

What's New at the Resource Center

02/28/17-04/04/17

(ResCode) Title	Author	Publisher	Pub Yr
(BKAAX010) BEING MORTAL: MEDICINE AND WHAT MATTERS IN THE END	Gawande, Atul	Metropolitan Books	2014

An Amazon Best Book of the Month, October 2014: True or false: Modern medicine is a miracle that has transformed all of our lives. If you said "true," you'd be right, of course, but that's a statement that demands an asterisk, a "but." "We've been wrong about what our job is in medicine," writes Atul Gawande, a surgeon (at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston) and a writer (at the New Yorker). "We think. . . [it] is to ensure health and survival. But really. . . it is to enable well-being. And well-being is about the reasons one wishes to be alive." Through interviews with doctors, stories from and about health care providers (such as the woman who pioneered the notion of "assisted living" for the elderly)—and eventually, by way of the story of his own father's dying, Gawande examines the cracks in the system of health care to the aged (i.e. 97 percent of medical students take no course in geriatrics) and to the seriously ill who might have different needs and expectations than the ones family members predict. (One striking example: the terminally ill former professor who told his daughter that "quality of life" for him meant the ongoing ability to enjoy chocolate ice cream and watch football on TV. If medical treatments might remove those pleasures, well, then, he wasn't sure he would submit to such treatments.) Doctors don't listen, Gawande suggests—or, more accurately, they don't know what to listen for.

(BKAGX012) BOOMER SPIRITUALITY: SEVEN VALUES FOR THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE	Miller, Craig Kennet	Discipleship Resources	2016
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As the boomer generation navigates dramatic change as it ages, it will be informed by a unique spirituality that was forged in the tumultuous years of the 1960s and 1970s. If you are a boomer, you are sure to be reminded of the events and experiences that had an impact on you when you were young. If you are the child of a boomer, this book will help you understand why your parents act the way they do. If you are creating ministry for this generation, this will be your guide to the way boomers view the world and look toward the future.

(BKCFX084) DO SOMETHING ELSE: THE ROAD AHEAD FOR THE MAINLINE CHURCH	Phillips, Nate	Cascade Books	2016
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Do Something Else is meant to encourage faith communities and their leaders to reconsider "church as usual" reengage Spirit-led entrepreneurialism, and reimagine new models of ministry bubbling up in their midst. Many churches and leaders are already setting the pace. They are establishing new gatherings in old buildings and using new building to do old things. They are emphasizing diversity, welcome, and friendship. If these stories are hidden from view, they shouldn't be. These pages will uncover how new expressions get started, how they are led, how they struggle, and how they are sustained. Do Something Else will encourage candidates for ministry who see limited options, ministers who wonder about staying in ministry, clergy call-seekers trying to find hope in a desolate career landscape, and churches attempting to manage staffs with limited resources.

(BKEEX069) UNCOMMON PRAYER; PRAYER IN EVERYDAY EXPERIENCE	Plekon, Michael	University of Notre Dame	2016
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Michael Plekon wants to change our minds on what constitutes prayer. In doing so, he makes a theological claim that to understand different aspects of the Christian life as prayer, one encourages everyday life to be understood as carrying religious import; prayer and the religious life are not restricted to special places and times, but are open to all believers at all times. Plekon examines the works of diverse authors, including many who have challenged the status quo of institutional churches. He asks us to listen to what poets, writers, activists, and others tell us about how they pray at work and at home, with colleagues, family, and friends, in all the experiences of life, from joy to suffering, sadness to hope.

(BKGHX152) LIGHT WHEN IT COMES: TRUSTING JOY, FACING DARKNESS, AND SEEING GOD IN EVERYTHING	Anderson, Chris	Wm B Eerdmans	2016
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On finding joy and spiritual meaning in life's small moments we all have moments of joy, moments that move us somehow, spiritual moments that we can't quite put a finger on. But then we rush on and soon forget. In this book Chris Anderson encourages us to remember and share such moments. What he writes will inspire readers who are hurting, doubting, or searching to find wisdom and meaning in their lives.

Drawing on an ancient prayer tradition, the examen of conscience, Anderson spurs readers to take stock of their own experiences. He shows how the examen can serve as a simple but powerful way to remember moments of light, of struggle, of joy. And however small or fleeting these moments are, through them God is always calling and meeting us.

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(ResCode) Title	Author	Publisher	Pub Yr
(BKHAX158) HEALING SPIRITUAL WOUNDS: RECONNECTING WITH A LOVING GOD AFTER EXPERIENCING A HURTFUL CHURCH	Howard Merritt, Carol	Harper One	2017

An effective plan to help those suffering from wounds inflicted by the church find spiritual healing and a renewed sense of faith. Raised as a conservative Christian, minister and author Carol Howard Merritt discovered that the traditional institutions she grew up in inflicted great pain and suffering on others. Though she loved the spirituality the church provided, she knew that, because of sexism, homophobia, and manipulative religious politics, established religious institutions weren't always holy or safe. Instead of offering refuge, these institutions have betrayed people's hearts and souls. "People have suffered religious abuse," she writes, "which can be different from physical injury or psychological trauma."

Though participation and affiliation in traditional religious institutions is waning, many people still believe in God. Merritt contends that many leave the church because they have lost trust in the institution, not in God. Healing Spiritual Wounds addresses the church's dichotomous image—as a safe space and as a dangerous place—and provides a way to restore personal faith and connection to God for those who have been hurt or betrayed by established institutions of faith. Merritt lays out a multistage plan for moving from pain to spiritual rebirth, from recovering theological and emotional shards to recovering communal wholeness. Merritt does not sugarcoat the wrongs institutions long seen as trustworthy have inflicted on many innocent victims. Sympathetic, understanding, and deeply positive, she offers hope and a way to help them heal and reclaim the spiritual joy that can make them whole again.

(BKHAX159) FLIPPING CHURCH; HOW SUCCESSFUL CHURCH PLANTERS ARE TURNING CONVENTIONAL WISDOM UPSIDE-DOWN	Baughman, Michael	Discipleship Resources	2016
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An innovative anthology written by successful church planters who have consistently broken prevailing assumptions about healthy church development and "best practices." This informative book gives insight into how they broke the mold of church planting.

(BKIAOX016) FAITHFUL FAMILIES: CREATING SACRED MOMENTS AT HOME	Smith, Traci	Chalice Press	2017
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A new and expanded version of Seamless Faith, now with more than a dozen new spiritual practices and additional resources for parents, kids, grandparents, and communities that care about families!

Add family faith moments to your daily routine with little or no prep, and share meaningful spiritual experiences with your children! Traci Smith, a pastor and mother of three, offers ways to discover and develop new spiritual practices as a family, whether you're a new seeker or a lifelong follower. Faithful Families is brimming with easy, do-it-yourself ideas for transforming your family's everyday moments into sacred moments!

Faithful Families helps you: connect faith to your family's everyday life; add family faith moments into your daily routine; learn new spiritual practices alongside your children; teach your children to appreciate religious diversity with time-tested non-Christian and Christian spiritual practices; respond to life's everyday challenges and opportunities with meaningful practices Faithful Families is the perfect gift for Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles; Baptisms; Baby Showers; New Families; Christian educators and those they serve; Preschool Classes; and Godparents

Faithful Families is part of The Young Clergy Women Project

(BKMGX020) I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO	Baldwin, James	Vintage Books Div. of Random House	2016
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To compose his stunning documentary film I Am Not Your Negro, acclaimed filmmaker Raoul Peck mined James Baldwin's published and unpublished oeuvre, selecting passages from his books, essays, letters, notes, and interviews that are every bit as incisive and pertinent now as they have ever been. Weaving these texts together, Peck brilliantly imagines the book that Baldwin never wrote. In his final years, Baldwin had envisioned a book about his three assassinated friends, Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King. His deeply personal notes for the project have never been published before. Peck's film uses them to jump through time, juxtaposing Baldwin's private words with his public statements, in a blazing examination of the tragic history of race in America.

This edition contains more than 40 black-and-white images from the film.

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(ResCode) Title	Author	Publisher	Pub Yr
(BKMGX021) THE END OF WHITE CHRISTIAN AMERICA	Jones, Robert P.	Simon & Schuster	2016

Robert P. Jones, CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute, spells out the profound political and cultural consequences of a new reality—that America is no longer a majority white Christian nation. “Quite possibly the most illuminating text for this election year” (The New York Times Book Review).

For most of our nation’s history, White Christian America (WCA) set the tone for our national policy and shaped American ideals. But especially since the 1990s, WCA has steadily lost influence, following declines within both its mainline and evangelical branches. Today, America is no longer demographically or culturally a majority white, Christian nation.

Drawing on more than four decades of polling data, The End of White Christian America explains and analyzes the waning vitality of WCA. Robert P. Jones argues that the visceral nature of today’s most heated issues—the vociferous arguments around same-sex marriage and religious and sexual liberty, the rise of the Tea Party following the election of our first black president, and stark disagreements between black and white Americans over the fairness of the criminal justice system—can only be understood against the backdrop of white Christians’ anxieties as America’s racial and religious topography shifts around them.

Beyond 2016, the descendants of WCA will lack the political power they once had to set the terms of the nation’s debate over values and morals and to determine election outcomes. Looking ahead, Jones forecasts the ways that they might adjust to find their place in the new America—and the consequences for us all if they don’t. “Jones’s analysis is an insightful combination of history, sociology, religious studies, and political science....This book will be of interest to a wide range of readers across the political spectrum” (Library Journal).

(BKPE4036) REFORMATION QUESTIONS, REFORMATION ANSWERS: 95 KEY EVENTS	McKim, Donald K.	Westminster/John Knox Press	2017
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What does "Protestant" mean? What are the differences in worship among Protestants? Who were the Huguenots? What does the Reformation mean for us today? This new book by best-selling author Don McKim answers these questions and many more, providing the essential of the history of the Protestant Reformation.

In an easy-to-use question-and-answer style, Reformation Questions, Reformation Answers highlights the key facts, people, and theologies of the Protestant Reformation, as well as major legacies of the historical movement. Published in time for the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, this new resource will help readers understand a critical moment in Christian history that still deeply affects who the church is today.

(BKPFX052) FAITHFUL RESISTANCE; GOSPEL VISIONS FOR THE CHURCH IN A TIME OF EMPIRE	Ufford-Chase, Rick	PC(USA)	2016
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“Is it possible for a church that has been at the heart of Empire for as long as we have to make a course correction and move intentionally from the center of Empire to the margins?” Rick Ufford-Chase has touched the deep longing that exists in so many of us who are Christian in the United States, and responded with ideas that offer a future we know God has in store for us but can’t seem to imagine is really possible. This is a book we should read and discuss with friends who share our longing and are ready to take a risk. If this book stays in our heads, it fails and we fail. If we use it as a springboard for daring, it is quite likely to change everything about being church in the heart of Empire. Fourteen contributing authors offer their own ideas for ways to move the Christian church to a place of faithfulness in the midst of the empire, and Rick adds his own observations about the compromised condition of our church institutions with concrete suggestions for bringing us home to the heart of the gospel.

(BKREX014) FIERCE: WOMEN OF THE BIBLE AND THEIR STORIES	Connor, Alice	Fortress Press	2017
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Women in the Bible—some of their names we know, others we’ve only heard, and others are tragically unnamed. Pastor and provocateur Alice Connor introduces these women and invites us to see them not as players in a man’s story—as victims or tempters—nor as morality archetypes, teaching us to be better wives and mothers, but as fierce foremothers of the faith. These women’s stories are messy, challenging, and beautiful. When we read their stories, we can see not only their particular, fearsome lives but also our own.