate the joy and peace; How does the mystery of the Holy Trinity help us?; How do I celebrate the Sabbath?; What sacramental signs help us to remember?; What can we do during Advent?; What can we do during Lent?; Mary is a model for us; What saints are good examples of caring?; Canticle of the Sun - ways to celebrate Earth every day. 80 Pages.



Time Away: A Guide for Personal Retreat (816111) Chapter titles: What is a retreat?; Why go on a retreat?; Preparing for a retreat; Creating a plan for your retreat -- a half-day or day retreat, when plans don't work out, an overnight retreat, a five-day retreat; Retreat at a monastery; Entering the silence; Returning from time away -- 15 watchwords; Lesson plans for a class on personal retreats; A retreat leader's resource. 143 Pages.



Worship Feast: Outdoors (812072) 25 Experiences of God's Great Earth (plus bonus experiences). This book provides Scriptures, activities, song suggestions, and prayers for leading worship without the constraints of walls and a ceiling: Sunrise on the beach; At a well; At a swimming pool; In a spring rain; In a river; Lakeside; In sight of a waterfall; On a boat; On a mountaintop; In a cave; In view of a rainbow; Under a starlit sky; In a green pasture; At a farm or garden; On a trail; In view of a sunset; At a rest area; At a campground; At a park; At a bonfire; At an amusement park; In a backyard; At a sports event; At a mall; In a snow fall; Among budding trees and flowers; In the fullness of spring; In the heat of a summer day; A late summer night; When autumn leaves are falling; On a windy day; On a freezing cold day. 111 Pages.