



AVEL RESOURCES Advent, Christmas and Epiphany PROGRAM IDEAS!

**Need a video for those busy Sundays
in Advent?**

AVEL can help!

**It's time to order your Advent/Christmas
Resources, while the selection is available.
Try a video series for your adult study time
this season!**



**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.**

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November 29 – First Sunday in Advent

Book your Christmas Resources Early!

Christmas Is -In this video, cartoon/animated characters, a boy named Benji and Waldo the dog are up to new adventures. Benji is disappointed that he has to play the second shepherd again in a school Christmas pageant. But then he and his dog Waldo have an adventure and discover the meaning of Christmas. DVD or VHS 30 min.

The City that forgot about Christmas -This is an animated feature in which Benji's grandpa tells the tale of a city that never celebrated Christmas until a new carpenter in town started spreading the Good News. Suitable for children ages 4 to 11. DVD or VHS 30 min.

The Stableboy's Christmas -Ten year old Tammy refuses to wrap a Christmas present intended for her cousin, hoping to keep the doll for herself. Later, through a dream, she travels back to Bethlehem to witness a little stableboy's act of unselfish love when he gives the Christ child his pet lamb. Tammy then realizes how sharing presents with others is a way of sharing God's love at Christmas. DVD or VHS 30 min.

ALSO AVAILABLE NOW IN DVD: Jacob's Gift Crippled Lamb and Alabaster's song: two seasonal favourites from Max Lucado – these 30-minute Christmas classics are available in both VHS and DVD.

NEW FOR THE FAMILY!

The Christmas Shoes After 10-year-old Nathan Andrews learns that this will be his mother's (Kimberly Williams) last Christmas, he decides to buy her a special gift. As Nathan sets out on his quest, fate puts him in the path of Robert Layton (Rob Lowe), an overworked attorney who has forgotten to take time for his family. It's the boy's love for his mother that inspires Robert to reconnect with what's truly important in his life. The Christmas Shoes

shows that small miracles happen everyday- you just have to be willing to see them. DVD 90 min.

The Christmas Blessing In the inspiring sequel to the The Christmas Shoes, Nathan Andrews (Neil Partick Harris) is all grown up. As a young doctor, Nathan finds himself questioning his career choice, so he goes to his hometown to soul-search and reconnect with his father. Once home, a blossoming romance with teacher Megan Sullivan (Rebecca Gayheart), and a fast friendship with her student Charlie Bennett (Angus T. Jones) teach Nathan to live life in the moment and embrace the time he has with friends and family. A tender, heartwarming tale, The Christmas Blessing reminds us that life; love and family are gifts to be cherished. DVD 90 min.

Red Boots for Christmas

The video Red Boots for Christmas is based on a story written many years ago in Germany. Hans the shoemaker learns about the joys of sharing and fellowship and the spirit of Christmas after he is visited by an angel who brings the promise of a very special gift. VHS 25 minutes.

The Fourth Wiseman – DVD 72 min.

Based on Henry Van Dyke's classic, "The Story of the Other Wiseman". Artaban, the fourth wiseman, takes with him three precious gifts to present to the Messiah. For 33 years, Artaban and Orantes, Artaban's servant, pursue Jesus, only to miss him at every turn. Along the way, Artaban uses his gifts to help people in dire need. He now has nothing to present to the Messiah when he finds him. The story culminates on Easter Sunday as Artaban, old and dying, finally encounters the new King, bringing peace to his final moments of life.

Spirit Connection Programs – Dec. 2002, including: December 15- Blessed Among Women. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is one of the strongest women in the Bible but she is also a figure in the Koran. Spirit Connection looks at the women at the centre of the Christmas story and her place in several faith communities.

December 22- Journey to Bethlehem, Spirit Connection celebrates Christmas at Five Oaks Centre with a "Journey to Bethlehem". This interactive pageant, complete with carol

singing, and marketplace attracts over 600 people each year to the magical background at Five Oaks. **Visit Five Oaks December 1 and 2 for your own "Journey to Bethlehem."** Visit www.fiveoaks.on.ca for details.

Mr. Krueger's Christmas: Mr. Krueger, a lonely widower, finds company in his day-dreams and his pet cat. When a young girl comes caroling at his door, Mr. Krueger finds not only friendship, but the true meaning of Christmas. Starring James Stewart. VHS 25 min.

Call today to reserve your Christmas titles!

THIS CHRISTMAS GET CAUGHT READING!

1. ***Now in Paperback!:*** The First Christmas – Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan \$17.99
2. ****2009 Scotiabank Giller Prize Winner:*** The Bishop's Man – Linden MacIntyre \$32.00
3. The Lacuna – Barbara Kingsolver \$34.99
4. **Eternal Life: A New Vision – John Shelby Spong \$32.99**
5. **The Christian Future and the Fate of the Earth – Thomas Berry \$26.95**
6. **The Green Bible: Understand the Bible's Powerful Message for the Earth - \$31.95**
7. **The Wayfinders: Why Ancient Wisdom Matters in the Modern World – Wade Davis \$19.95**
8. **Christmas Moccasins – Ray Buckley \$21.50- also available *The Give-Away and The Wing***
9. **The Spirituality of Series: **NEW** Sex, Bread, Wine, Gardening, Art, Mazes and Labyrinths, Pets, Grandparenting, Nature, Music – prices vary**
10. **More Voices - \$16.95**

Check our website www.avelgrandriver for more great gift ideas.

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

**Need more information?
Just ask Jackie or Kathy!**

