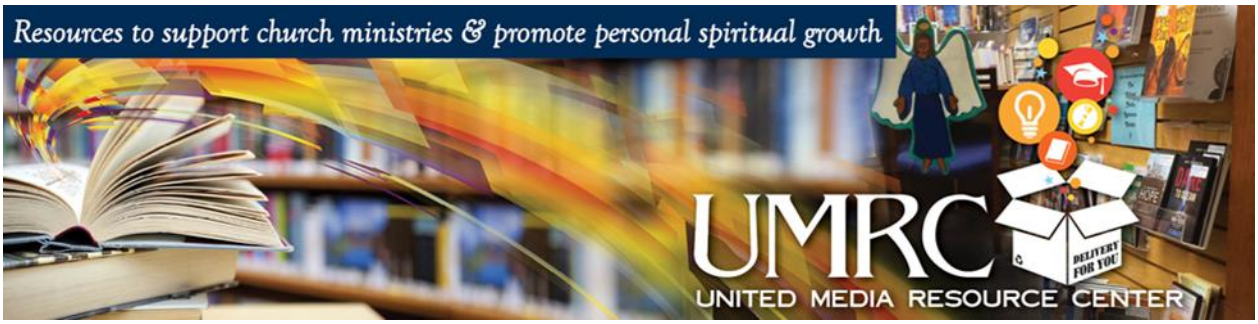
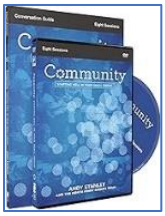


Adult Ministry and Small Groups

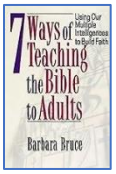
Resources available to borrow from the **United Media Resource Center**
http://www.igrc.org/umrc
Contact us by e-mail at umrc@igrc.org
or search for and request items using the online catalog

DVD:

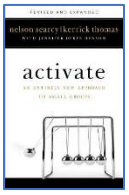


COMMUNITY: STARTING WELL IN YOUR SMALL GROUP (103112) Author: Stanley, Andy and the North Point Groups Team. In this eight-session DVD study, specifically designed for launching new small groups well, you'll explore how building deep relationships with the people in your small group and serving in the larger community around you will grow your faith. You'll learn why your unique story matters -- to God and to the people you do life with. Sessions: 1) Show up (6 min.); 2) Pursue God (7 min.); 3) Join in (10 min.); 4 - 6) Be real (20 min. DVD segment, then time spent sharing stories); 7) Be the Church (10 min.); 8) Be together (8 min.). Includes leader's guide and sample participant guide. 61 Minutes.

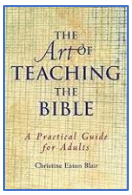
Books:



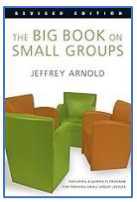
7 WAYS OF TEACHING THE BIBLE TO ADULTS (805172) Author: Bruce, Barbara. Using Our Multiple Intelligences to Build Faith. Chapter titles: Verbal/linguistic intelligence; Logical/mathematical intelligence; Visual/spacial intelligence; Body/kinesthetic intelligence; Musical/rhythmic intelligence; Interpersonal intelligence; Intrapersonal intelligence. The author describes each intelligence in detail and discusses how to use this information to enhance adult education. 112 Pages.



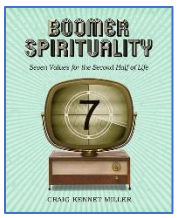
ACTIVATE: AN ENTIRELY NEW APPROACH TO SMALL GROUPS (818057) Author: Searcy, Nelson and Thomas, Kerrick. Revised and Expanded. Want to get the maximum number of people involved in a dynamic small group ministry no matter what size your church is? These practical strategies will produce life-changing results. Chapters: Rethinking small group methodology; Rethinking small group structure; Rethinking small group strategy; Rethinking small group leadership; Focusing your groups; Forming your groups; Filling your groups; Facilitating your groups. 299 Pages.



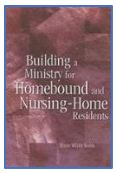
ART OF TEACHING THE BIBLE (804274) Author: Blair, Christine Eaton. A Practical Guide for Adults. How can adult educators teach the Bible faithfully, engagingly, and creatively? Why do so few adults come to Bible study? The author outlines a plan for motivating adults to use the tools and theological principles necessary to interpret biblical texts for themselves. 138 Pages.



BIG BOOK ON SMALL GROUPS (804089) Author: Arnold, Jeffrey. Chapter titles: The power of small groups; Building the church through small groups; Becoming a leader; Starting a group; The building blocks of community; A caring community; A dynamic community; A studying community; A worshiping community; A praying community; A multiplying community; A mission-oriented community; A small group starter kit; Training resources; Resources for building strong groups. 263 Pages.



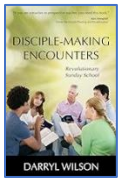
BOOMER SPIRITUALITY: SEVEN VALUES FOR THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE (817138) Author: Miller, Craig Kennet. As the boomer generation navigates dramatic change as it ages, it will be informed by a unique spirituality that was forged in the tumultuous years of the 1960s and 1970s. If you are a boomer, you are sure to be reminded of the events and experiences that had an impact on you when you were young. If you are the child of a boomer, this book will help you understand why your parents act the way they do. If you are creating ministry for this generation, this will be your guide to the way boomers view the world and look toward the future. Chapter titles: Brokenness; Loneliness; Rootlessness; Self-seeking; Godliness; Supernaturalism; Wholeness. 188 Pages.



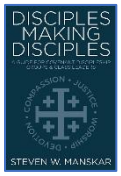
BUILDING A MINISTRY FOR HOMEBOUND AND NURSING-HOME RESIDENTS (804265) Author: Webb, Marie White. Chapter titles: Why do we need a ministry of visitation?; How can we organize?; Go where they are; Learn from follow-up visits; Alleviating fears; Leading worship. Includes guides for a 6-session small group study and a 3-hour session to train visitors. 64 Pages.



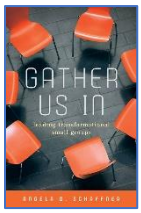
CONNECTED LIFE: SMALL GROUPS THAT CREATE COMMUNITY (817154) Author: Armstrong, Jacob. Jacob Armstrong shares his church's experiences in forming small groups, not as a ministry of the church, but as the places where ministry happens. Whether you call it a small group, a life group, a connect group, or a Sunday school class, the key to connection and purpose is found in journeying through life with other people. Chapters: Why small groups?; What do small groups do?; Forming small groups; The first two sessions; overseeing small groups; The connected life. Includes sample forms. 94 Pages.



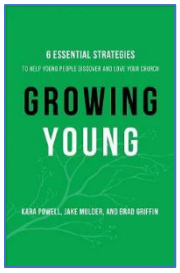
DISCIPLE-MAKING ENCOUNTERS: REVOLUTIONARY SUNDAY SCHOOL (817106) Author: Wilson, Darryl. Designed for leaders of adult (and high school) classes, this book provides guidelines for helping to make your class a place of intentional spiritual growth. 191 Pages.



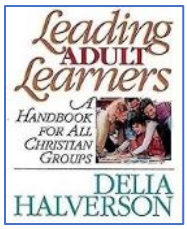
DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES: A GUIDE FOR COVENANT DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS AND CLASS LEADERS (816256) Author: Manskar, Steven. Designed to support members of the congregation who desire to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, this book for class leaders and groups includes tools and information on how to start a Covenant Discipleship group, how to write a covenant, how to lead a group meeting, how to support and grow Covenant Discipleship groups, and more. 235 Pages.



GATHER US IN: LEADING TRANSFORMATIONAL SMALL GROUPS (820087) Author: Schaffner, Angela. This guide to leading small groups provides eight strategies for leading transformative small groups, dispels common myths about leading groups, and helps readers understand how groups work and the life stages of a group. It suggests practical ways to lead groups effectively, using examples from scripture of how Jesus worked to transform people spiritually and emotionally. Chapters: Enter the system; Navigate the stages; Seed transformation; Become a transformational group; Talk about the process; Start strong in the first meeting; Practice faith; Focus; Stretch but not too far; Listen well; Know and share yourself; Deal with problems; Make space; End well. 121 Pages.



GROWING YOUNG: SIX ESSENTIAL STRATEGIES TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE DISCOVER AND LOVE YOUR CHURCH (817140) Author: Powell, Kara; Mulder, Jake; Griffin, Brad. The authors profile innovative churches that are engaging 15- to 29-year-olds and as a result are growing - spiritually, emotionally, missionally, and numerically. Chapter titles: Growing young -- what congregations are doing right; Unlock keychain leadership -- sharing power with the right people at the right time; Empathize with today's young people -- why 25 is the new 15, and 15 is the new 25; Take Jesus' message seriously -- what's young about the good news; Fuel a warm community -- warm is the new cool; Prioritize young people and families everywhere -- from rhetoric to reality; Be the best neighbors -- loving and shaping your world well; Growing young in your context -- how to create a plan for change. Includes discussion questions. 330 Pages.



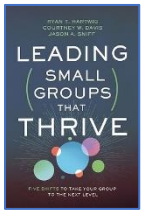
LEADING ADULT LEARNERS: A HANDBOOK FOR ALL CHRISTIAN GROUPS (867599) Author: Halverson, Delia. Chapter titles: Educating adults--more than book learning; Exploring faith development; Characterizing adult Sunday school classes; Forming new adult classes; Guiding leaders and officers; Teaching tools; Planning resources; Publicizing adult classes; Adding events; Healing sick classes; Training helps for pastors and Church leaders. Includes reproducible forms. 95 Pages.



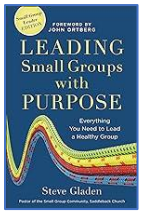
LEADING ONLINE SMALL GROUPS: EMBRACING THE CHURCH'S DIGITAL FUTURE (821015) Author: White, Allen. Online groups aren't new. The author started his first online small group in 1994 on CompuServe with a dial-up modem. While they're not new, online groups are next. Apart from the technology, there are many commonalities between online small groups and offline small groups, yet they are not exactly the same. With online groups people are not gathered in the same room and in some cases, they're not even in the same state, province, or country. Online groups are portable - snowbirds can stay connected whether they're in the North or the South. Online groups break down many limitations - time of day, distance, and travel no longer deter online groups. Whether the group meets by video, audio, or asynchronously (and even occasionally in-person), online groups provide flexibility to both make disciples and engage spiritual seekers. Based on his own experience with online small groups as well as his general experience with small groups, he guides you through the complexity of online groups and relationships in general. Chapters: Starting your online group; Staying healthy as an online group leader; Planning your first online group meeting; Sharing leadership; Making disciples; Leading your group; Setting online group boundaries; Starting new online groups. 166 Pages.



LEADING SMALL GROUPS IN THE WAY OF JESUS (816132) Author: Boren, M. Scott. This book shares insights into how to keep real relationship -- with God and with one another -- at the heart of your small group life. Chapter titles: The search for great group leadership; Leading in the way of Jesus; Hear the rhythms of the Jesus way; Gather in the presence; Lead collaboratively; Be yourself; Hang out; Make a difference; Fight well; Point the way to the cross. 217 Pages.



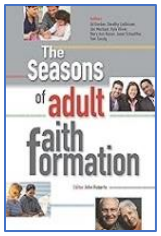
LEADING SMALL GROUPS THAT THRIVE: FIVE SHIFTS TO TAKE YOUR GROUP TO THE NEXT LEVEL (820105) Author: Hartwig, Ryan; Davis, Courtney; Sniff, Jason. Chapters: What's the big deal about groups? - casting a powerful vision for groups; What does a catalytic leader do? - painting a picture of next-level group leadership; How do I get where I want to go? - mapping a plan to develop a thriving group; Confused to compelling – energizing your group by articulating your purpose; Disengaged to dedicated – set the stage to keep people coming back; Mine to ours – cultivate commitment through shared ownership; Trivial to transformative - stimulate meaningful discussions; Avoidance to embrace – engage difficult conversations without destroying your group; Your care – cultivating and sustaining your own health; Your legacy – recruiting and raising up new leaders; Your charge – expanding and multiplying groups; Your best next step. Includes reflection questions. 247 Pages.



LEADING SMALL GROUPS WITH PURPOSE: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO LEAD A HEALTHY GROUP (812047) Author: Gladen, Steve. Chapter titles: You are part of God's plan -- discovering your purpose; Your role in God's plan -- giving your group purpose; It starts with you -- your plan and your group's plan; Where two or three gather -- gathering your friends; Fellowship -- it all starts with biblical community; Fellowship -- how to build a strong foundation; Discipleship -- encouraging spiritual growth in your members; Discipleship -- how to develop your members; Ministry -- guiding members into opportunities to serve; Ministry -- how to mobilize your members; Evangelism -- how to reach others; Evangelism -- how to reach out; Worship -- experiencing the presence of God; Worship -- how to experience God moments in your group; How to keep your group on track -- obstacles and opportunities for growth; It continues with you! -- how God uses ordinary people in extraordinary ways. Includes action steps and index. 234 Pages.



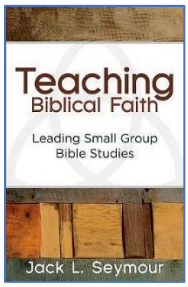
LONGING TO MEET YOU: SMALL GROUP MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TRAINING (821011) Trilingual Edition (Korean/Spanish/English). The mission of The United Methodist Church is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Developed in conjunction with the National Association of Korean-American United Methodist Churches, these materials help create healthy small group ministries that will expand God's kingdom and bring revival and growth to The United Methodist Church. Chapters: Introduction – small group ministry training; Introduction – what is small group ministry?; Session 1 – sharing life's journey, part 1; Session 2 - sharing life's journey, part 2; Session 3 – encountering God's Word, part 1; Session 4 – encountering God's Word, part 2; Session 5 – worship and service, part 1; Session 6 – worship and service, part 2; Session 7 – spirituality and prayer, part 1; Session 8 – spirituality and prayer, part 2; Session 9 – congregation and evangelism, part 1; Session 10 - congregation and evangelism, part 2. 227 Pages.



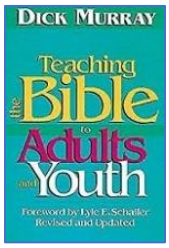
SEASONS OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION (816002) Author: Roberto, John, editor. It's time for every Christian church to commit itself to developing faith formation for every season of adulthood: young adults, midlife adults, mature adults, and older adults. This book is designed to provide pastors, church staff and ministry leaders, adult faith formation coordinators and educators, and all faith formation leaders with a deeper understanding of adulthood today, a vision of 21st century adult faith formation, and the tools and processes for designing faith formation for all the seasons of adulthood. 198 Pages.



START HERE (804276) Author: Bruce, Barbara. Teaching and Learning with Adults. This book helps teachers and leaders of adults to see the big picture, to explore the many and varied options for teaching and learning. It gives insights into how adults learn and grow in faith and introduces some adults and their specific needs. Includes discussion questions. 86 Pages.



TEACHING BIBLICAL FAITH: LEADING SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES (815102) Author: Seymour, Jack. Chapter titles: Biblical faith; Teaching Biblical faith; Historical (exegetical) study -- what did the biblical writer want to say?; Book-by-book studies -- engaging the purposes of a book; Living the themes of faith -- studying important theological concepts; Lectionary studies -- connecting study, worship, and service; Praying the Scriptures -- personal, group, and family devotions; Story and Scripture -- drawing on African American cultural resources; Theology for daily living -- drawing on Latin American cultural resources; See-judge-act -- study for mission and vocation; The way of Jesus -- reading for faithful living; Reading collegially -- interfaith reading of Scripture; So I am a teacher -- aids for planning and leading Bible study; Shaping a biblical congregation; Select resources for a church's study library. 116 Pages.



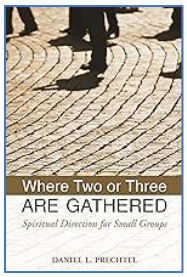
TEACHING THE BIBLE TO ADULTS AND YOUTH: REVISED AND UPDATED (895674) Author: Murray, Dick. The author offers suggestions for teaching, provides several different approaches and perspectives from which to teach and conduct activities for learning, and examines such Bible study series as Kerygma, Trinity, Bethel, and Disciple. 173 Pages.



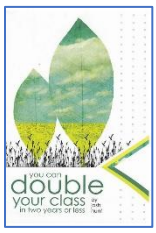
THEY WILL KNOW US BY OUR LOVE: SERVICE IDEAS FOR SMALL GROUPS (807135) Author: Werle, Heather and Wieman, Roxanne, editors. Here are 101 practical ways for your small group to serve the community. Section titles: Serving your community; Serving your church; Serving your small group; Serving your friends and family; Serving those with specific needs. Includes topical, seasonal, and Scripture indexes. 128 Pages.



TRANSFORMATIONAL GROUPS: CREATING A NEW SCORECARD FOR GROUPS (816055) Author: Stetzer, Ed and Geiger, Eric. Authors Ed Stetzer and Eric Geiger provide a map to help small groups (including Sunday school classes) grow transformed disciples. Chapters: Transformational group manifesto; Trees don't move the wind; A discipleship deficit; Integration; The right leaders; Group practices; Multiply; Connect with disconnected people; Imagine the possibilities. Includes questions for discussion or reflection. 210 Pages.



WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED: SPIRITUAL DIRECTION FOR SMALL GROUPS (812079) Author: Prechtel, Daniel. Chapter titles: The power of small groups for spiritual companionship; Essentials of spiritual companion groups -- core elements; Groups for sharing spiritual practices and exercises -- 3 models; Groups for cultivating inner awareness and discernment -- 3 models; Groups for building a spiritual community of support -- 2 models; Groups for compassion and social action -- 2 models; Leading a small group; Special applications. Includes a variety of spiritual exercises. 197 Pages.



YOU CAN DOUBLE YOUR CLASS IN TWO YEARS OR LESS (817074) Author: Hunt, Josh. This book explores how you can grow your Sunday school class or small group -- numerically and spiritually -- by focusing on strategies that work. 161 Pages.