

New Resources November 2018

Date: 2018-11-29

ADULTS
241.697
CHURCH

Kingdom Dreams, Violent Realities: Reflections on gun violence from Micah 4:1-4. Washington, D.C, Church & Society, The United Methodist Church, 2016.

Summary: This three-session Bible study is for use in your congregation, small group, or by yourself. It is based on Micah 4:1-4 and addresses gun violence as a spiritual and moral issue. --Church & Society, The United Methodist Church

ADULTS
248.32
UPPER

Prayer Practices for Disciples: Creating a Life with God. Nashville, TN, Discipleship Ministries, 2017.

Summary: Multiple prayer practices including morning prayer, personalizing scripture, soaking prayer, Ignatian prayer, the Examen, Lectio Divina, Visio Divina, walking prayer, breath prayer, silence, nature, night blessings, practicing compassion, praying for the world, body prayer, praying with children, contemplative coloring, and more.

ADULTS
248.6
SLOANE

Sloane, Ken. ***Raising Generous Disciples: Shifting Our Stewardship Focus.*** Nashville, TN, Discipleship Ministries, 2017.

Summary: For me, stewardship involves growing disciples who live generously and faithfully with all that God has graciously given. Exhibiting gratitude, caring for creation, being compassionate and generous to those in need, living less wastefully in our use of resources, and making wise decisions about how we use the time and talent God has given us: These qualities filled my agenda. I focused on the vow we ask people to make when they join the church and acknowledge the journey of growing in discipleship: "Will you support the church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness?" --from the Introduction

ADULTS
253.7
KALAJAINEN

Kalajainen, Brad. ***How to Start Small Groups: Growing Larger by Acting Smaller.*** Nashville, TN, Discipleship Ministries, 2017.

Summary: Small group ministry will begin when the key leadership of a church decides that it must become part of the church culture. The pastor and key lay leaders must be willing to articulate the goal publicly over and over again. A preaching series on small groups could be the catalyst for a total church makeover. At Cornerstone, small group culture now exists. It is part of who we are. We continue to dedicate at least two Sundays per year to casting vision for everyone to join a Life Group. We attempt to mention it many more times in other weekly

messages as necessary. The main goal of small group ministry is to connect people to Christ and to each other. It is as simple as that. Keep the focus simple and make it easier to hit the target. The whole purpose in launching such ministry is to help people connect to God in a deeper way by sharing their spiritual walks with each other. People are encouraged to keep going when they realize that they are not alone in many of the struggles or joys of life. The second purpose is to develop deeper friendships and not walk through life alone. This simple goal of connecting people to God and to each other must be articulated often through sermons and church communication. --from the Introduction

ADULTS
261.8
GCORR

Vital Conversations: Young Adults, Social Justice and the Church. Washington, D.C, General Commission on Religion and Race, The United Methodist Church, 2018.

Summary: Vital Conversations 3: Young Adults, Social Justice and the Church is a 14 part series designed to spark grassroots engagement and features study guides for each video that help small groups and individuals delve deeper into social issues. The presenters are aged 35 or younger and are activists, theologians, preachers, musicians, dancers, seminarians, and business entrepreneurs from Africa, Germany, and the U.S. Each talks about the search for areas that welcome, respect, and engage expressions of faith, spirituality, ideals, and community action. --General Commission on Religion and Race of The United Methodist Church

Content Notes:

- - - Engaging Diversity in Vital Faith Communities /Jasper Peters
 - Correlation Between Environmental Racism and Gentrification in Urban Areas /Tyler Sit and Armel Martin
 - How the Church Must Embrace Refugees and Immigrants /M. Jeanette Iman'ishimwe
 - The Kind of Church I Want to Pastor /Jon Petty
 - Mistaking Urban Decay for "Blackness" /Brittany Campagna
 - Contrasting Current Activism with Civil Rights Movements of the Past /Jennifer Bailey
 - Being an Ally with People of Color /Katelin Hansen
 - Called to Welcome Refugees /Sarah Schulz
 - My Story: Building Bridges with Music /Joe Kye
 - Coming Out as Lesbian to My Traditional Congregation /Nia Shand
 - Welcoming New People to Church and Asking "Where are You From?" /Brittney Jackson Brown

- Welcoming People with Disabilities in the Church /Takura Farera
- Being Bilingual in a Culture that Doesn't Understand It /Prisca Rodriguez
- How to Engage Children and Youth Using Rap and Hip-hop /Bryan Eason

ADULTS
262.076
DISCIPLESHIP

Intentional Discipleship System Questions. Nashville, TN, Discipleship Ministries, 2017.

Summary: These Intentional Discipleship System Questions were designed as an additional tool to be used by church leaders, educators, clergy, and laity to enhance the development of intentional discipleship. We encourage the use of the questions alongside the book, *Developing an Intentional Discipleship System: A Guide for Congregations* to inspire further conversation. There are no wrong or right answers to these questions. The goal is to open up a dialogue to stimulate change in our relationships, our communities, our churches, and in the hearts of all God's people. The questions can also be used in a new-member class setting to help develop strong individual disciples and foster their accountability to other disciples. --from the Introduction

ADULTS
269.2 LEAR

Lear, Heather Heinzman. ***Sharing Our Faith & Reaching Beyond Our Walls.*** Nashville, TN, Discipleship Ministries, 2017.

Summary: Evangelism is the good news of God's healing and saving love in Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, evangelism has become a problematic term for some in the twenty-first century, and negative images and experiences inhibit us from sharing our faith with others. Scare tactics, coercion, and "bad news that has an escape clause" has become synonymous with evangelism in some people's minds. In reading the Gospels (the word gospel means "good news"), though, we acknowledge that Jesus uses none of these approaches. Evangelism is always good news to the recipient. Sunday school classes, small groups, church leadership, and ministry teams have piloted this study, and they allowed 45 minutes to an hour for each session. But remember, evangelism is not the job of a single committee or group within the church, so this resource would also serve as a great congregation-wide study. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we all have the privilege of being bearers of the good news. This resource tool provides a complete Bible study process for use in a retreat setting or weekly format for gathering, praying, and implementing new ways to reach your community. --from the Introduction

ADULTS
270.08
GCORR

Vital Conversations: Race, Culture, the Church, and Human Sexuality. Washington, D.C, General Commission on Religion and Race, The United Methodist Church, 2018.

Summary: Vital Conversations 4: Race, Culture, the Church, and Human Sexuality is a series of 11 videos (Sessions 1-6 are available now; Sessions 7-11 will be available January 2019) for small groups in congregations, campus ministries, and local and regional church leadership teams. The series features conversations between theologians, pastors, worship leaders, laity in leadership, Biblical scholars, and community activists to offer varied and multilayered perspectives on the Christian church's ongoing debate over the status, role, and rights of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ). --General Commission on Religion and Race of The United Methodist Church

Content Notes:

- - - Honoring Personal Integrity in the Midst of Community /Irving Cotto
 - Offering Pastoral Care when Congregants Have Differing Views /Kevin Park
 - Intersections of Identity and Oppression in the Church /Annanda Barclay
 - Indigenous Identities and Inclusiveness /Marcus Briggs-Cloud
 - Interfaith Bridge Building and Sharing One Another's Loss /Phil Cobucci
 - Values, Laws, Marriage, and the Bible /Joy J. Moore

ADULTS
270.089
GCORR

From Talk About White Privilege to Action: Next Steps on the Anti-Racism Journey. Washington, D.C, General Commission on Religion and Race, The United Methodist Church, 2017.

Summary: Often times we have discussions about race and racism but fail to move from talking to action. This worksheet is designed to help you take the work you have already done with anti-racism – no matter where you are on the journey thus far – and work to put words into action. This action plan is best put together in small groups but can be done individually (see options). The main point is to move from talking about race and racism to living into an anti-racism or racial justice advocate stance. We all have the choice – every day – to decide on which side of racism we will stand. Silence is not an option; neither is standing by and hoping things will get better or “not touch us.” Racism impacts everyone in harmful ways. None of us is immune. We must decide. You, today, right now, are deciding. On which side do you stand? --General Commission on Religion and Race of The United Methodist Church

ADULTS
270.089
LEWIS

Moving Faith Communities to Fruitful Conversations about Race.
Washington, D.C, Lewis Center for Church Leadership, Wesley
Theological Seminary, 2017.

Summary: Moving Faith Communities to Fruitful Conversations about Race is a dialogue about race in America that may be used to help your church bring people together to talk about moving forward bravely and boldly in the name of Christ. The free resource is divided into four videos which may be used in one or more sessions. Moving Faith Communities to Fruitful Conversations about Race is sponsored by the Institute for Community Engagement at Wesley Theological Seminary.
--Lewis Center

Content Notes:

- Introduction and Chapter 1: Why should race be a central focus? (16:24) -- Chapter 2: Why should local congregations participate in these conversations? (9:43) -- Chapter 3: What can your congregation do to make a difference? (13:33) -- Chapter 4: How can congregations partner with law officials in the community? (13:39)

ADULTS
305.23089
NAZARIO

Nazario, Sonia. ***Enrique's Journey.*** New York, Random House Trade Paperbacks, 2014.

Summary: Based on the Los Angeles Times series that won two Pulitzer Prizes, this is a timeless story of families torn apart. When Enrique was five, his mother, too poor to feed her children, left Honduras to work in the United States. The move allowed her to send money back home so Enrique could eat better and go to school past the third grade. She promised she would return quickly, but she struggled in America. Without her, he became lonely and troubled. After eleven years, he decided he would go find her. He set off alone, with little more than a slip of paper bearing his mother's North Carolina telephone number. Without money, he made the dangerous trek up the length of Mexico, clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains. He and other migrants, many of them children, are hunted like animals. To evade bandits and authorities, they must jump onto and off the moving boxcars they call the Train of Death. It is an epic journey, one thousands of children make each year to find their mothers in the United States.--From publisher description.

CHILDREN
262.076
PITTENGER

Pittenger, Kathy. ***Developing an Intentional Discipleship System for Children.*** Nashville, TN, Discipleship Ministries, 2017.

Summary: Pastors, Christian educators, children's ministers, parents, grandparents, and caregivers for children desire the best for the children in their care. They want them to know they are loved, cherished, supported, encouraged, and cared for. They also desire to

nurture the faith of children now and in the future. The systems approach to discipleship provides a holistic, overall approach to faith formation for children, their families, and the congregation. Providing an intentional discipleship system enables adults who work with children a system as they equip and empower children to love, learn, grow, and flourish with faith in Jesus Christ at the center. The system equips and empowers the congregation's members to know why, how, and what they can do to follow through with baptismal vows. --from the Introduction

YOUTH 261 **Connecting Faith & Justice: Junior High Curriculum.** Washington, CHURCH D.C, Church & Society, The United Methodist Church, 2018.

Summary: The curriculum is designed to help students actively engage the intersection of faith and justice and explore why our faith compels us toward justice. It is available to download for free. Junior high is usually around the time of confirmation and a perfect time to walk alongside your students, encouraging them to search deeper within themselves, their relationship with God, and their role within their community and the larger world. Youth groups come in all shapes and sizes, and for this reason, we created all of the lessons so that you can use them with as few or as many students as you have. Each lesson is designed to last an hour and includes a centering moment, scripture study, group activity and a closing moment. The curriculum is a yearlong curriculum that follows the Lectionary Year C. Since this is the first of the series, the curriculum starts on Dec. 2, 2018, with the start of Advent and ends Dec. 29, 2019, with the end of Advent of Lectionary Year A. For churches that follow the lectionary, we hope that this will provide an opportunity for the students to connect with parents and other adults during the week. For churches that do not follow the lectionary, two indexes are provided by justice issue and by scripture. All the lessons are standalone lessons are not dependent on the previous lesson. --Church & Society, The United Methodist Church

YOUTH 262.076 **Wilterdink, Chris. *Developing an Intentional Discipleship System: A Guide for Youth Ministry.*** Nashville, TN, Discipleship Ministries, WILTERDINK 2017.

Summary: This guide serves as a complementary resource to *Developing an Intentional Discipleship System: A Guide for Congregations* by Junius B. Dotson. As a church leader who cares about discipleship and youth, read and familiarize yourself with that resource to gain the most from this publication. The key component to an intentional discipleship system with youth is the answer to the "Where are they?" question—not where are they hanging out, not where do they spend their time. Rather, where are they in their journey of identifying and solidifying their beliefs? When we ask that question from this new perspective, it opens the door to reimagining the inputs and outputs of an Intentional Discipleship System. --from the Introduction

