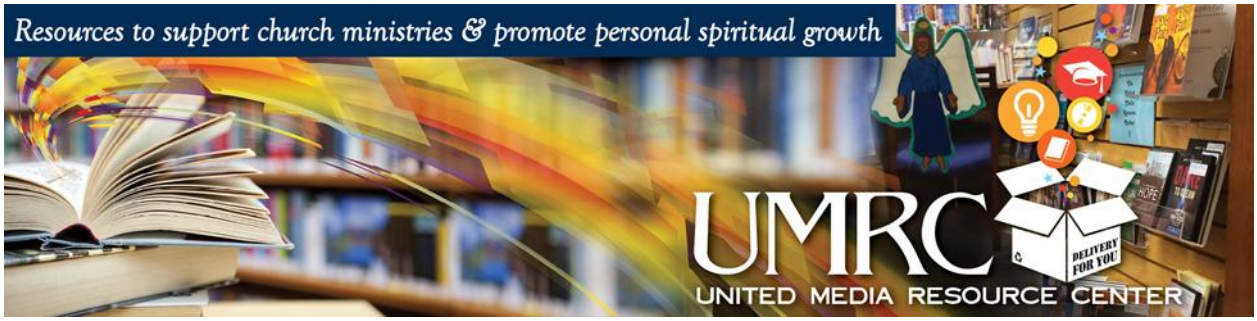
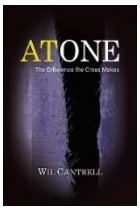


Lent and Easter books

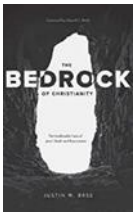
available to borrow from the **United Media Resource Center** http://www.igrc.org/umrc
Contact us by e-mail at umrc@igrc.org
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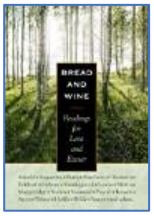
ALL SHALL BE WELL: READINGS FOR LENT AND EASTER (816010) This anthology contains 54 selections from a wide spectrum of classic and contemporary writers: T. S. Eliot, G.K. Thomas Merton, Joan Chittister, Rob Bell, Pope John XXIII, Phyllis Tickle, Dorothy Day, Pope Francis, Henri Nouwen, Richard Rohr and many others. Includes author index. Age: Adult. 359 Pages.



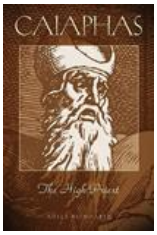
ATONE: THE DIFFERENCE THE CROSS MAKES (821096) Author: Cantrell, Wil. Christians have always agreed that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross made it possible for humanity to once again be at one with God. The church has never agreed on exactly how Jesus' sacrifice made this possible. Instead, many theories of atonement were offered as explanations - each of which offers a compelling, yet incomplete glimpse into the saving work of Jesus on the cross. In this book, Wil Cantrell explores the great mystery behind all the theories of how Jesus' sacrifice enables us to be at one with God, ourselves, and others. Readers will be challenged to move beyond solely intellectual discussions to atonement and to experience for themselves the transformation made possible by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Written especially for the Lenten season (but appropriate at any time), ATONE is divided into six chapters. Chapters: Why did Jesus have to die?; Forgiveness and everything that comes with it; The great war; A new nature; The family you never knew you had; For all. Larger than average print.



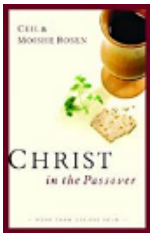
BEDROCK OF CHRISTIANITY: THE UNALTERABLE FACTS OF JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION (820082) Author: Bass, Justin. Chapters: Prologue – when Titans meet; Studying history is time traveling; Bedrock eyewitness – the apostle Paul; Bedrock source – 1 Cor. 15:3-7; Crucifixion – 'Christ died for our sins and He was buried;' Resurrection – 'He was raised on the third day;' Appearances – to Peter, the Twelve, more than five hundred, James, and Paul; The rise of the Nazarenes – 'fighting against God;' Conclusion – 'This is wondrous strange;' Epilogue – new creation. Includes bibliography and Scripture and ancient sources indexes. 237 Pages.



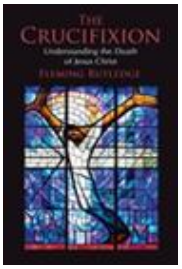
BREAD AND WINE: READINGS FOR LENT AND EASTER (809019) This anthology contains meditations from a wide spectrum of classic and contemporary Christian writers: C.S. Lewis, G.K. Chesterton, Philip Yancey, Frederick Buechner, Madeleine L'Engle, Henri Nouwen, Dorothy Day and many others. Contains 72 entries grouped around the themes of Invitation, Temptation, Passion, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and New Life. Includes author index. 412 Pages.



CAIPHAS: THE HIGH PRIEST (814000) Author: Reinhartz, Adele. As the Roman-appointed high priest who had a hand in orchestrating Jesus' crucifixion, Caiaphas secured his place in infamy alongside Pontius Pilate. Who was he really? The author's thorough reconsideration of representations of Caiaphas in the Gospels and other ancient texts as well as in visual arts, literature, film, and drama emerges a portrait that challenges long-held beliefs about this New Testament figure. Age: Adult. 254 Pages.



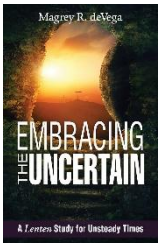
CHRIST IN THE PASSOVER (807210) Author: Rosen, Ceil and Moishe. Enter the celebration of Passover, rich with history and significance for both Jew and Gentile. Through this book, you'll trace God's involvement through the history of this holy day--from the first Passover, all the way to the modern Seder. The authors show how the death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah are forever interwoven with the Passover and its symbolism. Includes index. 166 Pages.



CRUCIFIXION: UNDERSTANDING THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST (817301) Author: Rutledge, Fleming. Chapters: The primacy of the cross; The godlessness of the cross; The question of justice; The gravity of sin; The Passover and the Exodus; The blood sacrifice; Ransom and redemption; The Great Assize (Last Judgment); The Apocalyptic War - Christus Victor; The descent into hell; The substitution; Recapitulation; Condemned into redemption - the rectification of the ungodly. Includes bibliography and names, subjects, and Scripture/ancient literature indexes. Age: Adult. 669 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. Age: Adult. 48 Pages.



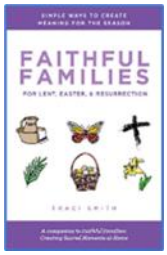
EMBRACING THE UNCERTAIN: A LENTEN STUDY FOR UNSTEADY TIMES (822011) Author: deVega, Magrey We are wired to want to control our destiny. The reality is that in our fast-changing, unpredictable world there are few guarantees in life. It's those who are willing to embrace uncertainty and make the risky decision to follow Jesus despite the many "unknowns" who will reap the greatest rewards. This seven-session book study invites readers to engage and wrestle with life's uncertainties, not ignore them. Sessions: 1) The desperate father and the uncertainty of faith (Mk. 9:14-29); 2) Peter and the uncertainty of forgiveness (Mt. 18:21-22); 3) The crowd and the uncertainty of worry (Lk. 12:1-34); 4) Lazarus and the uncertainty of mortality (Jn. 11:1-44); 5) Zacchaeus and the uncertainty of surrender (Lk. 19:1-10); 6) Jesus and the uncertainty of obedience (Mt. 26:36-46); 7) The empty tomb and the proof of the resurrection (Mt. 28:1-7; Mk. 16:1-8; Lk. 24:1-12; Jn. 20:1-18). Includes discussion questions that can be used in small-group Bible study session or for personal growth. Print study only; no DVD component.



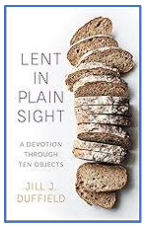
FAITH AT HOME: A HANDBOOK FOR CAUTIOUSLY CHRISTIAN PARENTS (817057) Author: Barrie, Wendy Claire. The author, a member of the Episcopal church, discusses how to give children a foundation of faith through practices and rituals in the home. Chapters: Talking about God; Talking with God; Bible stories; Why church?; Seasons and celebrations (discusses Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Martin Luther King Jr., Valentine's Day, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Summer saints -- Holy Women, Holy Men, Fall saints -- Saint Francis, Martin of Tours, Halloween, All Saints Day, All Souls Day); Making home holy (special days, rituals, milestones); Finding God in difficult times; Meeting God in others; A note to clergy and church educators. Includes glossary and bibliography. Age: Adult. 146 Pages.



FAITHFUL CELEBRATIONS: MAKING TIME FOR GOD FROM MARDI GRAS THROUGH PENTECOST (818147) Author: Pearson, Sharon Ely. 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: Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday; Lent; Holy Week; Easter; Pentecost. Age: Adult. 133 Pages.



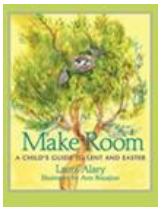
FAITHFUL FAMILIES FOR LENT, EASTER, AND RESURRECTION: SIMPLE WAYS TO CREATE MEANING FOR THE SEASON (822004) Author: Smith, Traci. How do you share the deep mysteries of Lent, Easter, and Resurrection with children? Parents, guardians, teachers, and ministers will find dozens of fun and easy practices for celebrating the Easter season with our kids. The practices and seasonal prayers are grouped into chapters titled Ash Wednesday, Symbols, Lenten Prayers, Lenten Refraining, Lenten Acts of Service, Holy Week, Easter Vigil and Easter Day, and the Season of Resurrection. Traci Smith also offers theological notes guiding parents on addressing the violence of the crucifixion and the meaning of Jesus' death. Chapters: Beginning the season; Pancake Tuesday and Ash Wednesday; Praying; Simplifying; Giving; Symbols; Holy Week; Easter vigil and Easter; The season of resurrection; Ending the season. Age: Adult 110 Pages.



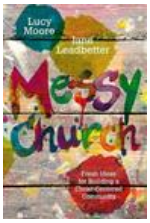
LENT IN PLAIN SIGHT: A DEVOTION THROUGH TEN OBJECTS (823014) Author: Duffield, Jill. In this devotional book for the season of Lent, Jill J. Duffield draws readers attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem. In brief daily readings centered around Old and New Testament verses, readers encounter the objects through Scripture, prayer, and reflection. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, this book reminds Christians to open ourselves to the kingdom of God. Week One – dust; Week 2 – bread; Week 3 – cross; Week 4 – coins; Week 5 – shoes; Week 6 – oil; Holy Week – coats, towels, thorns; Easter Sunday – stones. Age: Adult. 165 Pages.



LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER: A PASSOVER HAGGADAH FOR CHRISTIANS (805216) Author: Smith, Michael and Shapiro, Rami. This Christian Haggadah, written explicitly for Christians in hopes of enriching their understanding of Passover, honors the teachings of both Judaism and Christianity. 39 Pages.



MAKE ROOM: A CHILD'S GUIDE TO LENT AND EASTER (817023) Author: Alary, Laura. This full-color book for children talks about the Kingdom of God and events in Jesus' life and Holy Week and explains that, during Lent, we think about the following concepts: making time (prayer, listening for God's voice, thinking about choices); making space (repentance, forgiveness, sharing, simplicity); and making room (reaching out to the sick, lonely, and strangers). Illustrated by Ann Boyajian. Age: Elementary. 32 Pages.



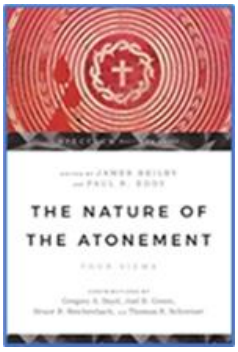
MESSY CHURCH: FRESH IDEAS FOR BUILDING A CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY (817205) Author: Moore, Lucy. The Messy Church model offers your church a tool to bring people of all ages and stages of faith together for a unique come-as-you-are experience of creativity, celebration, and hospitality. With instructions for starting a program at your church, this book includes 15 sessions for use throughout the year. Session topics: Abraham and Sarah; Joseph; Moses; Joshua; I Am the True Vine; I Am the Light of the World; I Am the Good Shepherd; Messy Christmas; Creation; A new start (Noah and the flood); New life in Jesus (Easter); New life in the Spirit (Pentecost); Bible mountains; Bible roads; Bible seasides. Age: Adult. 205 Pages.



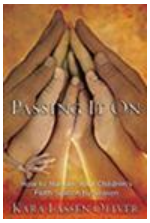
MESSY EASTER (817299) Author: Leadbetter, Jane. Designed for use with intergenerational groups, this book includes three once-a-month sessions and a treasure trove of ideas for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Chapters: Lent Messy Church; Holy Week Messy Church; Easter Messy Church; Creative Easter prayers; Easter extras; Easter food and food crafts; Easter games; Easter trail. Includes index. Age: Adult. 91 Pages.



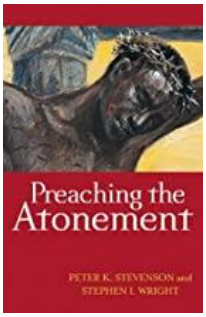
MOMENTS & DAYS: HOW OUR HOLY CELEBRATIONS SHAPE OUR FAITH (816248) Author: Van Loon, Michelle. This book explores the gift of time and takes a look at holidays in the Jewish and Christian calendars -- their stories, structures, and histories -- and offers suggestions on how you, your family, and your 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. Age: Adult. 213 Pages.



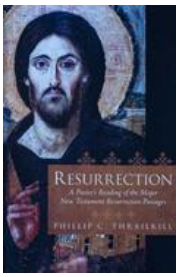
NATURE OF THE ATONEMENT: FOUR VIEWS (820017) Author: Boyd; Green; Reichenbach; Schreiner. This book offers a "panel" discussion of four views of atonement maintained by four evangelical scholars. The proponents and their views are: Gregory A. Boyd: Christus Victor view; Joel B. Green: Kaleidescopic view; Bruce R. Reichenbach: Healing view; and Thomas R. Schreiner: Penal Substitutionary view. Following an introduction written by the editors, each participant first puts forth the case for their view. Each view is followed by responses from the other three participants, noting points of agreement as well as disagreement. This is a book that will help Christians understand the issues, grasp the differences and proceed toward a clearer articulation of their understanding of the atonement. Includes scripture index. 208 Pages.



PASSING IT ON: HOW TO NURTURE YOUR CHILDREN'S FAITH SEASON BY SEASON (815174) Author: Oliver, Kara Lassen. 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 Age: Adult. 94 Pages.



PREACHING THE ATONEMENT (809087) Author: Stevenson, Peter and Wright, Stephen. The authors discuss 10 important Bible passages connected with the sacrifice of Christ. Each chapter includes a complete sermon on the passage followed by discussion. Chapter titles: 1) The cost of a father's commitment (Gen. 22:1-19); 2) Taking away their iniquities (Lev. 16:15-22); 3) The suffering of a servant (Isa. 52:13--53:12); 4) The crucified God (Mk. 15:25-39); 5) Forgiveness from the cross (Lk. 23:32-43); 6) The Word became flesh (Jn. 1:1-14); 7) The achievement of God's justice (Rom. 3:21-26); 8) The reconciliation of the world (2 Cor. 5:11--6:2); 9) The decisive victory (Col. 2:8-15); 10) The final sacrifice (Heb. 9:11-14). Includes name, subject, and biblical reference indexes. 207 Pages.



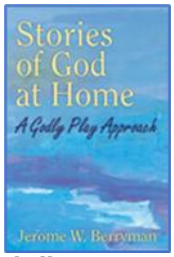
RESURRECTION: A PASTOR'S READING OF THE MAJOR NEW TESTAMENT RESURRECTION PASSAGES (817303) Author: Thrailkill, Phillip. Major sections: Good Friday; Easter; Later appearances; What resurrection means for the Church and its mission; Paul's vision of resurrection - personal and cosmic implications; Resurrection enforced - the new heaven and new earth. Includes bibliography. Larger than average print. Age: Adult. 359 Pages.



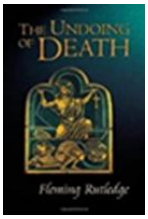
SACRED HOLIDAYS: LESS CHAOS, MORE JESUS (818208) Author: Kiser, Becky. Holidays are meant to be more than chaos with glimpses of grace; they are meant to draw us closer to God and one another. This book helps you avoid what has tripped you up in the past and gives you insights, tips, and tools to make 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. Age: Adult. 242 Pages.



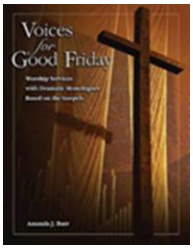
STEP GENTLY IN THE WORLD: RESOURCES FOR HOLY WEEK (817026) Author: Foster-Fulton, Sally. Reflections, meditations, prayers, and liturgies for Holy Week following the journey of Jesus from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. Resource from the Iona Community. Age: Adult. 131 Pages.



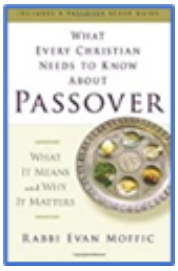
STORIES OF GOD AT HOME: A GODLY PLAY APPROACH (818095) Author: Berryman, Jerome W. This book discusses how to use the Godly Play concept at home - sharing stories of God, reading children's books with your family and connecting them to the stories of God, and cultivating spiritual conversations. Chapters: The story of God's creating - the creation; The story of God with us - Christmas; The story of God's re-creative love - Easter; The story of God creating from within - Pentecost; The story of God's caring and creative presence - the Good Shepherd; The story of our wholeness with God - the liturgical circle of the church year; Stories about the stories of God (The Wind in the Willows; Frederick; Charlotte's Web; The Velveteen Rabbit; A Christmas Carol; The Clown of God); What to do when you don't know what to do - being ready for family challenges. Age: Adult. 150 Pages.



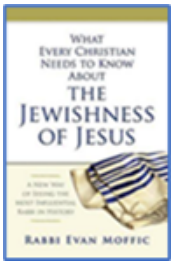
UNDOING OF DEATH: SERMONS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER (817019) Author: Rutledge, Fleming. A collection of forty-two sermons presented from Palm Sunday through Eastertide. 360 Pages.



VOICES FOR GOOD FRIDAY: WORSHIP SERVICES WITH DRAMATIC MONOLOGUES BASED ON THE GOSPELS (814119) Author: Burr, Amanda. This book includes three to four narratives from each of the Gospels. Each narrative is 7 - 10 minutes long when performed. They allow for easy stage setup and prep time, require few rehearsals, and call for only a small cast of readers and/or actors. Director's notes are provided. Narratives based on the Gospel of Matthew (Year A): 1) The Gadarene demoniacs (Mt. 8:28-34); 2) The Canaanite woman (her daughter speaks) (Mt. 15:21-28); 3) The centurion (Mt. 8:5-13; 27:54). Narratives based on the Gospel of Mark (Year B): 1) Peter's mother-in-law (Mk. 1:29-31); 2) The leper (Mk. 1:40-45); 3) The man forgiven (Nahum's daughter speaks) (Mk. 2:1-12); 4) Levi, the son of Alphaeus (Mk. 2:13-17). Narratives based on the Gospel of Luke (Year C): 1) The Samaritan's story (Lk. 10:25-37); 2) The woman with the alabaster flask (Lk. 7:36-50); 3) Joanna, the wife of Chuza (Lk. 8:1-3; 23:50-56; 24:1-10). Age: Adult. 44 Pages.



WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT PASSOVER (815002) Author: Moffic, Evan. What It Means and Why It Matters. Includes a Passover Seder guide and a study guide for individuals and groups. Chapters: 1) From slavery to freedom -- the biblical exodus; 2) Rituals of freedom -- the celebration of Passover during the lifetime of Jesus; 3) Around the table -- why Passover is a holiday celebrated primarily at home; 4) Cleanse your spirit and cleanse your kitchen -- how to prepare for a Passover Seder; 5) The Seder plate -- how ritual objects connect us to one another and to God; 6) Blessing and questioning -- the Seder begins; 7) As though you yourself journeyed from slavery to freedom -- telling the Passover story; 8) Praising and singing - the Seder concludes; 9) From ancient Israel to contemporary America -- the universal story of freedom; 10) Celebrating the Passover Seder yourself -- a Haggadah for home use by Christians and Jews. 190 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. Age: Adult. 203 Pages.



WHY THE CROSS? (815020) Author: Senior, Donald. Chapter titles: The cross and crucifixion in the first-century Greco-Roman and Jewish world; The cross and human suffering; The cross and salvation; Paul and the saving power of the cross; The saving death of Jesus in other New Testament traditions; The cross and discipleship. Includes bibliography, Scripture index, index of modern authors, and subject index. Part of the 'Reframing New Testament Theology' series. Age: Adult. 168 Pages.