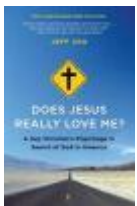




If there were an actual book display at our workshop today, it would include at least these titles and topics for your consideration, but of course there are many more possibilities. Do look at the suggestions for further reading and viewing below. In this virtual world, mentally fill up an empty book rack with the books you would like to examine more closely and then let me know. I'll be glad to mail them to you.

- Sue Tait, Diocesan Resource Librarian

Books featured at Better Together:

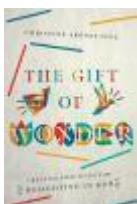


Does Jesus really love me? A gay Christian's pilgrimage in search of God in America. by Jeff Chu. 2014 (261.8 Chu). The intersection of faith, politics and spirituality is examined in these spiritual snapshots that are part personal memoir and part a way of looking at a faith and a nation at odds with each other.

The Racial Healing Handbook: Practical activities to help you challenge privilege, confront systemic racism, and engage in collective healing. by Anneliese A. Singh.

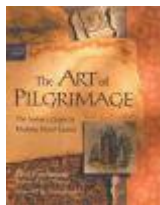


2019. (305.8 Sin) An actual workbook that offers practical tools to help navigate present and past experiences of racism, challenge negative messages from society and handle feelings of stress and shame, as well as discovering building blocks to create a community of healing. Workbook pages (available to those who have registered for an account) may be downloaded online at <https://www.newharbinger.com/racial-healing-handbook/accessories>

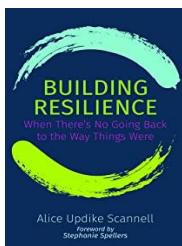


The Gift of Wonder: Creative practices for delighting in God. By Christine Aroney-Sine. 2019. (248.46 Aro) We are invited to relinquish our conception of a stern and serious God, embracing instead childlike spirituality that can reshape and transform us. Practices such as playfulness, imagination, awe and wonder and other ways to engage our senses allowing us to embrace the joy God intends for us.

More Recommendations...

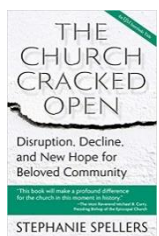


Art of pilgrimage : the seeker's guide to making travel sacred. By Phil Cousineau. 1998 (291.3 Cou). A guide for those on a metaphorical or actual sacred journey, speaking to those who seek what it means to travel with intention, and holding forth the promise of renewal, a promise that is not without risk.



Building resilience

Building resilience : when there's no going back to the way things were. By Alice Scannell. 2020. (155.24 Sca). Published months before the pandemic, this amazingly prescient volume speaks of adapting to inevitable change in our lives and in the world around us.

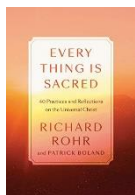


Church cracked open : disruption, decline, and new hope for Beloved Community.

by Stephanie Spellers. 2021. (260 Spe) Watch for this book! It has been pre-ordered and is slated to be available in mid-March but you can reserve it now. Dr. Spellers explores the ways in which the American story and the Episcopal story as well are steeped in racism, establishment and privilege, and she invites us to surrender that privilege and redefine our understanding of church. She presented a workshop recently at FORMA.

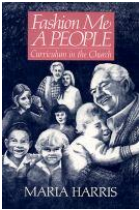


Episcopal Christian educator's handbook. compiled and edited by Sharon Ely Pearson. 2013 (268.83 Pea). Tapping into the most accessed pages of the *Building Faith* website, this is a companion piece and toolbox for those who have anything to do with faith formation in a congregational setting. It builds on the success of the 1988 volume, *Episcopal educator's handbook* (268 Hil). The *Building Faith* website is buildfaith.org.



Every thing is sacred : 40 practices and reflections on the Universal Christ.

By Richard Rohr and Patrick Boland. 2021. (232 Roh). An invitation to engage with the themes of the popular Universal Christ through spiritual practice, pairing each passage with prayer, journal prompts, and exercises to more deeply understand that the presence and compassion of Christ are in every thing.



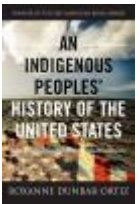
Fashion me a people : curriculum in the church. by Maria Harris. 1989 (268 Har) An older book, but one still receiving rave reviews and heavy usage. Harris sees curriculum as an *activity*, the art of practicing Christian education viewed through many facets and for all ages.

God and the pandemic : Christian reflection on the coronavirus and its aftermath. By N.T. Wright. 2020. (261.8 Wri)



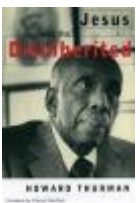
Hopeful family. by Amelia Richardson Dress. 2021 (248.8 Ric)

Anxiety, and anxiety disorders, are on the rise in all age groups, even aside from the pandemic. Parents may well wonder what the future will look like for our kids, and how to raise them in the midst of our uncertain times; ancient practices can help us build a way of purpose and hope. A discussion guide is included and the work is extensively reviewed by Sharon Ely Pearson on her blog, rowsofsharon.com (<https://rowsofsharon.com/2021/01/22/the-hopeful-family/>). The author led a workshop on blessing at the recent FORMA conference.

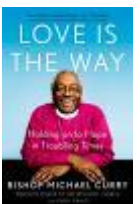


Indigenous peoples' history of the United States. by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. 2015 (970.004 Dun). This **Bishop's Book for Lent 2021** is told from the

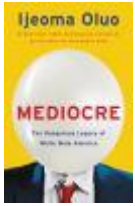
perspective of indigenous people, a voice not often heard and a people whose history has long been omitted in popular culture. Also available is Indigenous peoples' history of the United States for young people, adapted from the original text by curriculum experts Debbie Reese and Jean Mendoza for middle school and young adult (teen age) readers, and includes questions for discussion, suggestions for further reading, and more. (970.004 Dun). Check out YouTube for interviews with her.



Jesus and the disinherited. by Howard Thurman. [1996] (261.8 Thu) Mystic and theologian Howard Thurman suggests that the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised, and that Jesus' pain allows him be a partner in the pain of the oppressed. He comes to believe that justice will prevail only through the love of one another, and of self.



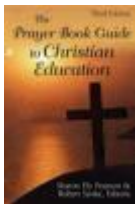
Love is the way : holding on to hope in troubling times. Bishop Michael Curry and Sara Grace. 2007. (241 Cur). Through the lens of his faith Curry looks at his past and the challenges that lie ahead, drawing on reservoirs of hope and resilience and regard for human dignity.



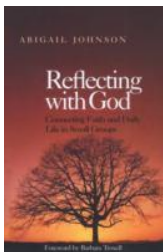
Mediocre: the dangerous legacy of white male America. by Ijeoma Oluo. 2020. (305.3 Olu). This **Bishop's book for Lent 2021** examines white male identity and the consequences of telling generations of white men that they deserve power. The presumption of white male supremacy has had a profound effect on both the country and on white men themselves and Oluo suggests a new model for white male identity. She is also the author of the popular [So you want to talk about race](#). 2018 (305.8 Olu). Check out YouTube under her name for interviews with her.



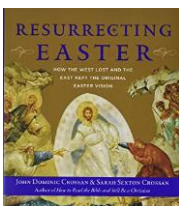
Practicing our faith : a way of life for a searching people. Edited by Dorothy C. Bass and Craig Dykstra. Second edition. 1997 (248.4 Pra). Twelve practices to make explicit the connection between what Christians do and what they believe as ordinary people strive to live out their faith in daily life.



Prayer book guide to Christian Education. By Sharon Ely Pearson. 2009. 3rd edition (268.83 Pea 3rd ed.) Especially useful for Christian educators teaching in the tradition of the Episcopal church, but this guide is also useful more widely in connecting faith and daily life. Based on the Book of Common Prayer and keyed to the Revised Common Lectionary, this guide “emphasizes the major themes of baptismal theology”.



Reflecting with God : connecting faith and daily life in small groups. by Abigail Johnson. 2004 (253.7 Joh) Theological reflection creates time and space to wonder about God, about our faith and belief, and our values. Here is a structured process that looks at events through a series of questions meant to focus a groups' eyes of faith.



Resurrecting Easter : how the West lost and the East kept the original feast. By John Dominick Crossan. 2018. (232.5 Cro) In his travels, Crossan and his wife notices a surprising difference in how the Eastern Church considers Jesus' resurrection. Rather than a solitary Jesus, Eastern theology teaches a communal and collective resurrection, which in turn raises questions about understanding morality and forgiveness as depicted in the differing iconography.

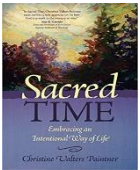
Richly illustrated.



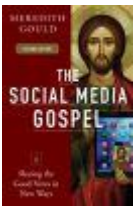
Sabbath : its meaning for modern man. by Abraham Joshua Heschel. 1979 (295.4 Hes). In this classic of Jewish spirituality, Rabbi Heschel brings meaning to many through his profound meditation on the Sabbath and particularly its relationship to our understanding of time.



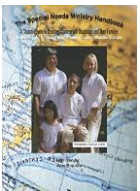
Sabbath as resistance. by Walter Brueggeman. 2014. (263.1 Bru). Sabbath is more than keeping rules; rather it is about becoming a whole person, resisting the siren call of the culture of consumption and calling us to a simpler life.



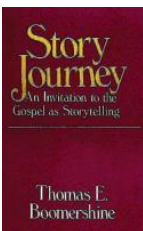
Sacred time : embracing an intentional way of life. By Christine Valters Paintner. 2021 (248.2 Pai) We are invited to become in tune with the rhythms of the natural world through an understanding of the eight cycles of sacred time that exist in our everyday lives. Within each cycle we find wisdom from a sacred tradition as a way to expand our lives. Paintner is abbess of the Abbey of the Arts, a virtual monastery and global community (abbeyofthearts.com)



Social media gospel : sharing the good news in new ways. by Meredith Gould. Second edition. 2015. (269.2 Gou) A step-by-step guide to digital ministry including effective church communication, developing and ministering to online communities, privacy concerns, managing social media and more.

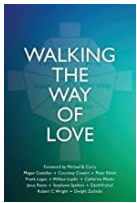


Special needs ministry handbook : a church's guide to reaching children with disabilities and their families. by Amy Rapada. 2007 (261.8 Rap). A practical instruction guide that is educationally and spiritually based and grounded in experience. The author, now a national consultant, was based in Sammamish (Presbyterian).



Story journey. by Thomas E. Boomershine. 1988. (226 Boo)

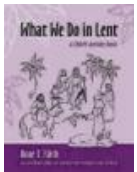
Includes a series of biblical stories to be learned and explained in several different ways. Boomershine gives tips on learning the chosen story, relating it to contemporary experience and praying with it. This was the basis for a workshop at the recent FORMA conference.



Walking the way of love. 2020. (CUR 269 Wal) The seven practices described in this small book (Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go and Rest) allow the reader to move from *desiring* a relationship with Jesus to a deepening and life-giving connection. Small individual books on each of the spiritual practices are also available in the Curriculum section of the Resource Center.

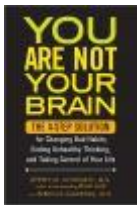


We shall be changed : questions for the post-pandemic church. Edited by Mark D.W. Edington. 2020. (261.8 We). The pandemic has sparked a sudden and amazing flowering of creativity, but of course also has presented difficulties to be addressed and overcome. These short essays are designed to spur conversation within groups.



What we do in Lent : a child's activity book. by Anne Kitch. 2007. (268.68 Kit)

Activities for home, pew or church school to teach children aged approximately 4-7 the meaning of Lent and Easter, including mazes, crossword puzzles, and a parent's guide to promote parenting in the pews.



You are not your brain : the 4-step solution for changing bad habits, ending unhealthy thinking, and taking control of your life. by Jeffrey M. Schwartz and Rebecca Gladding. 2011 (158.1 Sch)

Two neuroscientists have developed a program to explain how the brain works, why we sometimes feel out of control of our thoughts and feelings, and what we can do to make our brains work for, not against us. This was the basis for a workshop at the recent FORMA conference.



Your faith, your life : an invitation to the Episcopal Church. by Jenifer Gamber. Revised, 2017 (283.73 Gam). A revised and updated resource for adults, including a leader guide, this is the adult version of the also popular **My faith, my life : a teen's guide to the Episcopal church**, which is widely used in confirmation classes throughout the diocese (283.73 Gam) which was revised in 2014.

Sacred Ground – Curriculum

Sacred Ground is a 10-part series of film-and-readings-based curriculum designed for small groups and dialogue, and is the subject of one of the workshops at this conference.

(<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>)

Jesus and the disinherited. By Howard Thurman. 1996 (261.8 Thu)

Waking up white : and finding myself in the story of race By Debby Irving. 2014. (305.8 Irv)

Resources related to some of the Better Together workshops...

These are some books in our collection which I believe may touch on the workshop topics offered at Better Together. Please note: these are suggestions for supplemental reading and exploration, not content for the Better Together workshops, nor is it a definitive list of materials available in the Resource Library. Check out our online catalog (<https://ecww.booksys.net/opac/ecww/index.html#menuHome>)

Workshop: The Blessing of Wonder

Gift of wonder : creative practices for delighting in God. By Christine Aroney-Sine. 2019. (see above)

Jesus and Buddha meet in stillness : a beginner's guide to mindfulness meditation and contemplative prayer

Silence (Godly Play) By Jerome Berryman

Wonder and other life skills : spiritual life retreats for young adults using the creative arts

Workshop Track: Social Justice

“Confronting racism – working for change : a list of resources and recommendations.” St. Mark’s Cathedral. 2020. (<https://saintmarks.org/2020/06/recognizing-racism-working-for-change/>)

Racial equity reading list from the Diocese of Olympia
<https://ecww.org/racial-equity-reading-list/>

Unsettling truths : the ongoing dehumanizing legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery by Mark Charles and Soong-Chan Rah. 2019. (261.7 Cha). There are interviews with him available on YouTube.

Workshop: Teaching Cultural Compassion

TeachingCulturalCompassion.org (book reviews for young children)

Story path : connecting children’s literature with our faith story
(<http://storypath.upsem.edu/>)

Picture book theology (<http://www.picturebooktheology.com/>).

Workshop: Bound Together Virtually: What is God up to in all this?

Absalom Jones Episcopal Center for racial healing.
(<https://www.centerforracialhealing.org/>)

“Confronting racism – working for change : a list of resources and recommendations.”
St. Mark’s Cathedral. 2020. (<https://saintmarks.org/2020/06/recognizing-racism-working-for-change/>)

“Exploring the Doctrine of Discovery.”
(<https://bexleyseabury.pathwright.com/library/doctrine-of-discovery/188373/about/>)

Racial equity reading list from the Diocese of Olympia
<https://ecww.org/racial-equity-reading-list/>

Workshop: Young Adults & the Church

Bed, bath, table and time : Christian worship as a source and resource for youth ministry. By Fred P. Edie. 2007. (264 Edi)

Can’t help but wonder : questioning our way toward faith. By Susan Youngblood. 2020. (248.8 You)

Reverse mentoring : how young leaders can transform the church and why we should let them. By Earl G. Creps. 2001. (253.084 Cre).

You lost me : why young Christians are leaving church – and rethinking faith. By David Kinnaman. 2011. (277.3 Kin)

Workshop: Contemplative Creativity: Art for Mindfulness and Connection

(search term: contemplation)

Contemporary vision : photography as a spiritual practice. By Dirk DeVries. 2019. (248.34 deV)

Eyes of the heart : photography as a Christian contemplative practice. By Christine Valters Paintner. 2013. (248.34 Pai)