

February 2010



Daring Discipleship



A HamPack mailing from Lorna MacQueen,
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resources, workshops, and opportunities

A Lenten Prayer Discipline

A possible daily Lenten prayer discipline for individuals, families or communities. (the ritual uses five candles. A Christ candle and 4 others)



Light the Christ Candle

In the Light of Christ, I offer these prayers:

Today I pray for myself, beloved by God (*offer personal prayers for SELF*)...



Light first candle : I offer my prayers into the light.

Today I pray for these people whom I love, beloved of God (*offer prayers for those known and loved*)



Light second candle: I offer my prayers into the light.

Resources:

The Voice in the Stillness: An overview of some Christian ways of meditation: <http://frimmin.com/faith/meditation.php>

World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle – may be accessed through our Prayer Cycle page on the Hamilton Conference site: <http://www.hamconf.org/prayercycle.html>

Or if you wish to have a link attached to your local church go directly to: <http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle/share.html>

Today I pray for someone who I am finding it difficult to love, who is also beloved of God. (*Offer prayers*)



Light third candle: I offer my prayers into the light.

Today I pray for the world, created and beloved by God (*offer prayers for communities, peoples, nations, the planet etc.*)



Light fourth candle: I offer my prayers into the light.

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness will not overcome it. Amen.

"MUSIC OF THE SPIRIT Songs of the Heart" a pdf songbook file. Songs by Larry Marshall and John Wesley Oldham. For more into: John Wesley Oldham, 76 Marygrove Cres., Winnipeg MB, R3Y 1M2; johnomar@mts.net; Phone 204 489 6919

The Southdown Institute, Aurora, ON; 905-727-4214; <http://www.southdown.on.ca/#> offers spiritual guidance and psychological treatment to those in paid accountable ministry 'promoting health and holiness.' They are also available to give

Resources Continued:

leadership in 'Parish Pastoral Team workshops,' a "Day of reflection for Educators," and "Facilitation for your organization."

AVEL is the United Church's Audio Visual Education Library through which you may borrow video and DVD resources for church ministries. Jackie Childerhose can be reached at 1-888-668-0871 or www.avelgrandriver.com. **Saving Jesus** is a 12 week DVD with Rita Nakashima, Brock, Nancy Ammerman, John Bell, Matthew Fox, Dominic Crossan. Available from AVEL but in great demand... so call ahead!

Resources on - The Golden Rule: *In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.* **Mt 7:12** Scarboro Mission Site: http://www.scarboromissions.ca/Golden_rule/index.php. Workshop guidelines, meditation exercises and other resources are available for teaching and reflection with young people or adults.

For those into ebooks, check out the Alban site for available resources - <http://www.alban.org/bookstore.aspx?id=7152>.

Articles related to Children's Ministries

i. *Children's Ministry: Small Is the New Big* - by Amy Crawford; <http://www.united-church.ca/allages/children/leaders#featured>

ii. *Learning Through the Arts* by Ellen Booth Church <http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=3748408>

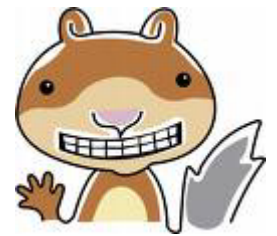
Interactive ANTI-BULLYING WEBSITE: <http://www.teamheroes.ca/website/meet.html>

GO Project—a United Church Youth mission experience for Youth grade 9 to age 19 and their leaders; thegoproject.ca; Michael Shewburg: 416-239-1131 x31. *Go! Be a positive presence in the*

community around you. Go! Serve God by discerning how to serve in your community. Go! Enrich the lives of youth by taking a leadership role with your church.

BOOK OF THE MONTH:

Scaredy Squirrel by Melanie Watt. This is a children's book great for kids, but also for any church board or community that needs to hear a story like this: "Scaredy Squirrel would rather stay in his safe and familiar tree, following his carefully planned routine, than risk venturing out into the unknown. Until one day, something happens that is NOT part of his plan..." Watt, Melanie. *Scaredy Squirrel*. Kids can press: Toronto, 2006.



Events:

Living into Interculturalism with Bill Phipps, Michael Blair, Adele Halliday and Barry Pridham. **Saturday, Feb 27;** Westdale United Church, Hamilton. Call 905-659-3343 x 224 or email elegrand@hamconfo.org to register.

From the Achieve Centre: at Four Points by Sheraton; 6257 Airport Road Toronto

CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS – Dealing with Difficult people <http://www.achievecentre.com/winterspring10/ontario.html> - **March 2**. To understand the dynamics of conflict and be able to respond confidently when faced with difficult situations. Phone: 204.452.0180

CREATING WORK-LIFE BALANCE: <http://www.achievecentre.com/winterspring10/ontario.html>

Toronto - **March 3**, Phone: 204-452-0180

Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute Inc: Gender and Sexual Identity in Youth: February 25-26 in Toronto; www.ctrinstitute.com; 204-452-9199 or 877-353-3205.

Planning Ahead:

Sounding the Bamboo—May 13-16, 2010 Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg, MB - An event for racial/ethnic

and Aboriginal Women in the UCC. Theme: "Eve, Mary, White Feather and US..." Registration is limited. Contact Maki Fushii, -Toll Free:1-800-268-3781 ext. 4129 or visit: <http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/events/sounding-the-bamboo-2010>

The Great Emergence: Public Lecture with **Phyllis Tickle** - "The Great Emergence: 21st Century Christianity – what's going on here?" **May 16, 2010** at 7 pm; <http://www.ssjd.ca>; **St. John's Convent** The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine, 233 Cumber Avenue, Toronto; 416- 226-2201

