

January/February 2010 – Volume 9 Issue 1

February 17 is Ash Wednesday

*Over the past few years, AVEL Ontario has purchased two licenses for Living the Questions and six licenses for Living the Questions 2.0. These exciting, progressive studies are already booked for Lenten Studies by churches in the five central conferences AVEL Ontario serves. **BUT YOU'RE NOT TOO LATE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OTHER GREAT ADULT STUDIES AVAILABLE!***

Titles available this season:

First Light – First Light is a 12-session DVD and web-based study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God with two of the world's leading Jesus scholars on location throughout the Galilee and Jerusalem, featuring John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg. **Living the Questions**
Eclipsing Empire - Join preeminent New Testament scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan on location in Turkey as they trace the Apostle Paul's footsteps throughout the Roman Empire. This 12-session DVD and web-based study explores fresh insights into Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its challenge to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle's radical relevance for today. **Living the Questions**
Experiencing the Bible Again for the First Time; Experiencing Jesus; Experiencing an Ecological Christianity – New from Tim Scorer and available to borrow from AVEL. Three great adult study kits, with DVD, participant guides and leader guide included. WoodLake Publishing
If You Want to Walk on Water, You'll Have to Get out of the Boat; The Life You've Always Wanted – two good studies featuring John Ortberg. Zondervan

Classic studies available in DVD format:

Sharing our Song of Faith, Seven Storytellers of Faith, Lentscape, We Were There – Studies available from award-winning Berkley Studio;
What's God Up To? a study featuring provocative and popular biblical author Amy-Jill Levine – EcuFilm; **The Jesus I Never Knew** or **What's So Amazing about Grace?** – small group study featuring Philip Yancey. **Faces on Faith** – these classic studies feature noted religious thinkers: Joan Chittister, Marcus Borg, James Lawson; Huston Smith, Rita Nkashima Brock, Chiam Potok; Desmond Tutu, Parker Palmer and others!



AVEL RESOURCES LENT AND EASTER PROGRAM IDEAS!

Need a video for your Lenten Study Series?

It's time to order your Lenten Study Resources, while the selection is available. Whether your theme is progressive Christianity, Bible study or faithful living, AVEL can help!



Photo: Bob Root

AVEL resources have public performance rights!

AVEL (Audio Visual Educational Library) is a national network of The United Church of Canada's video lending library.

AVEL Ontario

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Parable: At the end of a circus retinue rides a white clown on a donkey. He never speaks. He only acts. But he manages to do several things that make for him devoted followers and embittered opponents. Running time: 22 min. Mass Media. VHS and DVD. A classic allegory.

One Who was There: In the year 64 A.D. a woman sets out from Jerusalem on a journey toward Galilee. On the outskirts of the city, passing a place called Gethsemane, she is overcome by a searing memory: the events of a day years earlier when a man named Jesus was arrested there, tried and executed. The woman is a survivor, one of the few left who had been his followers. Tormented by the memory of his crucifixion, weary from long years of waiting for his return, she begins a search to find her life again. During many days of travel from barren Judea to the fertile valley of the Jordan, the woman is transformed by her journey and the people she meets. She encounters a group of second-generation Christians whose joyful celebration of the Lord's presence begins to shake her out of her own despair. Others she meets, travelers who question or deny the faith, bring her face to face with events of her own life—seen in flashbacks—as a young woman who had been healed by him, who had loved and witnessed for him. Memories and encounters awaken the possibility of a new beginning for her life. Near Magdala, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, past and present come together in a powerful experience of reliving the long-ago moment of his resurrection. One who was there, the first to see the risen Lord, Mary Magdalene, too, has come back to life. Her journey begins again - back down the road she has traveled, to those who need her. Running time: 37 minutes. Ecuofilm. VHS & DVD

The Last Supper – DVD

Filmed and dramatized entirely on authentic locations of the Holy Land and the Middle East, this is the most elaborate and extensive film available on the Last Supper. Jesus met with his twelve disciples in the "upper room" in Jerusalem, where they shared that historic meal. It was the traditional Jewish Passover "Seder" meal, which to this day symbolizes the deliverance from slavery to freedom and is commemorated for the last supper the ancient Hebrews shared before leaving Egypt, on their long journey to the Promised Land. 60 minutes. Ecuofilm

Dateline Jerusalem – DVD

Empire transformed them into revolutionaries and, in the process, changed the world itself in ways that would reverberate across time for two thousand years. Now, discover the extraordinary untold

Here is the Easter story, as you have never experienced it. With anchor Martyn Lewis and special on-the-scene correspondents, these news bulletins and reports cover the story of Holy Week in an enlightening presentation that provides greater understanding of the circumstances leading up to and surrounding Christ's crucifixion. Programs 1-4 begin with the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and examine the events and intrigues that follow: the dramatic challenge of the moneychangers, the trick questions of paying taxes to Caesar, and the "evidence" of blasphemy and treason when Jesus claims to be the Messiah. Programs 5-8 cover Jesus' arrest, crucifixion, and resurrection. The politics and intrigue of first-century Palestine provide the backdrop for the betrayal and execution of a man who has changed the course of history. 120 minutes

Book your Lenten Study Resources early!

We carry confirmation and new member resources, UCW programming material and video support for Sunday School curriculum.

We offer **DeWitt Jones leadership development** programs, including: Everyday Creativity, Focus Your Vision, Celebrate What's Right with the World and For the Love of It. Running time 20 minutes. StarThrower. DVD **New from StarThrower: Differences and We are the Ones: both of these four-minute inspirational programs would enhance your congregational annual meeting!**

For your Lenten Book Study Group

1. ***There's No ATM in the Wilderness- Daily Reflections for Lent - \$10.95***
2. ***The Last Week – Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan \$17.99***
3. ***The Great Emergence – Phyllis Tickle \$20.50***
4. ***40-Day Journey with Parker J. Palmer \$15.50***
5. ***The Case for God – Karen Armstrong \$34.95***
6. ***Saving Paradise – Rita Nakashima Brock \$33.95***

These titles are available at Grand River Spiritual & Educational Resources, or contact your local Presbytery Resource Centre or UCRD.

