

congregational libraries *today*



SERVING CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARIES OF ALL FAITHS SINCE 1967

CSLAINFO.ORG | SECOND ISSUE 2016

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Phoeby Sindavi, Librarian, with older students in the Pangani (main school) library.

Creating libraries in Kenya

BY CAROLYN HANSON, LIBRARY DIRECTOR, CONNECTION POINTE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Most children in the United States grow up having access to libraries in their schools or communities, but the same cannot be said for children in many countries of the world, including Kenya. My husband Craig and I have been a part of supporting schools and libraries in the Mathare Valley slum of Nairobi.

Since 2008, we have been involved with Missions of Hope International (MOHI) in Nairobi, Kenya. MOHI has partnered with Christian Missionary Fellowship (CMF), located in Indianapolis, to provide quality Christian education among the poor in the Mathare Valley. Mathare Valley is one of the most poverty stricken slums in Nairobi where families are crowded into small, corrugated tin shanties and economic improvement is a real challenge.

Missions of Hope is a holistic effort, going beyond educating children to include working with their parents to improve their communities and their

>> article continues on page 2

Our 2016 conference theme is *Telling Your Story. CSLA's Story. Conference information inside.*

Library focus changed to enrichment— >> from previous page

futures through job training, micro finance training, and health and spiritual initiatives.

MOHI was started in 2000 by two native Kenyans, Mary and Wallace Kamau, who wanted to make a difference in the Nairobi slums. They began with one school and 50 preschoolers who were among the poorest of the poor. CMF joined with them in 2004, helping primarily with child sponsorships at that time. MOHI has since grown from that single preschool to more than 16 schools and 12,000 students including both boys' and girls' boarding schools for secondary students.

Even though the percentage of MOHI students who pass the national standard 8 exam for entrance to secondary school far exceeds that of their Kenyan peers (roughly 90% versus about 40%), MOHI realized that its primary students needed more literacy and hands-on based education to better prepare them for eventual entrance to secondary school and universities. In the past, they had relied more upon rote education.

The importance of a library was realized early in the existence of the schools. The main school housed a



Wallace and Mary Kamau, MOHI founders.

beautiful library that teachers from the other schools utilized when they could, but travel was an issue. The large central library has since downsized, sending extra books to the smaller schools. At that time, libraries in the smaller schools consisted of a few books on a shelf in the head teacher's (principal's) office. MOHI is trying to get functioning libraries established in all the schools. To this end, it has worked with volunteers, primarily retired American teachers, to identify resources that would help children in each grade better

understand and accomplish the national Kenyan standards for each subject.

My church, Connection Pointe Christian Church, Brownsburg, Indiana (just west of Indianapolis), has worked to provide a library at Madoya, one of the smaller schools. This effort has served as an informal pilot program for other MOHI schools. In 2013, Connection Pointe helped provide hands-on science, health and mathematics learning tools (manipulatives) for grades 1-5 at the Madoya school. We included children's books that would support this curriculum and also trained the teachers in the use of the books and manipulatives.

In 2014, the emphasis became literary enrichment as well as starting an actual library in the Madoya school (at the request of the head teacher) and providing reading tubs for classrooms in grades 3-5. Many of the books chosen for the library were culturally sensitive children's books, primarily fiction picture books, intended to reinforce classroom lessons. We also included some children's reference books, children's

>> article continues on page 3



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Carolyn Hanson and a Connection Pointe team member with learning tubs at Madoya.

Majority of books are in English—

>> from previous page

Bibles and books about Kenya and its customs and wildlife. Teachers from our church trained the Madoya teachers to use these picture books as an important part of the children's instruction. Since English is one of Kenya's official languages (the other being Kiswahili), the majority of the books are in English. Most of the classroom teaching also is in English.

By 2015, MOHI introduced the concept of mini libraries in each school. Books were identified for each grade level and at least two copies of each title were placed in a rolling book tub, one tub per grade level. Our church provided the books for each grade level from preschool through grade 5 at the Madoya school. If luggage space permitted, we included other culturally sensitive books.

I was in charge of gathering the books and learning tools from 2013 through 2015 and was a part of teacher training in the use of the manipulatives and the books (mostly nonfiction) in 2013. As part of this process, I consulted with the librarian

at the main school and with the head teacher at the Madoya school. Fortunately, I was already familiar with these key people since I had met them on previous mission trips to Kenya, where I had helped with vacation Bible school at Madoya and

worked with the librarian in the main school library.

I have been approached by CMF about being a part of a U.S.A. team that will help develop libraries in all MOHI schools, but that is a project for the future. Another future MOHI project is to start a theological library for MOHI staff and for pastors in the communities that MOHI serves.

The funding for the Kenya school library initiative is provided by MOHI, CMF and supporting churches in the United States as well as by individual donors.

Here is the link to MOHI: <http://mohiafrica.org/> and to the mini library program: <http://www.mohiafrica.org/get-involved/support-a-project/mini-libraries>. For some reason, the link for Standards 1-2 does not work, but can be accessed here: <https://mohiteachers.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/mini-library-1-21.pdf>.

Editor's note: Access to MOHI's website has been sporadic. The links above are correct. If unable to access the MOHI website, try again at a later time.



Madoya Library at its beginning in 2014. Some of the newly arrived learning toys and rolling book tubs are on top of the shelves.

invites you to **TELL YOUR STORY** at the 49th Annual CSLA Conference

When: July 27-29, 2016 | Where: Kent State University, Kent Ohio

Register at <http://cslainfo.org/>

THE CONFERENCE

Join CSLA in **TELLING YOUR STORY** in beautiful Kent, Ohio. During the conference you will have the opportunity to listen to some amazing keynote speakers and attend workshops on a wide range of topics that include building an exemplary collection for your library, marketing your library and storytelling. There also will be opportunities to attend author teas where you can meet and talk with authors and even get an autograph or three.

There will be exhibitors at the conference with information on resources to support your library or to discuss materials you may want to add to your collection. And, of course, there will be ample time for networking and fellowship with other attendees and conference presenters. **Conference registration** is available on the CSLA website (<http://cslainfo.org/>).

CONFERENCE KEYNOTES

LINDSAY BONILLA

Lindsay shares her love of stories and the stage through her company, World of Difference Ltd., where she performs interactive



folktales while teaching about foreign countries and cultures, inspiring the imagination and promoting a love for learning and literacy. Lindsay is an avid author who has written poetry, picture books, skits, magazine articles and even screenplays.

DANDI DALEY MACKALL

Dandi is an award-winning author of more than 450 books for children of all ages, with sales of 4 million copies in 22 countries. Dandi is a national speaker, keynoting at conferences and Young Author events, and has made dozens of appearances on TV, including ABC, NBC and CBS. *My Boyfriends' Dogs* is now a Hallmark movie, the most-watched original Hallmark movie of 2014.



SHELLEY PEARSALL

Shelley has been a classroom teacher in public schools and has worked in the education departments of several parks and history museums. Shelley's first book, *Trouble Don't Last*, was published in 2002 and received the Scott O'Dell Award for



Historical Fiction. Her third novel, *All of the Above*, was an ALA Notable book. Her books often appear on state reading award lists and "best of" lists.



LOCATION

Kent State has a beautiful, park-like campus with plenty of green space and trees galore—in fact, Kent State was honored as Ohio's first Tree Campus USA university. The city of Kent lies immediately adjacent to campus, offering the fun dining and unique shopping experiences you expect in a small, college-town environment. And you are only 40 minutes from major metropolitan areas in downtown Cleveland, Youngstown and Canton, and 20 minutes from Akron. The area is rich with arts and culture, entertainment, family fun, and sports and recreation opportunities. Plan to arrive early for the conference or stay afterward so that you can explore all that the area has to offer. And be sure to bring the family. >>

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

WORKSHOPS Attend workshops on subjects ranging from library management, collection development, cataloging and storytelling to providing inspirational resources and spiritual practice within the library and religious community.

AUTHOR TEAS Visit with notable authors while enjoying light refreshments.

DENOMINATIONAL MEETINGS Meet with other CSLA members of your denomination.

CSLA COMMITTEE MEETINGS Join with your CSLA committee members to discuss ongoing and new work.

EXHIBITS View exhibits from organizations and individuals who offer materials and services to congregational libraries.

More about
the CSLA
Conference
July 27-29

>>Cleveland
Botanical
Gardens



Don't forget!
50th anniversary
logo contest entry
deadline is June 15

The Church and Synagogue Library Association will celebrate its 50th birthday in 2017 and wants you to join in the fun by designing a special logo to commemorate the occasion. This logo will not replace the current logo and seal, but will be used throughout 2017 in *Congregational Libraries Today* and on the CSLA website,

stationery and other merchandise. All CSLA members and their friends are invited to participate in the contest.

As you design this logo, remember all the valuable services CSLA has offered over the years to

help congregational librarians. The design should reflect the character and mission of CSLA and should be suitable for use with congregational libraries of all faiths.

The deadline for submission is June 15. All entries will be printed and brought to the CSLA conference at Kent, Ohio, July 27-29. The winner will be chosen by members who attend the conference. At the end of the conference, the winner will be announced and will receive a \$250 Amazon gift certificate. After the winner is chosen, CSLA will become the sole and exclusive owner of the logo.

Please submit your design to Judy Janzen at CSLA@worldaccessnet.com.

Specifications:

- The artwork should be reproducible in color and black and white.
- The design must be 100% your own work. No copyrighted or trademarked material included.
- More than one entry may be submitted.
- Logo design should be uploaded as a JPEG or GIF file.

ACCOMMODATIONS & TRAVEL

Housing is available on Kent Campus. There are lovely, modern, single (\$32 per night) or double (\$41 per night) rooms available. Each room includes linens and a private bath. If you want on-campus accommodations, please make this selection on the conference registration form.

Other nearby lodging available:

- Holiday Inn, \$89 per night. 330-673-9200
- KSU Hotel & Conference center, \$109 per night. 330-346-0100

There are two airports serving the Kent area.

- The Akron-Canton Airport (CAK): www.akroncantonairport.com
- The Cleveland Hopkins Airport (CLE): www.clevelandairport.com

PRE & POST CONFERENCE TOURS

Tuesday

First Christian Church
Stow Presbyterian Church Library
Kent United Methodist Church Library
Temple Israel

Kent State Tours

Kent State University Special Collections Archives: Visit KSU's Special Collection Archives and learn about the unique collections and historical items they preserve there. Including oral histories and photographs, a collection of Babar items and illustrations, and the Borowitz crime collection.

Friday

Cleveland Botanical Garden and the Eleanor Squire Library: Visit the fabulous gardens, exotic glasshouse, Eleanor Squire Library and Guren Art Gallery.

Classic Religious Books for Children:
An Annotated Bibliography
by Carol Campbell & Evelyn Pockrass. (2015).
Completely redone from the previous edition. Carefully researched with helpful annotations and notes. Here are the very best children's religious books from several faith traditions. \$14/\$12 + S&H

CSLA BIBLIOGRAPHY

Finding CSLA's story through my story

Since the latter part of 2015, I've been encouraging you to think about the story of your experience with CSLA and your congregation's library, and to send your story to me. I have received one response so far, and I do understand that it may feel intimidating to do this. So, here's a brief version of my story concerning CSLA and my congregation's library.

A year or so after joining my church, I was asked to be its librarian since that position was vacant. My qualifications? I was a professional librarian in my day job. Did that mean that I was qualified to be a congregational librarian? Well, I certainly had an overall grounding in librarianship, but my specialty is cataloging, metadata and digital initiatives—predominately behind-the-scenes work in an academic library. Not knowing any better, I agreed. I then found a box of library processing materials on my front doorstep, since the person in the previous position did not even want to meet with me, having left the church.

No one else in the church really knew anything about the library: a very small collection of donated books and old Sunday school texts plus a few reference books, a very old encyclopedia set and some children's videos, all located in a corner of a hallway. There was no library com-



Photos courtesy of Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rochester, NY.

mittee. I did my best, making some mistakes along the way, of course.

Then one day I stumbled across the CSLA website and found that there was a local chapter in my town. I started attending meetings and soon joined both CSLA's national organization and the chapter. Besides getting great advice from experienced congregational librarians, I found the CSLA guides to be extremely helpful in setting up the various

guidelines for the library, collection development, and working with volunteers. I can't tell you how invaluable having a written library policy (based on examples from a CSLA manual) has been when unwanted and inappropriate materials were sent to the library. I have specific stories concerning teens who found working in the library to be fun and interesting; supporting book discussion groups in a coffee house setting; finding the "right" book for an individual; and planning a modest library expansion. And of course, finding great volunteers, or in many cases, having the volunteers find me, has been most rewarding.

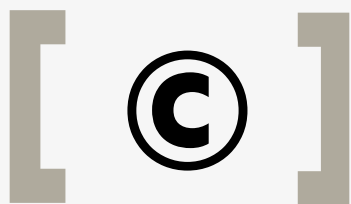
I hope you will join me at this year's conference July 27-29, at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, and share your stories with me. The workshops and programs are top-notch, and the setting for the conference is fantastic—I visited the site back in November and came away very impressed.

Now, in conclusion, I have two questions for you: what should CSLA's story be for the future, and what will be **your** role in that future? If you'd like to discuss this with me, or talk about anything else, just email me at marciatmail@gmail.com. I welcome your thoughts.



Marcia Trauernicht, CSLA President

INSERTING



in MARC records

Older MARC records often substituted a small letter "c" to indicate copyright. However, that is not allowed by the new RDA standards. Here is a quick way to create the © (copyright) symbol needed when following RDA cataloging rules:

PC – While holding down the ALT key, enter 0169 on the numeric keypad.

Mac – While holding down the OPTION key, enter G.

With a PC, be sure to use the numeric keypad, not the numbers located above the keyboard. Also, ensure that the number lock on your keypad is turned on.—Pat Shufeldt



DOING DEWEY

USING TABLE 3 TO MAKE CLASSIFICATION

NUMBERS FOR LIBRARY MATERIALS MORE PRECISE

BY SUSAN SNYDER
ssnyder44147@gmail.com

Most congregational libraries have some literary materials, such as poetry and plays. These materials are usually classified in the 800's, and Table 3 is often used to make the classification numbers more precise.

When Melvil Dewey created his classification method, he considered the language in which a work of literature was originally written to be its most important aspect. Dewey's American slant can be seen by his assigning an entire division (810-819) to U.S. and Canadian literature and another division (820-829) to English literature written in other countries such as Great Britain and Australia.

After determining the language in which the literary work being classified was originally written, look in the main schedules to see if there is an indication that Table 3 may be used. If so, add the subdivision for the literary form. For example, when classifying American poetry in English, start with 81 for American literature in English, then add 1 for poetry, resulting in a classification number of 811.

In most small libraries, the number 3 from Table 3 is used only for materials about fiction. Fiction itself is usually classified as F, FIC, or FICTION and arranged alphabetically by author in a separate section of the library.

This is as far as the abridged Dewey Decimal Classification extends the number for books by, or about, an individual author or about particular forms of individual literatures within a specific time period.

If a book contains literature from only one original language, of a particular literary form, and more than one time period, follow the instructions under the specific literary form in Table 3. In general, the abridged Dewey Decimal classification does not provide further subdivisions for genres within a literary form. If there is a particular literary form and more than one time period, and no specific genre, these instructions will tell you to add -008 for literary collections or -009 for history, description,

Table 3* also provides for adding other numbers after 81 for various types of literature

-1	Poetry
-2	Drama
-3	Fiction
-4	Essays
-5	Speeches
-6	Letters
-7	Collected humorous poetry and prose
-8	Anecdotes, epigrams, graffiti, jokes, quotations & riddles

*Adapted from Table 3, Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index, devised by Melvil Dewey. Edition 15, edited by Joan S. Mitchell, Julianne Beall, Rebecca Green, Michael Panzer. OCLC Online Computer Library Center, ©2012.

and/or critical appraisal to the number for that literary form.

For example, *Good Poems for Hard Times*, selected and introduced by Garrison Keillor, is assigned the Dewey Decimal number 811.008 for collected American poetry from more than one time period. Also, *The Republic of Imagination: America in Three Books*, by Azar Natsis, is assigned the Dewey Decimal number 813.009. The Natsis example is less obvious, but the table of contents indicates that the books being written about are American novels from more than one time period.

Also add -008 for books consisting equally of literature and history, description, and/or critical appraisal that otherwise fit these criteria and are limited to literature on a specific topic. If there is a particular literary form, no specific genre, and more than one time period, and literature on more than one topic, and the book consists equally of literature, description, and/

or critical appraisal, the instructions under the particular literary form will provide directions on how to further add standard subdivisions from Table 1, if needed.

For books consisting equally of literature and history, description, and/ or critical appraisal, if there is only one original language, more than one literary form, and more than one author, and the literature is about more than one topic, add standard subdivisions -01 to -07 (described in Table 3, but taken from Table 1) as needed. Add -08 for literary collections if there is only one language, more than one literary form,



Telling your story—CSLA's story

BY MARIA ISABEL GARCIA

I honestly don't remember how I discovered CSLA, but I am certainly glad I did. To the best of my recollection, I became involved around 1981 by attending local workshops given by Dorothy Atkins under the leadership of Faye Grosse, who had started the North Texas Chapter. These two women had a tremendous influence on me and on the development of my church library. Both are now departed from this world, and they must have "very special libraries" in heaven.

Learning new ideas and exchanging experiences was a great venue for inspiration and challenge. Before long I was drawn to serve on the chapter's board in several capacities: President, Vice-President in charge of Programs and Membership, Treasurer, and Communications/Publicity Chairman. In this last capacity I created a blog and a website for the chapter. These days most communication is done via email and electronic announcements and newsletters.

In 1993, I was selected as CSLA's Outstanding Librarian for that year. The recognition was very heart-warming since at the time my mother was battling the last stages of Alzheimer's disease and was under

my care at home. She died in 1994. To receive the award I took a very short trip to Houston where the CSLA National Conference was being held because I could not leave Mother alone for very long.

Attending CSLA National Conferences was a challenge for several years. In addition to being my mother's caregiver, I also was a caregiver for my father and my mother's sister until 2003. I did a lot of traveling after they both found peace.

Maria Isabel's article is in response to the 2015-16 CSLA Board's request that members submit articles for CLT telling in their own words what CSLA has meant to their libraries and to themselves. Marcia Trauernicht tells her story in this issue's President's Message, page 6.

I am thankful that I have now been able to attend the last three National Conferences in Lake Junaluska, Portland, and Denton, even co-chairing the last one with Ralph Hartsock and with the wonderful help of Debbie Scott. The benefits of a National Conference are "out of this world." We learn, we exchange

problems and solutions, we enjoy unique shopping opportunities and we network, establishing new contacts and developing new friendships.



Maria Isabel Garcia

Visiting a different location allows us to travel and tour very interesting libraries and synagogues and local cultural centers.

As national 2nd Vice-President responsible for membership since 2014, I have been determined to recruit as many new participants as possible. To that end, I contacted all accredited and nonaccredited schools of Library Science in the United States and Canada, and created a National Advisory Board consisting of five university professors and library professionals to help us assess programs and set goals for the future.

On the local level, our North Texas Chapter is struggling with a small membership, but the "faithful remnant" is composed of very dedicated congregational librarians who have become personal friends for life.

Doing Dewey— >> from previous page

and more than one author. If the literature is about only one topic, also use -08 for books consisting equally of literature and history, description, and/or critical appraisal. Add -09 if the book consists of history, description, and/or critical appraisal of literature in only one language, more than one literary form, by more than one author.

Some numbers from the unabridged version of Table 3 may be seen even in a relatively simple

classification. The unabridged Table 3 is further divided into three sub-tables:

- Literary books by or about individual authors
- Books of literature by or about more than one author
- Mood, viewpoint or subject matter in literature or the arts

While these numbers will not be assigned by a librarian who is using the Abridged Dewey to create a number, it is useful to know that



these unabridged Dewey classification numbers will appear in catalog records assigned by the Library of Congress and other larger libraries.

Crack the “code” on teen programming



BY GERI LYNN MULLIS,
MARSHES OF GLYNN
LIBRARIES DIRECTOR,
BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA



Teens are tough. They are moody, fast-paced creatures who will soon become adults. Often, if you say “library,” this age group runs in the opposite direction. However, at this critical stage in their lives the library can help them find resources to expand their knowledge and help them on their faith journey. They need to be aware that the library is there for them.

So how do you entice them to come into your library? One great way is by offering them programs that are of interest to their budding minds. And what do their budding minds like? Technology! However, if you are like me, the word “technology” can send more shivers down your spine than the word “teen.” But have no fear—I am going to give you a foolproof technology program for teens that will benefit your entire congregation. How? Well... you are going to learn how to code.

Yes, you read that correctly. You are going to learn how to code. Don’t panic or stop reading. Anyone can code no matter their technological skill level. Coding is a logic game, just like Sudoku or a locked room puzzle.

If you like logic puzzles, you are going to love coding.

First, you need some basics. There are many free tutorial resources available on the internet. Most of these are designed to teach children, but the ease and simple instructions make them suitable for beginners of any age. Code Monster, Hackety Hack!, and Khan Academy are just a few of the many free resources out there. However, my personal favorite

is the foolproof program that will get your entire congregation involved. You are going to have a group of teens teach a group of children how to build a game that will reside on your church or synagogue’s website. Can it be that simple? Yes. Will the teens really help? Another yes. Everyone wants to feel needed, especially teens who are still trying to figure out their path.

To start, talk with your congregation’s webmaster to let him or her know your program plans and how he or she wants to proceed with adding the game to your website. I highly recommend using a free open source software called Scratch. If the teens and children have had any previous coding experience, they are probably familiar with Scratch. Scratch

also gives fairly simple directions on how to embed a project into outside websites through their wiki, which is located on their website.

Next, snag a couple of teens, tell them that you want to do a children’s coding program where the end product is a computer game for the website, and ask them to help. Set up a series of meetings with the teens

CODING WEBSITES MENTIONED IN THIS ARTICLE:

Code Monster - <http://www.crunchzilla.com/code-monster>

Hackety Hack! - <http://www.hackety.com>

Khan Academy - <https://www.khanacademy.org/computing/computer-programming>

Code.org - <https://code.org/>

Scratch - <https://scratch.mit.edu>

is Code.org. This is a non-profit group whose mission is that “every student [have] the opportunity to learn computer science.” They have come up with a series of simple, hour-long tutorials that even I can follow. Also, Code.org has an excellent section for educators. This comes in handy when you are ready to teach coding to your teens.

Once you know how to code, here

>> *article continues on page 10*

Crack the code— >> from previous page

to go over the ground work. Besides setting up the regular program details like time, place, etc., you also will need to teach the teens how to code as well as decide on the theme of the game. If you use Scratch, you can check out some of the best games in Scratch to give you an idea of what is possible. I would recommend sticking to a simple game theme for the first attempt. For example, you could create a game of David versus Goliath, or Moses wandering through

the desert looking for water.

After you have completed the ground work, set a program date, invite the kiddos, and let the fun begin.

Voilà – you just held a series of successful teen programs, helped children to create a fun game for all the congregation to enjoy, and became a coder. Welcome to the library coding club.



Beyond the Book: Enhancing Your Congregational Library with Audio-Visual Resources.

Rusty Tryon. To assist congregational librarians in making audio-visual resources an integral part of their library collections. \$10/\$12.00 + postage.

CSLA GUIDE



Will you join us?

Your membership renewal and donations help us provide the latest information to assist you in your library ministry. *Congregational Libraries Today* is the best quarterly journal to help YOU as a congregational librarian with informative articles, media reviews, information about publishers, software, our excellent guides and bibliographies, as well as our annual conference. We have several of our guides and bibliographies in process of revision to make sure that you will have the latest and best information available.

CHURCH AND SYNAGOGUE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

501(c) (3) Tax Deductible Organization

Membership Renewal Form for January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Please send CSLA mail to: Home Congregation Resource Center

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Congregation/Resource Ctr. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone: _____

Home

Congregational/Resource Ctr

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Students: Name of School _____

Graduation Date _____

Credit Card # _____ CSV# _____ Expiration date _____

We accept Visa / MasterCard

3 digit # on back of card

CIRCLE ONE

Individual - \$50

Individual Canadian - \$55usd

*Congregational/Resource Ctr - \$70

*Canadian/Int'l/Resource Ctr - \$75usd

Student - \$20

*Affiliate - \$100

FRIENDS OF CSLA \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

\$15 charge for returned checks

Mail to:

CSLA

10157 SW Barbur Blvd #102C

Portland OR 97219-5957

*Duplicate form to add as many individuals to your Congregational or Affiliate membership as desired. Congregational/Resource Center & Affiliate memberships now cover unlimited number of individuals as approved by your committee or group.

We now have a Virtual Chapter of CSLA for our members! All you have to do is contact Marcia Trauernicht, Chapters Coordinator, at marciatmail@gmail.com or the office at csla@worldaccessnet.com. We will be sure that you are added to the Virtual Chapter members list.

CHAPTER Chatter

Marcia Trauernicht,
Chapters Coordinator

SAN JOSE BAY AREA

Round table discussions were the focus for the March 14, 2016 meeting of the San Jose Bay Area Chapter. Among the topics: favorite St. Patrick's Day books, new books for Easter, themes for summer reading programs and, continuing from the previous meeting, "where do you shelve books about racism, women in the Bible, homosexuality, human trafficking and dementia." Since March 14 is also Pi Day, pie was served as the dessert for the lunch meeting held at the Union Presbyterian Church in Los Altos, California, hosted by Glenda Strombom and her library committee.

The next meeting will be held May 9 at the Willow Glen United Methodist Church and will be hosted by Dianne Oswald.

VIRTUAL CHAPTER

The winter 2016 meeting of the Virtual Chapter (VC) took place on February 18. Discussion of the chapter's structure and ongoing support occurred, with those in attendance agreeing that annual dues should be made to support the telephone costs associated with those participating by phone during the Skype meetings and for other expenses such as honorariums for future online speakers, me-

morial gifts, etc. Dues would be \$5.00 per year, with the CSLA office receiving the dues and placing them on a new budget line. This proposal will not go into effect until 2017, pending approval by the Board to add a new line to the CSLA budget.

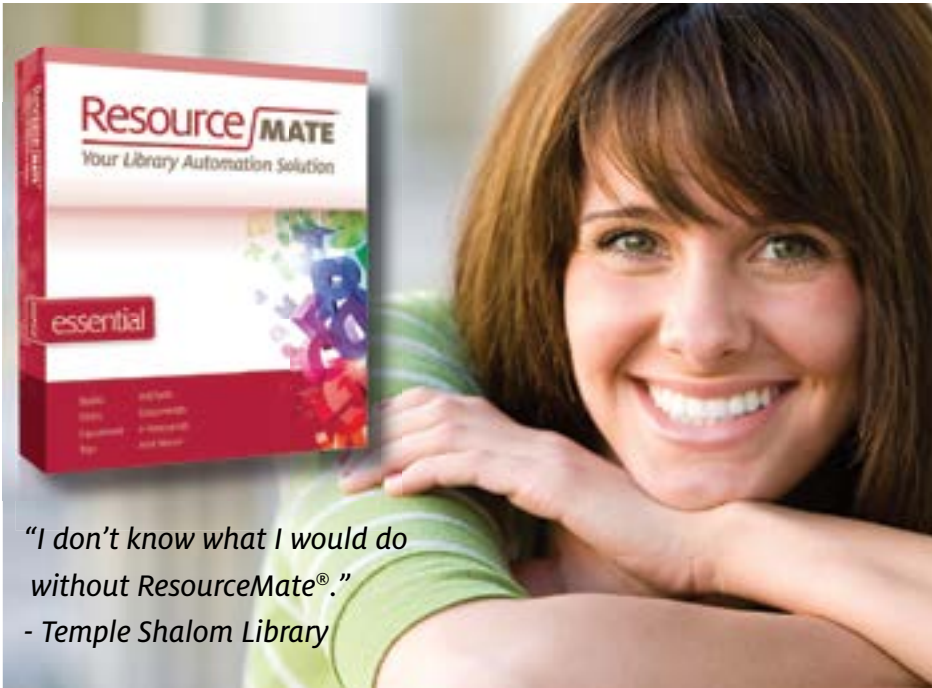
Dorothy Lewis suggested that the chapter have a venue for members to communicate with each other. Brigitte Dysart proposed using a closed Facebook group. Dorothy will investigate this and other options.

The next topic was the need for nominations for the officer positions of President, First Vice President, Treasurer, and Chapters Coordinator. Also open are the chair positions of Finance and Education. Please send your nominations to Immediate Past President Cheryl Cutchin, cherylcsla@gmail.com.

Ideas for offering recognition of library volunteers included special meals (usually lunches), placing the library volunteers' names on the prayer calendar, hosting a celebration for the library's birthday and giving a retiring volunteer a Barnes & Noble gift card. Summer Reading programs were revisited, with Carol Campbell using the Summer Olympics theme every four years (though promotional materials for this year's event seem to be scarce). Susan Snyder's library is celebrating the bicentennial of its church by promoting books written by and about its congregation's members, plus local history materials.

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

Be sure to read the accompanying article by Maria Isabel Garcia on North Texas Chapter's 40th anniversary celebration, ([page 27 of this issue](#)). The celebration was held on March 12, 2016 at All Saints Catholic Church in Dallas, Texas, in conjunction with the chapter's annual workshop day. This year's workshop theme was "Saving Treasures." If you are ever in the area during the spring, check the chapter's website <http://cslanorthtexas.wordpress.com/> to see if you can attend this wonderful annual workshop.



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Remembering Dorothy Rodda Sargent

CSLA Founding Member

Those of us who were fortunate enough to have known Dot Rodda through our involvement with the Church and Synagogue Library Association were blessed with a delightful friend and colleague. Dot could fill a room with sunshine, humor, grace and charm. She was always eager to help others and tackled problems with vigor and practical good sense. Her passing on February 20, 2016, was a loss to all of us.

Dorothy Jones Rodda Sargent was born in January 1922 in the middle of a snowstorm in Springfield, Pennsylvania. She grew up in a household of adults that included her parents, a sister thirteen years older than herself, and several unmarried aunts. Although part of her childhood was during the Depression, her household was less affected than many. Her music interest began with years of piano lessons and her faith journey with regular church attendance. She graduated from Springfield High School and went on to the University of Pennsylvania where she earned a degree in economics and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. While in college, she met Gordon Rodda, a student at Drexel University. Dot and Gordon married after Gordon's return from military service in Germany just prior to the close of World War II. They had four children and eventually settled in Havertown, Pennsylvania.

Dorothy's interest in books never flagged through her years of child-

rearing, so when her oldest was in high school, she got a master's degree from Drexel in Library Science and became a school librarian. It was John Harvey, Dean of Drexel's School of Library Science, who involved her in the formation of the Church and



Dorothy Rodda Sargent

Synagogue Library Association. Dot Rodda was made Treasurer at the first formal meeting of the CSLA Board in July 1967. Since membership rolls at that time were the responsibility of the Treasurer, it was voted at the second Board meeting, November 1967, to appoint Dot Rodda Executive Secretary for a term expiring August 31, 1968—at a salary of \$1 per year. (The salary later rose but was always modest.) Her appointment was renewed another two years until 1970. She was reappointed to the position and served from 1973 until August 31, 1987, when CSLA headquarters were moved from Pennsylvania to Oregon. That same year, Dot was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the organization.

While Executive Secretary, Dot made the rounds of chapters and

affiliates, helping them grow, sharing ideas that were always on target, and blessing them with her good cheer, common sense and boundless energy. She kept our finances in good order and attended every national conference as long as her health permitted.

Dot also contributed her writing skills. She wrote the chapter on CSLA that appeared in *Church and Synagogue Libraries*, edited by John F. Harvey (Scarecrow Press, 1980), co-authored CSLA's first guide, *Church and Synagogue Library Resources*, and indexed the issues of *Church and Synagogue Libraries* (now *Congregational Libraries Today*).

After retirement Dot continued to volunteer for CSLA and the Ardmore Presbyterian Church Library. Dot's husband Gordon died in 1999, and in 2001 she married a widower from her church, George Sargent. After George's death in 2009, Dorothy moved to Vienna, Virginia, to live with her son David and daughter-in-law Jane.

Dorothy Rodda Sargent was the ultimate symbol of what CSLA is all about. It is quite possible that there would never have been the longevity of this organization (50 years coming up) except for Dot Rodda. Her cheerful demeanor, her great smile and her loving spirit were infused into all the members, chapters, meetings, actions and the very fiber of CSLA. We can all be grateful for having been a part of the gracious life she shared with us.

Selecting a New Library Cataloging and Circulation

Computer System. by Bill Doole, (2012). A carefully thought-out process for choosing the right library software program for your congregational library. \$12/\$14 + S&H



CSLA GUIDE

Organizing a Library or Resource Center: Creating a Policy and Procedure Manual.



Revised and compiled from three CSLA publications, *A Policy and Procedure Manual for Church and Synagogue Libraries*; *Standards for Church and Synagogue Libraries*; and *Setting Up A Library*. This new publication provides a simple method of developing a working manual for organizing and operating a congregational library. \$13/\$14+ postage.

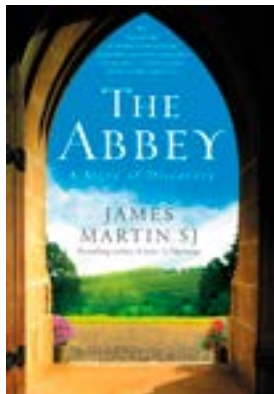
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FICTION



The Abbey: A Story of Discovery

James Martin. HarperOne, 2015. 224p. hardcover, \$25. ISBN: 9780062401861. harperone.hc.com FIC

Meet Mark, Anne, and Father Paul. Mark is a handyman at the monastery of Saints Phillip and James, where Father Paul is the abbot. Anne, Mark's landlord, is a lapsed Catholic divorcee mourning the loss of her only child. The trio crosses paths and, as each

character interacts with the others, characters face themselves and their choices. Mark ponders his career choices and his superficial relationships with women; Father Paul reflects upon his choice to enter the abbey and Anne tries to find comfort in her grief. The most compelling relationship is between Father Paul and Anne, as he tries to counsel and encourage her. Anne's response is tentative but promising as she finds comfort in the realization that the Blessed Virgin Mary also lost her son, Jesus.

Here, James Martin, author of several bestselling nonfiction books, tries his hand at fiction. The result is a simple story that reads like a short story. Like many short stories, the character development is limited, and the author falls into telling the reader about the characters rather than showing the character's development. Overall, a suitable book for church libraries. —Ellen Bosman



A Reason to Stay

Kellie Coates Gilbert. Revell, 2015. 328p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780800722746. www.revellbooks.com FIC

In the *Author Note* at the end of *A Reason to Stay*, Kellie Coates Gilbert tells where she gets many ideas for her plots. Some have their origin in cases she worked on as a former legal investigator. Items in the news provide others. The 2011 shooting of Congresswoman Gabrielle

topics

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Giffords and Gilbert's own experience of a long hospital stay due to cranial surgeries come together in this novel.

Proof of the saying that opposites attract is evident in the protagonists of *A Reason to Stay*. Faith Marin is consumed by her goal of becoming the top TV reporter at the station where she works, and she is getting there. Not long after marrying laid-back Geary Marin, a fishing pro, the marriage begins to deteriorate. Tragedy strikes and Faith's and Geary's lives change. Out of tragedy comes good because Faith learns that attaining her one-time goal would never have been fulfilling. Good dialogue and strong characters make *A Reason to Stay* an enjoyable and thought-provoking novel. —Beverly M. Bixler



Always Watching (Elite Guardians Series, Book 1)

Lynette Eason. Revell, 2016. 336p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780800723262. www.revellbooks.com FIC Romantic suspense fiction.

When psychiatrist and popular late night radio show host Wade Savage is being threatened, it is time to seek professional protection with a unique team of bodyguards—all are well-qualified women in the field. Even after one of their own members is almost killed on duty, Olivia Edwards takes the lead to find the stalker, save the life of their client and try to protect his friends and family. But will her personal feelings for Wade interfere with her job? It is through her dedication, professionalism and faith that she finds the answer. In the talented hands of Lynette Eason, this first book in the Elite Guardians series is filled with a

strong balance of suspense and romance as readers get to know each of the bodyguards on the team. Highly recommended for Christian women's discussion groups. —Mary Lou Henneman



On Lone Star Trail (Texas Crossroads: Book 3)

Amanda Cabot. Revell, 2016. 368p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780800734336. FIC www.revellbooks.com Contemporary fiction.

Sometimes a person's ideal life suddenly hits a roadblock and an individual's future ends up on a path of uncertainty and doubt. TJ loved his wife, but when she died, his world came crashing down and his faith was shaken.

And when Gillian, a gifted concert pianist, has her career suddenly end when she is involved in an accident that damages her right hand, we wonder how she will handle this abrupt change. When their individual lives almost literally collide in an accident on a rain slick road involving her car and his motorcycle, the future takes a

sudden turn where they find help and hope from each other. In the final book of the Texas Crossroads trilogy, author Amanda Cabot weaves a Christian love story filled with fascinating subplots as the two main characters learn to rely on their faith in helping those they meet at the Rainbow's End Resort. An added bonus is when Cabot mentions some of her fellow Christian authors throughout the story. The entire series is recommended for Christian women's book discussion groups. —Mary Lou Henneman



The Prophetess: Deborah's Story (Daughters of the Promised Land #2)

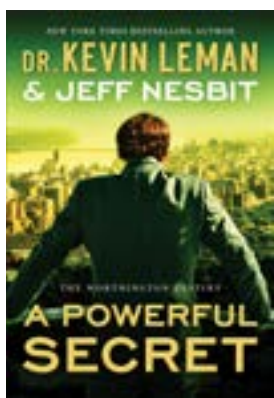
Jill Eileen Smith. Revell, 2016. 368 p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780800720353. www.revellbooks.com FIC Biblical fiction.

The stories of many women in the Bible are sketchy and do not contain the background information that would allow readers to understand the motivation for their actions.

this issue's **reviews**

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However, Jill Eileen Smith has sensitively tackled this task as she uses biblical research to implement the story of Deborah, a prophetess and noted judge in the Old Testament. We are transported back in time and gain a greater understanding of the role of women, the turmoil of war, deceit, idol worship, the impact of a complex society and its impact on the faith of the Chosen People and what their calling to be true followers of God means. She immerses readers in what the biblical characters see, hear, feel and experience. This is an excellent book for people reading the Bible for the first time as well as anyone wanting to experience life in biblical times. —
Mary Lou Henneman



A Powerful Secret (The Worthington Destiny, Book #2)

Kevin Leman & Jeff Nesbit. Revell, 2016. 368p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780800723316. www.revellbooks.com FIC Contemporary fiction. Political fiction.

In book two of the Worthington Destiny Series, Will Worthington VI makes a last-minute announcement that he will not be a candidate for a New

York senate seat. As a firstborn son, he wants to protect Sean, his younger brother, who supposedly is being linked to an environmental terrorist group bombing. His mother also has secrets that might jeopardize their family's reputation. The plot thickens as his youngest sister is approached to take the office of Attorney General of the U.S. What are the real reasons for her selection? Can the three siblings in the Worthington clan live up to the mantra of their father: "Do the right thing and the truth will win out."

This second installment of the political thriller will keep readers in suspense with new plot twists filled with action and insight into the heart of the main characters. In terms of faith, this book is perfect for discussions on the role faith plays in making important decisions in our lives, especially in the hands of our country's leaders. —
Mary Lou Henneman

The Genealogy of Understanding

Daniel M. Jaffee. Lethe Press, 2014. 326p. \$20, paperback. ISBN: 9781590211809. www.lethepressbooks.com FIC Jews -- United States -- Fiction. Jewish ethics. Jews.

In 53 short, interwoven stories, Matt Klein explores the issues and conflicts faced from 1968-2010 by multiple generations of a congregational community and his own family. The author presents each story as a reflection of a theme in one of the weekly Torah portions (not in the order they are read), suggesting that "Our entire existence...has, it turns out, been framed by Torah which

[he] now see[s] not so much as a rule book or even a guidebook, but as...a frame of reference for all dilemmas and questions, a departure point for asking, regardless of the answers we seek or find. Whether we choose to live in accordance with the Torah's principles or in opposition to them, our starting point is Torah."

Jaffee is a marvelous storyteller and, while a few of the pieces are a bit stilted, many are magnificently evocative and touching. The characters are sensitively drawn and come to life in his hands. This is a lovely piece of fiction suggesting that the challenges, conflicts and conundrums of our lives are expressed in the universal themes of Torah, and our search for solutions begins there, as well. —*Amy Scheinerman*



The Imposter (Bishop's Family Book, #1)

Suzanne Woods Fisher. Revell, 2015. 299p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780800723200. www.revellbooks.com FIC Pennsylvania -- Fiction,

The reader may think *The Imposter*, the title of Suzanne Wood Fisher's new novel, refers to Andy Miller. Thelma Beiler hired the young man to care for her property, but little is known

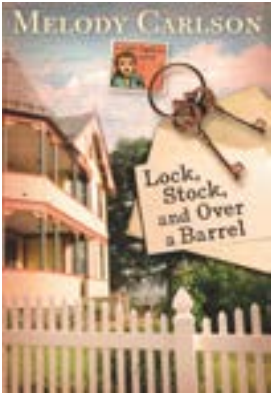
about him. By the end of the novel, the reader realizes that the label can apply to several other persons.

David Stolzhus has been called to be a minister at the small Amish church in Stoney Ridge, Pennsylvania. Still grieving the loss of his wife and mother, David and his six children move there to begin a new life. Fisher has created many problems for the Stolzhus family to face.

Katrina, David's eldest child, has not yet recovered from her boyfriend's breaking off the relationship. She becomes live-in helper to Thelma Beiler who has injured her arm. Something about Andy intrigues Katrina and it becomes obvious that he is attracted to her. An attempt to find a potential mate for David looks promising for a while. Then a mutual interest begins to develop between David and Birdy Glick, but neither one has disclosed those feelings to the other.

In addition to his 16-year-old son's scrapes, another obstacle confronts David. Birdy's brothers are trying to oust David from his position as minister. David, his family and the church have too many problems to be solved in *The Imposter*. The second book in the series, *The Quieting*, may resolve some of the family's challenges. —*Beverly M. Bixler*

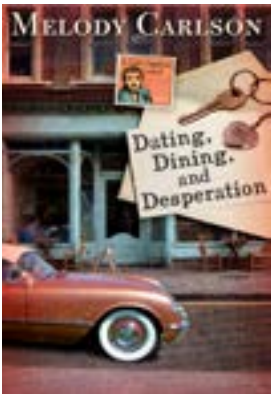
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Lock, Stock, and Over a Barrel
(A Dear Daphne Novel, #1)

Melody Carlson. B & H Publishing Group, 2013. 308p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 978143367930. www.bhpublishinggroup.com FIC Advise columnists – Fiction. Wills – Fiction. Inheritance and succession – Fiction.

Daphne Ballinger has worked at the *New York Times* for a dozen years and feels stuck in her job. When her elderly aunt dies, she has the excuse needed to leave and return to her Midwest hometown of Appleton. At the reading of the will, Daphne is stunned, as are all her relatives, that she is the sole beneficiary of her aunt's estate. The will has some strings attached. She is to live in her aunt's home, care for the two cats, continue writing the syndicated advice column authored by her aunt, and marry within the year or the estate will be awarded to a local animal sanctuary. One day, Daphne's former boyfriend, with whom she broke off with when she discovered he was married, arrives unannounced. Ascertaining that her sizable inheritance is the real reason for his unexpected appearance, she dispatches him in the hopes of finding "Mr. Right." —*Beverly M. Bixler*



Dating, Dining, and Desperation
(A Dear Daphne Novel, #2)

Melody Carlson. B & H Publishing Group, 2014. 312p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9781433679315. www.bhpublishinggroup.com FIC Wills – Fiction. Small cities – Fiction. Dating (Social customs) – Fiction.

In this sequel to Melody Carlson's *Lock, Stock and Over a Barrel*, Daphne Ballinger has come to terms with the stipulations in her aunt's will and she is enjoying the slower-paced life in Appleton. She is annoyed that her friends, including her new neighbor, Sabrina, are trying

to help her find a husband, one of the strings attached to her inheritance. She wishes they would leave that to her. Two big events provide a distraction for her. One is her father's marriage after being a widower for several years. The other is her befriending of a little girl living down the street with her grandmother. The grandmother is seriously ill and cannot properly care for the child. The girl's uncle, a Marine, is given a leave because of his mother's death. He seems like a nice fellow. Might he become Daphne's "Mr. Right?" —*Beverly M. Bixler*



Cold Shot (Chesapeake Valor Series, Book 1)

Dani Pettrey. Bethany House, 2016. 331p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780764211973. www.bethanyhouse.com FIC Park rangers – Fiction. Gettysburg National Military Park (Pa.) – Fiction. Christian fiction.

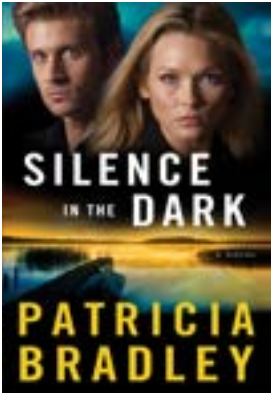
The suspense begins when Gettysburg park ranger Griffin McCray, a former SWAT team sniper, discovers a body buried in the Civil War cemetery that definitely does not belong to anyone from that time period. As anthropologist Finely Scott is brought into the investigation, it soon becomes evident that the corpse belongs to a woman who has been murdered by an expert sniper. The FBI is called in and Declan Grey, the lead agent, brings another layer of excitement to the mix in terms of his past relationship with Griffin. How do their career paths and friendships along with that of Parker Mitchell, a crime scene analyst, and Luke Gallagher, a Baltimore Police officer, affect this new investigation? What role does their faith have in the decisions they make? Author Dani Pettrey's first novel in the Chesapeake Valor series is filled with excitement and action combined with strong characters. Highly recommended for fans of Christian romantic suspense. —*Mary Lou Henneman*

PIONEER'S ENDOWMENT FUND

Donations & bequests to Pioneers Endowment Fund will help ensure CSLA's financial health now and in the future.

Consider sending a gift today to the CSLA office, marking it for the Pioneer's Endowment Fund.





Silence in the Dark (Logan Point Series, Book 4)

Patricia Bradley. Revell, 2016. 352p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9780800724184. www.revellbooks.com FIC Drug traffic – Fiction. Mexico – Fiction.

Bailey Adams ran away from a troubled past in the States and left her fiancée, Danny Maxwell, to find peace with her calling to be a missionary in Chihuahua, Mexico. Instead she has run into

more danger than she could ever have imagined. The simple request by a father to take his daughter Maria to see her aging grandparents in the U.S. seems innocent enough, but the firestorm begins when Bailey and her young charge must run to avoid being kidnapped. Who is after them and why? Will her ex-boyfriend be able to rescue them? She has every reason to be afraid, especially after witnessing something she shouldn't have seen, irritating the local self-proclaimed priest, and finding herself unwittingly part of the plot involving the Calatrava drug cartel. How will her family and friends in Logan Point help her and little Maria? It is through the faith of Kate, the matriarch of the family, that Bailey will have the strength to overcome her demons. This is an excellent book for Christian romance/suspense fans. This latest book in the Logan Point series maintains the same level of faith imbedded in a thrilling drama. —*Mary Lou Henneman*

MEDIA



Susie's Hope (DVD)

Green Apple Entertainment, 2014. 105 minutes. \$29, DVD. www.greenapple.com. Susie's Law. Dog attacks - Drama. Animal welfare - Drama. Pit bull terriers - Drama. Rescue dogs - Drama.

This is a remarkable dramatization of a true story centering on Donna Lawrence, a loving wife, an animal lover, and a resident of Pine Hill, North Carolina. After being attacked

by an abused pit bull mix she was trying to help, she didn't turn against the breed, but wanted to understand the reason for his actions. As fate would have it, she finds an abused puppy who has been beaten, burned and abandoned. Through her compassion she began a movement to change the law in her state to establish harsher penalties for those convicted of animal abuse and neglect. Susie's Law, named after the pit bull brindle mix puppy she adopted, was finally passed in December

2010 and gives justice to all abused animals. Director Jerry Rees sensitively portrays what is happening when abuse of those who can't speak for themselves is left unpunished. This is a good story for congregations to discuss the care of God's creatures and role of social action in their communities. Appropriate for teens and adults. —*Mary Lou Henneman*

War Room (DVD)

Sony Pictures Home Entertainment, 2015. 120 minutes. \$22, DVD. Available in Blu-ray and streaming video. <http://warroomthemovie.com> FIC Prayer-Drama. Married people-Drama. Christianity – Drama.

Pharmaceutical rep Tony and real estate agent Elizabeth seem to have a perfect life, but underneath all the worldly trappings their marriage is crumbling. This begins to change when Elizabeth meets Ms. Clara, a strong Christian woman who believes in the power of prayer. Slowly, Ms. Clara encourages Elizabeth to fight for her marriage through prayer, and Elizabeth takes her advice. Through prayer, the family faces numerous issues and grows closer to God.

Although the story line was somewhat predictable, the acting and cinematography were good enough to earn the film screenings in mainstream theaters. Make room in your media collection for this feel-good, heartwarming story of faith and prayer. —*Ellen Bosman*

MEMOIR

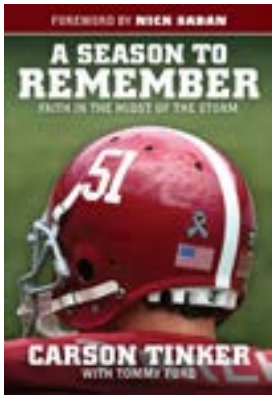


The Time Mom Met Hitler, Frost Came to Dinner, and I Heard the Greatest Story Ever Told

Dikkon Eberhart. Tyndale, 2015. \$16, paperback. ISBN: 9781414399843. www.tyndale.com BIO Authors – American – 20th century - Biography. Eberhart, Dikkon.

Dikkon Eberhart, son of the late poet laureate Richard G. Eberhart, had, by virtue of his father's fame, an extraordinary

childhood. His father's friendships with Robert Frost and other famous writers of the twentieth century allowed Dikkon to rub shoulders with literary fame. As a consequence, Dikkon felt he lived in the shadow of his father's fame. His search for a personal identity leads him to cross "...the road [to a small Baptist church] ... so that he might someday be able to say something well of his own." In the church, Eberhart, a Jew, finds the answers he has been seeking. At age 60, he joins that small church. A coming of age story and journey from agnosticism to faith. —*Beverly M. Bixler*



A Season to Remember: Faith in the Midst of the Storm

Carson Tinker with Tommy Ford. B & H Publishers, 2014. 187p. \$15, paperback. ISBN: 9781433682896. www.bhpublishinggroup.com 234.2 Tinker, Carson – 1989-. Alabama Crimson Tide (Football team). Football players – Alabama – Biography. Tornadoes – Alabama.

Sometimes it takes just one thing to unite people—in Tuscaloosa it is the University of Alabama’s Crimson Tide football

program. But *Season to Remember* is more than the recollections of Carson Tinker, a long snapper for the team, his love of football starting from his youth, the moral lessons his family and coaches instilled in him and the dedication to the game he loved. It is a true story of how a community was devastated by a tornado on April 27, 2011, and found faith and hope to survive and bring the true message of Christ in the months afterward.

Carson speaks from the heart as he and the entire campus reach out to help rebuild physical structures and heal emotional wounds. This is a powerful book and highly recommended for Christian youth and adults. It will inspire readers to act as Christ would want them to treat each other. —*Mary Lou Henneman*



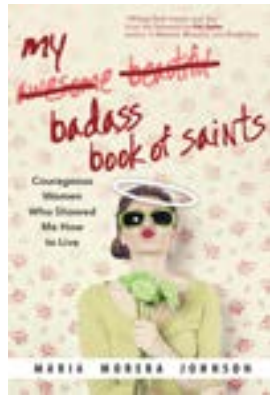
Yet One More Spring: A Critical Study of Joy Davidman

Don W. King. Eerdmans, 2015. 254p. \$32 paperback. ISBN 9780802869369. www.eerdmans.com 811:52 Davidman, Joy—Criticism and interpretation.

Most people know Joy Davidman as the wife of C.S. Lewis, but she was a respected poet and writer long before she met him, or indeed before she converted to Christianity.

Don W. King, professor of English at Montreat College, has edited Joy Davidman’s letters and poetry and C.S. Lewis’s collected poetry. In this book he examines Joy Davidman’s life and literary work before and after she met Lewis. Among other things, he argues that Davidman influenced some of Lewis’s writing during their marriage.

This is a solid and quite readable piece of scholarship and is recommended for congregational libraries with very strong Lewis collections. Readers also may wish to consult the well-received new biography by Abigail Santamaria, *Joy: Poet, Seeker, and the Woman Who Captivated C.S. Lewis* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015). —*Larry Creider*

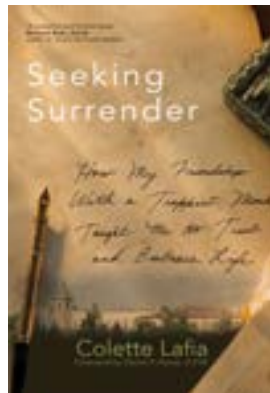


My Badass Book of Saints: Courageous Women Who Showed Me How to Live

Maria Morera Johnson. Ave Maria Press, 2015. 136p. \$15, paperback. ISBN 978159716324. www.avemariapress.com 282.092'52 Christian women saints—Biography.

Maria Morera Johnson, a blogger, podcaster, and teacher, has written a book showing how the women of faith are

not always meek and mild. She does this by discussing a number of women, some famous, some not, most Catholic, usually one saint and one non-saint per chapter, with a final chapter devoted to the Virgin Mary. The cast of characters includes well-known women such as Joan of Arc and Audrey Hepburn and lesser known figures such as Irena Sendler and Nancy Wake, the “White Mouse” of the French Resistance. These women are used as exemplars of virtues such as courage and perseverance, upholding human dignity in many ways. Some of the most engaging segments are the introductory portions of each chapter that describe how the theme of the chapter played out in the author’s own life as a Cuban American Catholic who became a teacher. Each chapter concludes with a question for reflection, and there is a six-week study guide at the end. —*Larry Creider*



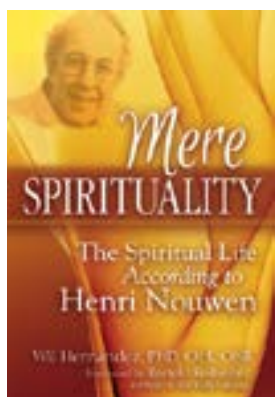
Seeking Surrender: How my friendship with a Trappist Monk Taught Me to Trust and Embrace Life

Colette Lafia. Sorin Books, 2015. 135p. \$15, paperback. ISBN 9781933495880. www.sorinbooks.com 282.092 Suffering—Religious aspects—Catholic Church. Submissiveness—Religious Aspects—Catholic Church.

“Surrender” is not a popular word in American culture.

“Trust” is easier for us to cope with. In any case, this is NOT a book about the victorious Christian life. Instead it is a deeply moving account of a woman of faith growing spiritually through the process of having her life essentially fall apart. After years of trying, she had to accept that she would not bear children, she lost a sibling and her father, and she seems to suffer permanent insomnia. At a breaking point, she went on a retreat to Gethsemane Monastery and wrote a letter to one of the older monks. What this reviewer found marvelous about this correspondence is not so much the actual advice but the way in which Ms. Lafia was able, with this monk’s assistance, to turn this suffering into something precious that she could

use to help others. As so often happens, God uses tragedy to help people become more than they could have imagined. There are suggestions for those seeking surrender in every chapter, as well as suggestions at the end. Strongly recommended. —Larry Creider



Mere Spirituality: The Spiritual Life According to Henri Nouwen

Wil Hernandez. Skylight Paths Publishing, 2015. 121p. \$17, paperback. ISBN 9781594735868. www.skylightpaths.com
2.092 Nouwen, Henri J. M. *Spirituality—Catholic Church.*

More than fifteen years after his death, Henri Nouwen remains a respected teacher on spirituality. Wil Hernandez

has taught many workshops on Nouwen and provides a short and useful summary of his teaching with extensive short quotations from Nouwen’s writings. The book is in three parts. The first, “Communion—A Life Apart,” deals with a personal relationship with God, with the themes solitude, identity, and presence. The second section, “Community—A Life Shared,” has the subsections, togetherness, mutuality, and solidarity. The third section, “Commission—A Life Given,” addresses of service, compassion and hospitality. The subsection on “Identity—A Centered Heart” is particularly helpful. Each section and subsection ends with suggestions for applications and prayers. Nouwen’s spirituality is holistic and wide-ranging, with the individual’s relationship with God overflowing into community and service. This book is for Christians of all types, although some of the reflections on the Eucharist are noticeably Catholic. Nouwen made his teaching as ecumenical as possible. Recommended. —Larry Creider

Cataloging & Classification

Susan E. Snyder. This guide will take you through all the steps in cataloging. It covers physical processing, encouraging the use of the catalog, and creating bibliographic records, classification, and classification schedule. \$10/\$12 + S&H

CSLA GUIDE

PARENTING



Jewish Spiritual Parenting: Wisdom, Activities, Rituals and Prayers for Raising Children with Spiritual Balance and Emotional Wholeness

Paul Kipnes and Michelle November. Jewish Lights Publishing. 2015. 198p. \$19, paperback. ISBN: 9781580238212. Available as an e-book. www.jewishlights.com
296.74 Parenting-Religious aspects-Judaism. Child rearing-Religious aspects-Judaism. Reform Judaism.

Periodically, there is a call for new books on Jewish parenting. Wendy Mogul’s *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* (Charles Scribner, 2008), was highly acclaimed, and now Rabbi Paul Kipnis and his wife Michelle November, a social worker and parenting teacher, share their personal and professional insights and techniques.

The authors structure their writing as a guide with suggestions for trying different activities to help in the parenting process. They have learned that child-rearing is a highly gratifying, spiritual endeavor. They encourage parents to think about religious beliefs and practices. Parents should be partners in their children’s upbringing and help young children understand that they cannot always win games in life. The importance of grandparents, life cycle occasions, the writing of ethical wills, saying prayers, singing songs and learning to feel grateful for what one has (not take the good for granted) are emphasized. Parents should recognize the uniqueness of each child, personalize the child’s needs, value care of the body as well as the mind and soul and facilitate the child’s growth in learning how to make decisions. Various situations are addressed, including issues for intermarried families. An additional idea is to schedule events that all family members can participate in, such as “family mystery days.” Although the authors express modern views, they also cite several traditional sources.

Notes, recommendations for further reading and appropriate Internet sites appear at the end of the book. —Evelyn Pockrass



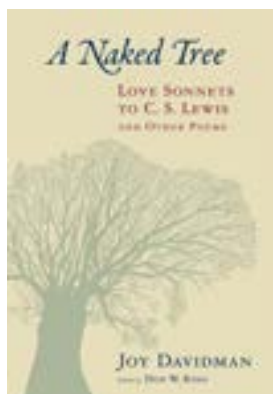
A Basic Media List for Church Libraries:

An Annotated Bibliography
by Ellen Bosman.

(2015) Updated approach to **Basic Books** that utilizes all media that should be available in congregational libraries. Carefully selected by our new Media Review Editor. \$14/\$12 + S&H

CSLA BIBLIOGRAPHY

POETRY



A Naked Tree: Love Sonnets to C. S. Lewis and other Poems

Joy Davidman. David W. King, ed. Eerdmans, 2015. 320p. \$30, paperback. ISBN: 9780802872883. www.eerdmans.com 811.52 Lewis, C. S. (Clive Staples), 1898-1963—Poetry. Love poetry. Sonnets.

Most know Joy Davidman as the wife of C. S. Lewis, but King's collection of her works showcase her own skills as a poet.

Though Davidman died in

1960, many of her poems have since been discovered, and they are among those King has included. Arranged chronologically, the poems span 1929-1955, with a special chapter devoted to her poems to her husband.

In addition to themes of God, death and immortality, readers may be surprised that politics is central in Davidman's thinking, and her "voice" is clear. However, the majority of her poems focus on romantic love. Some entries are brief, while other are lengthy, and skillful word usage brings visual images quickly to mind.

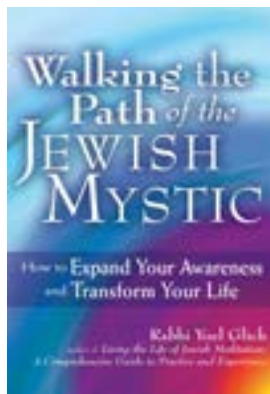
An appendix describing "Poetic Verse Patterns" should be read before tackling the poems. Footnotes aid understanding, and entries are indexed by titles and first lines. Due to the amount and difficulty of the material, the text is recommended for those with knowledge and appreciation of poetry, as well as all persons interested in C. S. Lewis.—*Carolyn Egolf*

I Am Hope

Esperanza Habla. La Luna Press, 2015. 78p. \$16, paperback. ISBN: 9780991510412. Available as an e-book. www.lalunapress.com 811.6 American poetry – 20th century.

The *Merriam Webster Dictionary* defines poetry as "writing that formulates a concentrated imaginative awareness of experience in language chosen and arranged to create a specific emotional response through meaning, sound, and rhythm." (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/poetry>) This first poetic collection fits that definition perfectly. This lovely little first book by Esperanza Habla is graceful, poignant and definitely emotional. The book is also brave and honest. It takes great courage to write in a manner that opens oneself to people. This is a fine addition to the library for fans of poetry as well as the poetry reading novice. In either case, readers will go back to this book to be introspective or inspired. Be sure to have note paper on hand to jot down the thoughts and heartfelt words to share with others. Highly recommended. —*Roberta Ash*

FAITH AND SPIRITUAL LIFE



Walking the Path of the Jewish Mystic: How to Expand Your Awareness and Transform Your Life.

Yael Glick. Jewish Lights Publishing, 2015. 196p. \$19, paperback. ISBN: 9781580238434. Available as an e-book. www.jewishlights.com 296.7'12 Spiritual life - Judaism.

Mysticism, a way of connecting to God, has been a part of some Jewish traditions for centuries.

Rabbi Yael Glick, the director of

an online center for spiritual training and an educator specializing in mysticism, yoga and meditation, writes with compassion on how to enhance the paths we seek in life. He guides the seeker in exploring the complex realms of the inner soul.

For those who have an interest in the complexities of mysticism, this handbook is a basic resource. Terms, such as *sefirot* and *chakras*—energy centers—that affect the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual life concepts and actions, are discussed in detail on several levels. To comprehend all the aspects of mysticism, Glick aptly comments that a student needs a teacher.

Glick states that we do not know why God created the universe. He devotes a chapter to incarnation and re-incarnation. He relates the legend that several worlds were created by God until ours was formed, and our goal is to help repair the imperfections in this world. Glick cites mystical traditions in religions other than Judaism, but also quotes passages from the Hebrew Bible. He examines the relationship between the feminine aspects of God and certain Sabbath songs and prayers.

Notes and bibliographical references are included, as well as helpful illustrations for the reader to visualize the many layers of energy centers described in each section. Numerous technical terms in Hebrew and English are explained. However, it would have been helpful to have an index as well as a glossary indicating where the terminology was first notated.

Recommended as a guide for gaining a deeper understanding of mysticism. —*Evelyn Pockrass*



Media for the Teen and Young Adult Reader,

Selected and annotated by Mary Lou Henneman.

This guide is meant more to offer suggestions on a variety of books for congregational libraries than a

definitive bibliography directed toward the interests and needs of teens and young adults. \$12/\$14 + postage.

CSLA BIBLIOGRAPHY



The Soul of a Pilgrim: Eight Practices for the Journey Within

Christine Valters Paintner and John Valters Paintner. Sorin Books, 2015. 150p. \$16, paperback. ISBN: 9781933495866. Available as an e-book. www.sorinbooks.com 263:041 Christian pilgrims and pilgrimages. Spiritual Christianity.

Be ready to journey. Don't hurry. Be open to new ideas, directions, and changes, aware that pilgrim journeys—inner and

outward—take time and bring surprises.

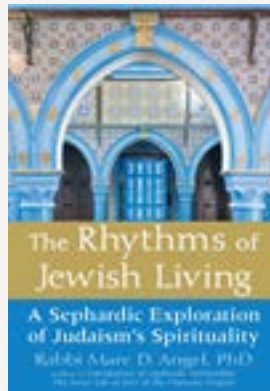
An introduction gives direction, and each of the eight chapters focuses on a specific spiritual practice, such as "Packing Lightly," "Being Uncomfortable," and "Coming Home." Chapters begin with significant quotes, and Christine's observations are followed by her husband John's reflections on a Scripture story fitting the theme.

In the "Reflection" section, four methods of exploring are developed, namely Lectio (spiritual reading), Midrash (Jewish exploration through stories), photography (sacred seeing), and a closing blessing (meaningful poetry).

The chapter, focusing on "Being Uncomfortable," includes themes of tolerance, strangeness, and exile, with the Samaritan Woman at the Well as the biblical example. A quote from Phil Cousineau challenges: "The sacred in its various guises as holy ground, art, or knowledge, evokes emotion and commotion" (page 81).

The book, rich in scriptural emphases, quotes, and poetry by current writers, deserves careful study. Due to the inclusion of Midrash explorations, both church and synagogue libraries would find it a value recourse, and readers will be challenged to grow their souls. —Carolyn Ego

CLASSICS CORNER



The Rhythms of Jewish Living: A Sephardic Exploration of Judaism's Spirituality

Marc Angel. Jewish Lights Publishing, 2015. 208p. \$19, paperback. ISBN: 9781580238342. 296.74 Sephardim. Judaism.

This is a revised edition of Angel's 1986 *The Rhythms of Jewish Living: A Sephardic Approach*. Angel surveys major

categories of Jewish thought and Sephardic Orthodox practice (i.e., nature, time, sacred space, everyday life, halakhah, revelation, transcendence, providence, death, nationhood, and the balance between family, society and the individual) asking "what is the spiritual meaning behind Judaism's values, ideals, and practices?" Each chapter reads like a separate essay (and, indeed, some chapters are drawn from previous published writings). Angel does a thoughtful and beautiful job. He quotes Sephardic authorities throughout history and, in the last chapter, contrasts European Jewry's Western sensibilities with Sephardic Jewry's approach to family, religion, community, nationhood and life. Angel's passionate Orthodoxy is not rigid and inflexible. His writing reflects his personal theological choices rather than the broad sweep of Sephardic thinking, though he briefly touches on the mystics of the Kabbalah. Overall, this is a beautiful treatment of Jewish spirituality and would appeal to rabbis, teachers, and lay readers alike. —Amy Scheinerman

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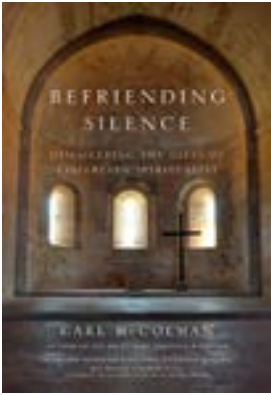
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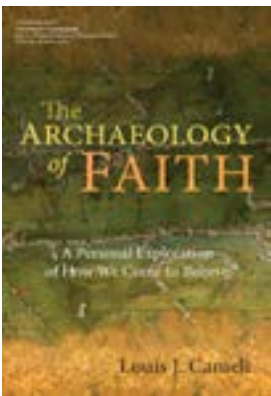
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Befriending Silence: Discovering the Gifts of Cistercian Spirituality

Carl McColman. Ave Maria Press, 2015. 181p. \$20, paperback. ISBN 9781594716157. www.avemariapress.com 248.4'82 Cistercians—Spiritual life. Spiritual life—Christianity.

The Cistercians began as a reform of Benedictine monasteries in the 12th century and over the past 900 plus years have contributed a great deal to the Christian contemplative life through individuals from St. Bernard of Clairvaux through Trappists such as Thomas Merton and Basil Pennington. Carl McColman describes the main themes of Cistercian life, emphasizing silence, humility, community, prayer both liturgical and contemplative, and the like. As with many religious orders, there is a branch of Cistercians for those who cannot make a commitment to the monastic life. Much of the book is in some ways an advertisement for the Lay Cistercian groups, which will make it more useful to Christian congregations. In common with many religious orders, some Lay Cistercian groups do not require that members be Roman Catholic, while others do. A number of Protestant writers have found these third orders, as they are called, helpful in their spiritual development. —Larry Creider



The Archaeology of Faith: A Personal Exploration of How We Come to Believe.

Louis J. Cameli. Ave Maria Press, 2015. 205p. \$16, paperback. ISBN 9781594715891. www.avemariapress.com. 248.2 Faith development. Faith. Catholic Church—Doctrines.

This is an unusual and engaging book. The author traces what he calls the strata

of the faith journey of his ancestors in Italy and their immigration to America before he gets to his own journey. He emphasizes faith as a process in which grace is primary and has to be “claimed” by the beneficiary. Cameli concludes that faith is doctrines, but more than the formulas, that it is neither rational nor irrational but reasonable, that it is free but enabled by grace, that while personal it is always within community, and that it grows. There are some useful reflections on infant baptism and the end of this life’s faith journey. The book concludes with reflections on four New Testament exemplars of faith, Nicodemus, the Samaritan Woman, Martha, and Thomas. The author is a priest of the Chicago Archdiocese with a long involvement in Christian Formation on the pastoral, seminary, and archdiocesan levels. —Larry Creider



The Real Force: A 40-Day Devotional

Paul Kent. Worthy Inspired, 2015. 163p. \$10, paperback. ISBN: 9781617955815. Available as an e-book. <http://worthyinspired.com> 242 Devotional literature. Star Wars (movie)

Few movie franchises have had the cultural impact of the *Star Wars* sagas. So for an author to write a book tying into that phenomenon may seem a gratuitous endeavor. Yet Paul

Kent successfully offers a 40-day devotional discussing a scene or character, and connecting them to biblical ideals. He begins each day with a movie quote and ends with a scripture. In between, readers explore locations, characters, themes and truths. In his introduction, Kent encourages the reader to remember their first experience with *Star Wars*, to recall that first image of the massive Imperial Star Destroyer as it appears, and then reading the graphic text as it inched up the screen. If you were a fan as a child, teen or adult and have shared them with your own children, you have probably seen

THIS ISSUE'S REVIEWERS

ROBERTA ASH

Zionsville Fellowship
Indianapolis Indiana

BEVERLY M. BIXLER

First Presbyterian Church
Ashland, Ohio

ELLEN BOSMAN

Mesilla Park Community Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico

LARRY CREIDER

St. Albert the Great Newman Center
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CAROLYN EGOLF

Lincolnshire Church of the Brethren
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Boardman United Methodist Church
Boardman, Ohio

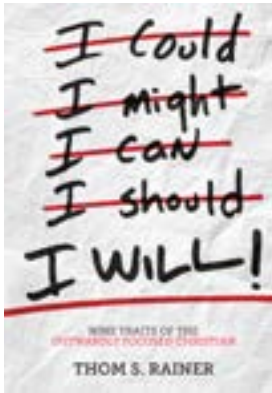
EVELYN POCKRASS

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation
Indianapolis, Indiana

AMY SCHEINERMAN

Jewish Hospice of Howard County,
Maryland
Columbia, Maryland

the movies numerous times. With maturity you have perhaps identified the larger themes which continue to inspire—duty, friendship, choices, good and evil. These are all themes God has shared in His word. Using three primary sources—the first six Star Wars films, the official novelizations of the first six films and the movies’ official website, StarWars.com—these devotionals provide a fresh and innovative insight that is enjoyable and profitable to read. This book is highly recommended for all lovers of science fiction but particularly young adults.
—Roberta Ash



I Will: Nine Traits of the Outwardly Focused Christian

Thom S. Rainer. B & H Publishing Group, 2015. 112p. \$13, hardcover. ISBN: 9781433687297. www.bhpublishinggroup.com 248.84 Christian life. Helping behavior. Interpersonal relations.

With “I Could..I Might..I Can..I Should” successively crossed out on the cover, the title is clear: I Will! Rainer uses scripture, stories and practical suggestions

to aid individuals and congregations in turning from self-centeredness to outward focus.

Each chapter begins with the phrase “I Will.” Themes include worship, service, giving, growing with others, avoiding the traps of Christianity and making a difference. Small groups, service and giving are emphasized, and “Churchianity” is a coined word defined as “practicing our church and religious beliefs according to human standards rather than biblical guidelines” (p.93). The word may be new, but the symptoms of Churchianity are easily recognized.

Though the book is small, pay attention. Readers will identify with stories, scenarios and situations prompting “Ah, yes” responses. “Points to Ponder” questions

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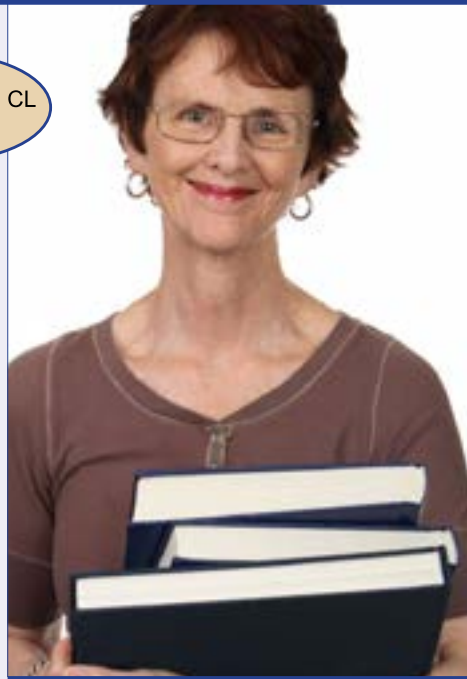


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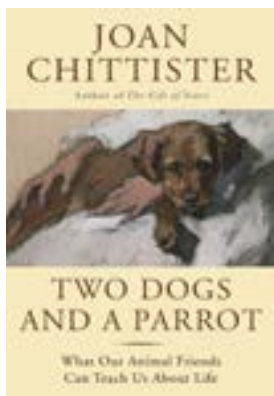
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Surpass CL customer comment

conclude each chapter. The nine traits are consolidated in the final chapter, and an appendix re-lists them in responsive form and as a commitment to be signed.

Recommended for pastors, leadership teams, and small group study.—*Carolyn Egolf*

PETS



Two Dogs and a Parrot: What Our Animal Friends Can Teach Us about Life

Joan Chittister. Blue Bridge, 2015. 192p. \$14, hardback. ISBN: 9781629190068. Available as an e-book. www.bluebridgebooks.com 636.0887 Pets--Social aspects. Human-animal relationships.

Some say we can tell a lot about a person from how they treat their pets. If that is the case, we know that Joan Chittister has

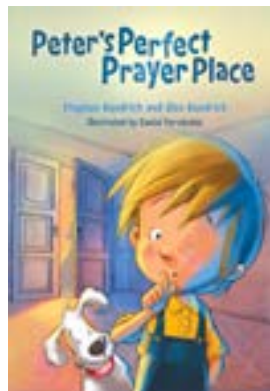
learned that owning a pet is not about teaching a pet what we want as much as it is learning the lessons a pet has to teach us.

This book is written for two kinds of people: those who understand the role of animal companions in their lives and those who do not have pets and wonder what is the big deal. Using her experiences with animals, the author shares the pleasures and struggles of opening one's life to another personality. Readers meet Danny the Irish Setter, Duffy the Golden Retriever and a caique parrot named Lady. Each chapter relates an anecdote that reveals the endearing nature of an animal, and then shares the lesson that episode played in the author's life. Beautifully crafted and profoundly inspiring, readers will be moved to a deep appreciation of why God's creation is intended to be a bond between humans and nature. As Chittister writes "there is something quite spiritually profound in the question of what it means to be entrusted with nature, to live with a pet." Recommended for all congregational libraries. —*Roberta Ash*

CSLA Promotional Kit [for public libraries]. The kit, delivered in a pamphlet shelf file box, may either be displayed as a set or shelved as individual items. The kit contains six CSLA guides: Cataloging and Classification, Developing An Effective Library (promotional), Fundamentals of Financing Your Congregational Library, Organizing a Library or Resource Center, Selecting a New Library Cataloging and Circulation Computer System and Subject Headings. \$65 + S&H.

CSLA GUIDE

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS



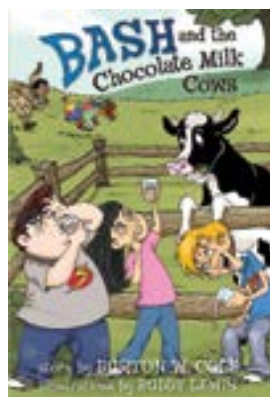
Peter's Perfect Prayer Place

Stephen Kendrick and Alex Kendrick, illustrated by Daniel Fernández. B&H Kids, 2015. 24p. \$10 hardcover. ISBN: 9781433688683. Available as an e-book. <http://www.bhpublishinggroup.com/category/kids> FIC Prayer – Juvenile literature. Christian children – Conduct of life – Juvenile literature. God – Juvenile literature.

Finding the perfect place for anything, much less prayer, has been the goal of many people.

So when young Peter sees his mother's example of daily prayer, he begins his search for the part of his home that is just right for him. Is it in the kitchen cupboard? No, too small and maybe too smelly. Is it the play tent just his size? No, too dark. Is it the backyard? No, too many noises. Is it the tree house? No, too high. Is it in his bed under the covers? No, the pillow is too soft and the sheets so warm Peter wants to take a nap. As Peter sits and ponders the perfect place where God will hear him, mom and dad teach Peter that God can see and hear no matter where you pray.

Authors Stephen and Alex Kendrick, award-winning creators of the movies *Fireproof* and *Courageous*, have written a charming picture book inspired by the movie *War Room*. The story is based on Psalm 139:3-4. Included are a poster and stickers, as well as resources and questions for parents and teachers of children ages 4-8 years old. An excellent book for a read loud story time. —*Roberta Ash*



Bash and the Chocolate Milk Cows

Burton W. Cole. B & H Publishing Group, 2015. 213p. \$9, paperback. ISBN: 9781433685309. Available as an e-book. www.bhpublishinggroup.com FIC Practical jokes – Juvenile literature. Thieves – Juvenile literature. Baptism – Juvenile literature. Christian life – Juvenile literature. Cows – Juvenile literature.

While the third book in a series, *Bash and the Chocolate Milk Cows* is a humorous stand-alone book filled with crazy characters and

light mystery woven together with life lessons. Taking the storyline from the tension between city cousin Beamer visiting his country cousin Bash, author Burton W. Cole takes all that is fun about spring vacation, mixes in the high jinx of April Fool's Day and gently folds in fun on a farm. This book proves that there are a lot of

adventures to be had through one's imagination. Plus, readers learn that every prank has its consequences. The author's main characters are boys, but he includes two girls who balance the storyline very nicely. Illustrator Buddy Lewis adds flourish and interest. *Bash and the Chicken Coop Caper* and *Bash and the Pirate Pig*, along with this title, are recommended for boys and girls ages 8-12. —*Roberta Ash*

Your Hand in My Hand

Mark Sperring. Illustrated by Britta Teckentrup. Scholastic Press, 2014. 32p. \$16 hardcover. ISBN: 9780545806428. Available as an e-book. www.scholastic.com. [E] Stories in rhyme. Friendship – Juvenile literature. Fellowship – Juvenile literature.

Sometimes the perfect read-aloud picture book is written and you wonder why it did not garner more attention. Was it the simplicity of the rhyming text? Or perhaps it was the subdued yet charmingly beautiful illustrations that take the reader through the seasons of the year? No matter, this book is a joy to read over and over. Each page is a world of its own to be explored

and enjoyed. Two woodland creatures stroll through a forest setting observing the weather change from snow to rain to rainbows to sunshine to the changing of the leaves, and all the way the little mouse is assured of the big mouse's care and love... "With your hand in my hand, we'll never be lost." And isn't that the lesson we all want our children to learn? Author Mark Sperring gives parents and all adults who love to read to children a new book that will delight for years to come. Perfect for preschool story times with themes of outdoor activities and recreation, love, sharing, and seasons. —*Roberta Ash*

Resources Manual for Congregational Libraries

Annotated bibliography by Ellen Bosman. A new approach to resources for congregational libraries. Divided into two major sections: "Tools for librarians" and "Enrichment resources for library patrons." 50 pages \$14/\$16 + S&H

CSLA BIBLIOGRAPHY

E-books: A Letter to the Editor

Issue 1-2016 of Congregational Libraries Today contained the article "E-book Basics: the pros and cons of adding E-books to your library." Jane Hope, librarian for Champion Forest Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, was a primary source for giving the congregational librarian's viewpoint on this issue. In a follow-up letter sent to the Publications Chair, Jane gave additional information which was so insightful that CLT received her permission to publish excerpts from her letter.

Whether to add e-books to a congregational collection:

When I am asked about why we got into this activity I often quote a CSLA workshop I attended where the speaker said, "What is your plan for library ministry to the next generation?" The bad news for church librarians is that the next generation is becoming so electronic that ministering to them in a completely non-electronic way may mean that we lose our "voice" with them. The easy answer is to say, "Let the next librarian deal with the next generation because we can't face the cost of the plan." I am not sure if that is effective or kind.

Another look at the cost of e-books:

It is difficult to find an accurate way to present this issue. The cost of an e-book from Overdrive is more than if an individual purchases it from Amazon because it is being shared and circulated many times. However, I do find that the cost of an Overdrive e-book is rarely more than the cost of a print copy of that book. I would say that the vast majority of the time it is less expensive than the print copy.

Also, I tend to look at the purchase of an e-book that I own a little differently than is

sometimes presented in comparison to the ones that I purchase under a license for 26 checkouts. Librarians who are used to owning their books sometimes look at the licenses as a bad thing. From my view as a user, I wish that all of my purchases were licenses. Here is



why. It is the most natural form of weeding. Pretend that I purchase a book that I own forever. What if nobody likes the book that I purchased? Oops...I just made a mistake that I wish I had not made. If I purchase a "licensed for 26 checkouts" book, from the beginning it costs consid-

erably less than an "owned" book. If nobody likes the book I chose, I have lost considerably less money and it goes away after 26 checkouts. What if people are absolutely crazy about the book that I bought and the 26 checkout limit comes up fairly quickly? Then, I say to myself...great choice, Jane, you need to buy another copy based on patron demand and it is so dirt cheap to do that that I don't even blink at adding the next copy. I am pretty sure that if I could make all of my purchases to be licensed copies, I would. It just makes great financial sense.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Be aware of conference, logo, website

BY JUDY JANZEN, *Administrator*

I do hope that by now you are enjoying some spring weather. We all are very ready for it. Everything in the Pacific Northwest is in full bloom even though it is still raining.

Have you reserved July 27-29, 2016, for the conference in Kent, Ohio? If not, be sure to mark your calendars now. The committee has a wonderful lineup



of tours, workshops, speakers and lots of opportunities to network with fellow librarians.

Don't forget to get your 50th Anniversary logo designed and sent to the office.

Everyone attending the conference this summer will get to vote for the winning logo. It is going to be fun to see all the talent that our members have as they design the special logo. The winning logo will be used from the time we select it at the 2016 conference through December of 2017.

Our website has a new, exciting look and is much easier to navigate. Be sure to log in and get your copy of *Congregational Libraries Today*. Are you missing any copies of past issues? All issues back to 2010 are available in the member's only section.

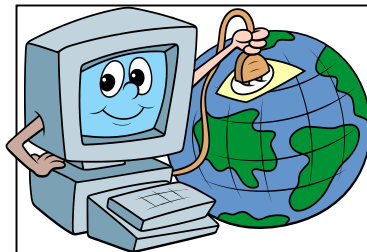
If you know members who have not renewed their CSLA membership for 2016, please encourage them to do that now. We need your help to keep CSLA an active organization serving librarians of all faiths.

The CSLA Virtual Chapter!

Don't have a CSLA chapter near you? Need someone to talk to? Have a great idea for congregational libraries? Need a problem solved? Just want to vent? Need to brainstorm? No boundaries! Meet anytime!

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NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

The North Texas Chapter of Church & Synagogue Library Association celebrated 40 years of activity during an entire day of workshops at All Saints Parish Resource Library, Dallas, Texas. Eighteen people attended the event that started at 8:30 a.m. with registration and breakfast and ended at 4:00 p.m. with fellowship and the exchange of ideas. The overall theme for the day was “Saving Treasures.”

After a brief business meeting and a presentation by Ralph Hartsock previewing this year’s upcoming national conference in Kent, Ohio, we were treated to four very interesting presentations:

- “Excavating Treasures from Afar,” presented by author Lynne Gentry, who gave us insight on how she does research for her great historical Christian fiction books.
- “Disaster Management in the Church and Synagogue Library,” presented by Maristella Feustle, Librarian at the University of North Texas.
- “From the Past Will Come the Future: Archives and the

Preservation of Historical Records,” presented by Timothy Binkley, Archivist at Southern Methodist University.

- “Useful Mobile Apps: from Tweeting to Theology,” presented by Tyeson Seale, Technology Services Staff Member at Southern Methodist University.

There were several breaks to allow for fellowship and table-top shopping with displays by author Lynne Gentry, Logos Bookstore and PACE (Parish Adult Christian Enrichment), All Saints Library’s own book and gift store-

Lunch was catered by All Saints Catholic Church chef Gregory Draxler, and an anniversary cake was featured as dessert. During lunch Susan Lewis, co-owner and manager of the Logos Bookstore at Snider Plaza in Dallas, offered very helpful information about each of the books she had on display.

Attendees left very positive program evaluations that included great ideas for future events, and several took home door prizes. — *Maria Isabel Garcia*

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