

YOUTH

MINISTRY

RESOURCES

OR

Bedtime Reading for Youth Workers

Youth CLWG
Eastern Synod - ELCIC
May 2001

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YOUTH RESOURCES AT SYNOD OFFICE

1. RESOURCES FROM THE EASTERN SYNOD TACKLE BOX

1. Beyond the News: Parenting Adolescents. With Walt Mueller, Cynthia Neal, Eugene Roehlkepartain, Mark Sender III, Brian Fountain, and Jolene Roehlkepartain. Vermont: Mennonite Media, 1997.

Video. One hour and ten minutes.

Study Guide. 27 pages.

The video begins with fast-paced clips of interviews with teens/parents/experts. The primary message is that parents can't do it alone -- that the community, and particularly the faith community, is essential in the process of raising confident, caring children who want to serve others and are committed to faith.

The video is divided into seven discussion segments with a supplemental Youth Ministry segment. Each segment can be used with the enclosed Study Guide which provides questions for an intergenerational group, for adults only, and for teens only.

This video and study guide can be used as a conversational tool in many ways: youth/adult class, parents/teen class, in a retreat setting, in a parenting class, for youth ministry training/mentors. The video does have some weaknesses. It emphasizes that "it takes a community to raise a child, parents need mentors, and the congregation needs to include/accept and know the names of children." What the video does not tell the viewer is "how" leaders can convince/show/solicit/demonstrate to the community that their help is needed as mentors and "good" role models. The video clips and the background scenes are limited and, therefore, constantly repeated with new dialogue over top. Also, watch out for the "spelling" mistake!

Rating: 3 fishes <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Vivian Roth

Available from: Mennonite Media

Phone: 1-800-999-3534

Also available from Sperling's Church Supply

approx. \$39.95 Cdn

Available for loan through the Synod AV library - video #929

2. Freudenberg, Ben, with Rick Lawrence. The Family Friendly Church. Loveland,CO: Group Publishing, 1998.

Paperback. 174 pages.

Freudenberg's own journey and Search Institute findings convinced him that parents are the primary Christian educators and that the family is the God-ordained institution for faith building and for passing on the faith. He defines a family friendly church as one whose structure is a home-centered, church-supported model for nurturing faith. He explains the vision and principles of this ministry and gives strategies for readers to use to understand this paradigm shift and to develop the concepts leading to this family ministry process.

This book is an "easy read". "Rest stops" for reflection, "Quiet Detours" for reconnecting with God, and "Construction Zones" for actual work help focus the author's thesis. Thirteen appendices, giving explicit instructions, have permission to copy for local church use.

Church leaders and others interested in this model of family ministry will find that this book excites and motivates. The description of this "family friendly" church and how to be one helps the reader to develop his/her own vision.

Rating: 5 fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Pat Rode

ISBN: 0-7644-2048-8

Available from: Sperling's Church Supply

approx. \$26.99 Cdn

(This book is one of a Leadership/Pastoral Helps Series)

3. Freudenberg, Ben F., Tim Kurth, Michael W. Sciarra, Liz Shockey, Kathy Sizer, and Bob Buller. Family-Friendly Ideas Your Church Can Do. Loveland CO: Group Publishing, 1998.

Paperback. 98 pages.

This resource provides tools to minister to families and not just "as individuals who happen to drive to church together." The book is divided into five themes: Learning Activities, Worship Experiences, Service Projects, Enrichment Activities, and Fun Times.

There are fifty activities to involve families in events in which family members learn, worship, and laugh together. For each event, there is a "Family Focus" (goal), list of supplies needed, and explicit instructions for carrying out the event. A "Taking it Home" section at the end of each event is a strength as it gives ideas for families to use to reinforce the learning with discussion as well as further activities. Many of the activities have a sidebar "Family Friendly Advice" with ideas to extend, change, or consider other implications for the event.

This is a useful book for leaders and helpers to follow or adapt for successful events appropriate for families – a good way to support and extend what happens at home.

Rating: 5 fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Pat Rode

ISBN: 0-7644-2035-6

Available from: Sperling's Church Supply

approx. \$23.99 Cdn

4. Goodrich, Kristine, and Josetta Walsh. Faith-Full Families. Menlo Park, CA: Youth & Family Institute of Augsburg College, 1998.

Paperback. 63 pages. (eight complete sessions)

This resource is designed for use by congregations to help families to create their identity as God's children and as a group of believers. There are eight sessions - - one a month from October to May. Each session is planned for leaders, with all activities described in full. Each session begins with a meal and then moves on to family activities. Rituals and traditions are learned and taken home to be used in family gatherings. The suggested time for a session is two hours and the sessions work best if the number of participants is 36 or less. The themes for the sessions are the seasons of nature and the seasons of the church year.

Congregations may want to adapt some of the activities if it is not possible to limit the number of participants to 36. Also, some themes may not be appropriate for all congregations. The expressed goals are fulfilled in the events and this is a resource that is well worth looking at for young families in your congregation.

Rating: 4 fishes <>< <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Pat Rode

Available from: Sperling's Church Supply

approx. \$48.25 Cd

5. Hovel, Lee. The Child In Our Hands Milestones: Worship Celebrations. Minneapolis: Youth & Family Institute of Augsburg College, 1999.

Looseleaf binder. 112 pages.

This manual contains worship Milestone events for ten Milestones. There is a worship event for each of the Milestones outlined in The Child In Our Hands Leadership Manual (see Item 43 of Tackle Box III). The age range is from 0-1 years to Grades 9-12. These events celebrate these Milestones in the congregational worship setting. By modeling the importance of nurturing faith in a worship experience, the home is empowered for its ministry of passing on the faith to children. The congregation is involved in supporting parents as well as each child's faith journey. There are suggested schedules for the church year and the calendar year. Some suggestions for celebration planning are included. Worship that will celebrate each Milestone is clearly outlined. There are some excellent suggestions for taking the celebrations home. Parents can continue the celebration through Four Keys ideas.

This resource is intended for the clergy and worship planning teams of congregations who are convinced that real ministry happens in the home and who want to work as partners with the home. The strength of this manual is that much help is given to assist congregational leaders to begin to plan and carry out meaningful worship for this work involving the total congregation to be partners in faith with the home.

Permission to copy is granted for educational and planning purposes only to congregations that have purchased the manual. This manual is the companion piece to the manual The Child In Our Hands Milestones: Intergenerational Enrichment by the same publishers (see Item 59 of Tackle Box III for review).

Rating: 5 fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Pat Rode

Available from: Sperling's Church Supply

approx. \$48.25 Cdn

6. Larson, Roland S., and Doris E. Larson. Values & Faith: Activities for Family and Church Groups. Minneapolis: Youth & Family Institute of Augsburg College, 1998.

Paperback. 288 pages.

This book introduces the reader to eight basic exercises for group sharing and then uses these exercises to explore value and faith issues related to the topics Family, Self, and Others. The book requires a developed trust relationship and active participation by all participants, including the leader.

This book has an overwhelming amount of information. It is a good reference guide for workshop developers. The exercises on Ranking, Voting, and Either/Or could be introduced at a workshop, perhaps with definite life situations in mind to show how these could be used to meet a need. The Ideas/Questions are thought-provoking and could be excellent workshop/discussion starters. One way to use the information in this book might be to present a workshop or seminar around one chapter. The book does not give any clear suggestions for "Resources from the Bible", but it does include some reproducible handouts for workshop use.

Rating: 3 fishes <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Dianne Yungblut

ISBN: 1-889407-24-0

Available from: Sperling's Church Supply

approx. \$24.00 Cdn

7. Roehlkepartain, Eugene C. Building Assets in Congregations. Minneapolis: Search Institute, 1998.

Paperback. 204 pages.

This book provides a wealth of practical information for congregations wanting to explore and work at “asset building” for Youth and Family Ministry. It provides a good explanation of the concept of “assets” and all the help you would ever need in moving forward one step at a time to build such assets in your congregation. It includes reproducible bulletin inserts, tip sheets, and summary pages.

This book is highly recommended for pastors, youth leaders, and family ministry leaders. It is readable, exciting, and inspiring. Well worth the price!

Rating: 5 fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Dianne Yungblut

Available from: Sperling’s Church Supply

approx. \$30.50 Cdn

8. Roehlkepartain, Jolene L. Building Assets Together: 135 Group Activities for Helping Youth Succeed. Minneapolis: Search Institute, 1997.

Paperback. 127 pages.

Research has named “40 developmental assets” as important for helping young people grow up healthy, principled, and caring. This book explains what the assets are and divides them into external and internal categories. The 135 activities are grouped under those that help “understand the asset framework” and those that build “external” and “internal” assets.

The target audience for this book is anyone who works with youth from 6th to 12th grade. The activities can be used at youth group meetings or other times when youth of this age are gathered, in congregations, families, or communities. The instructions are clear, concise, and easily understood. Permission to copy certain sheets is stated clearly on those sheets. There are some cautions about sensitive issues that should be observed. Some activities may need to be adapted to fit ages and/or maturity of your group. The use of this book will give a good understanding of assets and their “power” to both youth and adults working with them.

Rating: 4½ fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< <

Reviewed by: Pat Rode

Available from: Sperling’s Church Supply

approx. \$35.50 Cdn

9. Stalheim, Marilyn, and Alice Stolper Peppler. The Child In Our Hands Milestones: Intergenerational Enrichment. Minneapolis: Youth & Family Institute of Augsburg College, 1999.

Looseleaf binder. 165 pages.

This resource identifies ten Milestones (Faith Passage moments) as typical occasions for most congregations and families. Intergenerational events can provide “nurturing, learning opportunities and celebrations which can help children and their families grow in grace and love.” These ten milestones occur from birth to age eighteen. The authors have written an intergenerational event for each of the ten named milestones, ready for use by leaders. Sample schedules of events are provided as relating to the church year or the calendar year. Everything to run an event, from promotion to follow-up, is included. Songs, appropriate for age group and content of event, have been written to the music of familiar tunes. Completing the Church/Home partnership, the “Taking the Celebration Home” included with each event outlines some appropriate “Four Key” activities for home use.

Permission to copy the song lyrics and all print resources needed for the events (Appendix A & B) is included with the purchase of the resource. This resource is intended for use in conjunction with The Child In Our Hands Milestones: Worship Celebrations (see Item 53 of Tackle Box III for review).

“Intergenerational Enrichment” is an excellent resource for congregations using the Child In Our Hands model of family ministry.

Rating: 5 fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Pat Rode

Available from: Sperling’s Church Supply

approx. \$63.95 Cdn

10. Strommen, Merton, and Charles Bruning. Faith Talk. Minneapolis: Youth & Family Institute of Augsburg College, 1995.

Set of 192 “share” cards, 48 cards in each of four categories: Memories, Etchings, Values, and Actions. Cards are in a durable blue canvas carrying case.

Each card asks a question that, when answered, shares your story – the talk of your faith journey. The target audience for this resource is young people and parents or other adults. The cards can be used at any time; some suggested family times are car time, sick time, etc. Adults who find their story very difficult to share will find that these cards free up discussion. Discussions across the generations happen readily. Church councils have used these cards as a part of devotions. The cards work well when used for short periods of time, to keep the level of sharing interest high. An excellent resource for congregations and families.

Rating: 5 fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< <><

Reviewed by: Pat Rode

Available from: Sperling’s Church Supply

approx. \$48.25 Cdn

11. Youth & Family Institute of Augsburg College. TalkPoints.
Minneapolis: TalkTrips, Inc., 1998.

Sets of TalkPoint booklets. Each booklet is 3 pages and has a specific topic.

Some sets have multiple copies of one booklet; some have single copies of a number of different booklets. Each set relates to a specific theme.

This is a conversational tool that encourages dialogue between two people. These participants sit opposite each other at a table with the discussion booklet between them. On each page of the leaflet, discussion questions are listed twice so that each participant has full view of the questions and both have a place to write their answers. After the participants have written answers to all the questions on the page, the facilitator encourages the participants to discuss their answers. There are three pages of short questions in each booklet.

Theme: Birth/Adoption/Baptism

One set. Single copies of 8 different booklets

approx. \$16.00 Cdn

Participants: Parents; Parent/Child

Sample questions:

I chose Baptism for you because...

A wish for your future that I'd like to give you is that in the coming years
you will grow to be a person who...

Theme: Confirmation

Three sets.

Confirmation Journey. Single copies of 7 different booklets

approx. \$15.75 Cdn

Confirmation Youth Mentor. Ten copies of one booklet

approx. \$20.00 Cdn

Like a Tree Planted. Ten copies of one booklet

approx. \$20.00 Cdn

Participants: Confirmand/Parent; Confirmand/Mentor

Sample questions:

My personal belief about the church is...

When I die...

My prayer is "Dear God, help me to..."

Theme: Marriage

Two sets.

Marriage Enrichment. Single copies of 11 different booklets

approx. \$22.25 Cdn

Pre-Marriage. Single copies of 12 different booklets

approx. \$24.00 Cdn

Participants: Marriage couple

Sample questions:

What I admire about you...

My belief about marriage is...

I struggle with...

Theme: Pre-Adolescents/Adolescents

Two sets.
 Pre-Adolescents. Single copies of 8 booklets approx. \$16.00 Cdn
 Adolescent Trip. Single copies of 11 booklets approx. \$22.00 Cdn
 Participants: Youth/Parent/Mentor
 Topics include: Self-Esteem, Prayer, Growing Faith, Handling Money,
 Managing Time

Theme: Milestone Trip
 One set. Single copies of 8 different booklets approx. \$16.00 Cdn
 Participants: Parents
 Topics include: Child's Birthday, First Day of School, First Bible, Driver's
 License

These booklets can be used as conversation starters for Baptismal Preparation; Confirmation/ Mentoring; Youth Meetings; Parenting Classes; Marriage Preparation. This discussion tool encourages the growth of friendship and understanding between two people. By writing answers, people are encouraged to "think about" or "work through" what they believe. This is a good opportunity for faith sharing.

This conversational tool does have some potential weaknesses. Some people will "shy away" from participating. The facilitator's role is demanding, requiring the skills to encourage conversation and also the awareness that conflicting opinions may arise that need to be "worked through". The participants need to be "honest" with their answer. In this honesty, the facilitator may hear "misguided" theology. Yet, the material is for conversation, not direct teaching. The wise facilitator would be able to create a "teachable moment" around "...so what does this mean (for God, faith, lifestyle)?"

Rating: 4 fishes <>< <>< <>< <>< Reviewed by: Vivian Roth

Available from: Sperling's Church Supply (prices listed above)

***Note:** These sets of TalkPoint booklets are not available for loan from the Synod Office. (They are "consumable" items, i.e., meant to be written on when used.)

2. *YOUTH RESOURCES IN THE SYNOD VIDEO LIBRARY*

128 CONFIRMATION IS

20 minutes. User's guide. Augsburg Publishing House, 1987.

This videotape can be used in several ways: for confirmation students and their parents, congregations, education committees, and confirmation ministry workshops.

801 CANADIAN LUTHERAN YOUTH GATHERINGS

801.1 STAND BY ME

24 minutes. Edmonton, Alberta, 1998.
Also four audio cassettes - Pastor Walter Wangerin, Jr.

801.2 ROOTS AND WINGS

22 minutes. University of British Columbia, BC, 1990.

801.3 LABYRINTH--FINDING THE WAY

16 minutes. Kingston, Ontario, 1992.

801.4 BRIDGES

20 minutes. Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1994.

801.5 MOURNING INTO DANCING

Camrose, Alberta, 1996.

801.6 ON THIS ROCK

Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1998.

802 CELEBRATING FRIENDS: A VIDEO STUDY

104 minutes. Leader's guide. ELCIC, 1994.

This four-session study is based upon the addresses given by Walter Wagerin Jr., the keynote speaker at the 1988 Canadian Lutheran Youth Gathering, *STAND BY ME*. The four sessions are: Come to Me.....We Are Called Friends, Die With Me.....We Are Broken Friends, Rise With Me.....We Are Healing Friends, Follow Me.....We Are Compassionate Friends.

806 LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

60 minutes. Leader guide. Augsburg Publishing House, 1986.

Christian witness can be a fearful challenge for us all, but especially for today's young people. Used in conjunction with the leader guide and participant book, this video is designed to encourage and inform young witnesses as they take the risks and experience the joys of spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. Through music, words, humour, and true-to-life images of evangelism, young people are validated in their fears and offered support and inspiration for their journeys into Christian witness.

807 GETTING YOUR ACT TOGETHER

Two videotapes. 4 - 15 to 20 minute segments. Leader's guide.

A four-part video discussion series prepared for use among single young adults interested in reflecting on singleness and an integrated approach to spiritual growth. Each segment focuses on a different aspect of spiritual growth from a young single person's life. Preparing for God's Calling, Steps Toward Intimacy, Co-operative Living for Singles, Living Unselfishly in a Selfish World.

808 CLWR—EDUCATION ON DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

120 minutes. Leader's guide. Canadian Lutheran World Relief, 1986.

The contents of this video were taped at the National Youth Leaders Training Event in August 1986 and the Canadian Lutheran Youth Gathering held in August 1986 as well. It provides an educational and participatory experience for youth, based on the theme of Third World Development and Justice.

809 TEN STEPS TO EFFECTIVE YOUTH MINISTRY

Voyageur Communications, 1992.

In this videotape Dr. Roland D. Martinson (professor of Pastoral Theology and Ministry at Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary) guides a planning committee (and you!) through a process for developing your own approach to serving the needs of young people in your congregation.

810 FOCUS!

39 minutes. Leader's guide. Graded Press, 1990.

A series of five video vignettes designed to encourage discussion about issues and concerns of today's young people. These scenes, along with additional material in the leader's guide, raise issues and stimulates the open expression of thoughts and feelings. The FOCUS! topics on this tape are: Family Relationships; Who Am I?; Substance Abuse; Sex and Sexuality; How to Make Friends.

811 TRAINING VOLUNTEERS IN YOUTH MINISTRY

Four videotapes. Leader's guide. Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 1991.

Youth ministry is always a dynamic part of church life. Asking volunteers who move in and out of the program to serve young people who are constantly changing requires frequent training. This videotape series will help you train new volunteers and nurture those who have been involved for years. Tapes cover: Youth Ministry Basics, Understanding Teenagers, Building Relationships, and Keys for Successful Meetings.

812 WORTH IT

33 minutes. Leader's guide. Family Films, 1987.

This video addresses issues of low self-esteem and teen suicide. Worth It enables teens to see and discuss someone else's problems and feelings and in turn get in touch with their own. The discussion guide outlines a two-hour study session incorporating information about self-worth, warning signs of suicide, outlets available for help, discussion about how peers can support one another, and a study of Scripture emphasizing Christ's love for us.

813 THE CALL REMAINS

13 minutes. ELCIC.

Seminary - ordained ministry.

814 A HOME ON CAMPUS

12 minutes. ELCIC, 1994.

This video tells the story of a new student on campus, who finds a home with the Lutheran Campus Ministry community. It is an energetic and thoughtful portrayal of campus ministry's commitment to be a place of belonging for people of faith.

815 DEVELOPING YOUTH AS LEADERS

98 minutes. Leader's guide. Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, Inc., 1988.

Use this video to teach the secrets of leadership to your youth. The leaders guide will help you have successful meetings--it's packed with creative activities, discussion starters, ready-to-copy handouts, and step-by-step plans for training kids.

816 "WAKE UP, DOROTHY!"

User's guide. ELCA, 1992.

This is a video drama for upper elementary and junior high youth which communicates a message about Christian environmental stewardship. The drama takes place in an urban environment and is told in rap-like narration by inner city youth.

817 THE NO FRILLS, NO GIMMICKS, NO BUDGET TRUTH ABOUT BECOMING A HOME TEAM LEADER

What more can you say?

3. *YOUTH RESOURCES AT SYNOD OFFICE AND NOT YET REVIEWED* (they will be reviewed by the Learning CLWG this spring)

Tag, You're It! by Herb Brokering, Dick Hardel, Penne Peterson-Sewall, Youth & Family Institute

This playful book unites home and congregation in partnership to nurture the faith. The authors have written several lessons to help individuals, families, and small groups focus on each of the following subjects: Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer, Apostles' Creed, Baptism, Lord's Supper and Confession/Forgiveness. Each lesson has a modern parable, a clown routine, and four family Its or activities. Intended primarily to help families and friends to grow in faith, this book can also be used for individual devotion, contemplation, clown ministry, and confirmation small groups.

Family-Based Youth Ministry: Reaching the Been-There, Done-That Generation, Mark DeVries, IVP

Lenten Faith Mentoring, Youth Adults & God, Shaping Their Future Through...Mentoring, Mark Holmen & Rev. Steve Gartland

4. *OTHER YOUTH RESOURCES FROM THE AUGSBURG YOUTH & FAMILY INSTITUTE*

- Peer Ministry Training: Basic Curriculum, Dr. Barbara B. Varenhorst
- Peer Ministry Video
- Educating the Heart Day by Day, Lyle Griner

- Enhancing My Friend's Self-Worth, Lyle Griner
- How To Be Effective Working with Children and Youth, Mark Holmen
Part 1, What Volunteers Need to Succeed, Old vs. New Paradigm for Youth Ministry, Who are the Youth Today?, How to be an Effective Leader
Part 2, Abuse – How to Detect and Help, Discipline for the 21st Century, How to Lead Games, How to Lead Music without playing an Instrument
Part 3, How to Lead Active Bible Study, Devotions and Prayer, How to Lead Worship, Growing Youth into Disciples for Christ, Don't Forget the Family.

A Catalogue of Sparkplugs (A Resource for Youth Leaders , NOT car parts)

For several years, the ELCIC published *Sparkplug*, a resource for youth leaders. This listing is a complete catalogue of what is contained within each issue. Most of these issues can be found by going to the Racket-Online Website (<http://www.link.ca/racket/>). However, if you cannot access the website, you may request copies from the Eastern Synod Office.

Spring 1994 VOL. I

- Ready to Roll Bible Study (video study of "Leap of Faith")
- Book Reviews of: The Dramatized Bible
The Black Bible Chronicles Series

Fall 1994 VOL. II

- Fundraising ... AUGH!
- Book Reviews of: Help, I'm a Volunteer Youthworker (Doug Fields)
High School Talksheets & More High School Talksheets
(David Lynn)
- Worship Ideas
- Game Ideas

Winter 1995 VOL. III

- Book Reviews of: Controversial Discussion Starters for Youth Ministry
(Stephen Parolini)
Instant Programs for Youth Groups (Doug Fields)
What's Growing Under Your Bed? (Martha Boulton)
A Funny Thing Happened on My Way Through the Bible
(Martha Boulton)
A View from the Pew (Martha Boulton)
Create a Drama Ministry (Paul Miller and Dan Dunlop)

- Game Ideas
- Worship Ideas

Spring 1995 VOL. IV

- Hosting a Servant Event
- Ready to Roll Bible Study (Holy Baptism)
- Game Ideas

Autumn 1995 VOL. V

- Christian and Secular Music
- Book Reviews of: Do it! Active Learning in Youth Ministry (Thom and Joani Schultz)
Bread for the Journey (Ruth C. Duck, Ed.)
Touch of Holiness (Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, Eds.)
Tension Getters (Wayne Rice and Mike Yaconelli, Eds)
Group's Active Bible Curriculum (Group Publishing Inc.)
- Game Ideas (Mixers and Icebreakers)
- Worship Ideas

Winter 1996 VOL. VI

- The Retreat Issue
- Book Reviews of: Youth Ministry Sketchbook: 130 Practical Ideas for Ministry (Rev. Terry K. Dittmer)
The Group Retreat Book (Arlo Reichter et al.)
Retreat Planning Made Easy (Shirley Harman)

Spring 1996 VOL. VII

- Fund-Raisers
- Game Ideas (Mixers and Icebreakers)
- Video Review of "The Trial and Testimony of the Early Church"
- Ready to Roll Bible Study
- Game Ideas

Autumn 1996 VOL. VIII

- Para-Parents and Mentoring
- Game Ideas (Mixers and Icebreakers)
- Ready to Roll Bible Study
- Multi-Volume Index (backed issues listed)

Winter 1997 VOL. IX

- Worship Ideas
- Book Review of: True to You (Donald Posterski)
- Web Resources

Spring 1997 VOL. X

- Game Ideas

- Book Reviews of: 5 & 6 Minute Messages for Children (Donald Hinchey)
10 Minute Devotions for Youth Groups (J.B. Collingsworth)
More 10 Minute Devotions for Youth Groups (J.B. Collingsworth)
Creative Time with God (Doug Fields)
8 Habits of an Effective Youth Worker (Tim Smith)
- Web Resources

Winter 1998 VOL. XI

- Worship Ideas
- Game Ideas
- Book Reviews of: Dennis Benson's Creative Bible Studies: Matthew - Acts
Dennis Benson's Creative Bible Studies: Romans - Revelation
(Benson / Group Books)

Fall 1998 VOL. XII

- Scavenger Hunt (Polaroid or Video)
- "Simpsons" Bible Study
- Game Ideas

Spring 1999 VOL. XIII

- Internet Issue (Safe Surfing)
- Book Review of: 12 Smooth Stones (Charles Meyer)
- Game Ideas (Mixers and Icebreakers)

Winter 1999 VOL. XIV

- Leading Music at Youth Events
- Worship Ideas
- Web Resources

Summer 2000 VOL. XV

- Summer Grab-Bag Issue
- Games / Activities
- Ready to Roll Bible Study
- Web Resources

Surfing : Youth Ministry Web Sites

www.augsburg.edu/ayfi - Augsburg College, Youth and Family Institute

www.augsburgfortress.org - books, videos, etc. for youth ministry

www.castyournets.com/EGAD! - resources such as indoor and outdoor games; fundraisers; service projects; retreats; outreach; worship; etc.

www.elca.org/dcm/youth - ELCA youth web site, lots of information, resources, etc.

www.elca.org/dcm/youth/resources/biblestudy/faithcontents.html - ELCA site that uses weekly texts for Sunday worship and connects them to real, weekly stories, updated weekly, excellent source for youth forums/ discussion groups

<http://elca.org/dcs/alive/> - ELCA – Church in Society Web site for youth, covers topics such as suicide, loneliness, etc.

www.elcic.ca - the ELCI C's web site, links to all programs, information, news, etc. in our church

www.gospelcom.net/ys/ - youth specialties

www.groupmagazine.com - access to Group Magazine, a great source for ideas, dramas, bible studies, etc.

www.grouppublishing.com - books, videos, resources, etc. for youth ministry

www.hollywoodjesus.com - reviews films visually and looks for the deeper more profound meaning behind film, music, and pop culture

www.link.ca/racket/ - ELCI C youth page

www.worship.ca - ELCI C working group on worship

www.wuzupgod.com - communicating a message of faith in God using the language, images and music of young people

www.youthministry.com - resources, ideas, etc. for youth ministry

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY Youth Ministry Resources

Devotions / Bible Study

Blanchette, Rick. Where Do You Park an Ark? Tyndale House Publisher, Inc: Wheaton, Illinois. 1994.

This resource presents 52 different Bible stories and includes maps and interesting facts to help tell the story of these events. Each devotion is short, but gives an excellent history and practical applications to daily life.

Faces. Andrea Midgett, Ed. Tyndale House Publishers Inc.: Wheaton, Illinois. 1987.

This resource presents poetry, scripture, prayers, devotional material in an easy-To- use format. Appropriate for older youth. Excellent resource!!

Gillepsie, Michael. You Want Us To Do What? 75 Active Devotions for Youth Groups. Concordia Publishing House: St. Louis, 1996.

This resource has 50 devotions covering all kinds of topics. It is great for getting kids moving and learning at the same time. Does not include an Index.

Groth, Jeanette. Get a Lift! Devotions for Church Leaders. Concordia Publishing House: St. Louis. 1994.

This resource is a devotion specifically for church leaders, either in a group setting or individually. Once again, each devotion is short and addresses both the joys and struggles of being a leader in the church.

Hey You! Been There, Done That, Now What? James Hendricksen, Ed. Youth Ministry Co-ordinating Committee, ELCIC: Winnipeg, Manitoba. 1998.

This is a Lutheran resource, written and prepared by Lutherans in the ELCIC. It takes the format of weekly devotions which follow the cycle of the church year. It is an interactive devotional book as it includes the tasks of journaling, writing individual devotions, word puzzles, etc. An excellent resource!

Only In God. Val Hennig and Maggie Theiss, Eds. National Youth Ministry Committee, Division for Parish Life, ELCIC: Winnipeg, Manitoba. 1994.

This is a Lutheran resource, written and prepared by Lutherans in the ELCIC. It is helpful as it covers many themes and includes many different and creative ways to engage in a time of devotion with young people. An excellent resource!

Pearson, Mary Rose. Frogs In Pharaoh's Bed and 40 Other Fun Devotions for Kids. Tyndale House Publishers, Inc: Wheaton, Illinois. 1995.

This resource is written for younger youth (grades 5-7). Each devotion includes Biblical references, fun and interesting facts about the topic, a retelling of the Bible story and activities based on the theme of the devotion.

Pointmaker Devotions for Youth Ministry: Helping Kids Develop Personal Character. Group Publishing, Inc.: Loveland, Colorado, 1997.

This resource has 50 devotions covering all kinds of topics. Includes a Scripture and Topical Index. A quick and easy to use resource for beginners.

Quick and Easy Devotions for Youth Groups, Vol. I and II. Michael Warden, Ed. Group Publishing, Inc: Loveland Colorado. 1995.

A helpful resource which addresses many topics and themes. The devotions are quick but still meaningful, however, some editing for theology and content may be necessary.

Roehlkepartain, Jolene L. Building Assets Together: 135 Group Activities for Helping Youth Succeed. Search Institute: Minneapolis, 1997.

This resource goes hand in hand with Building Assets in Congregations by Eugene Roehlkepartain. It is a practical application of the 40 developmental assets deemed important by the national research done at the Search Institute.

Smart Choices for Pre-Teen Kids. Group: Loveland, 1998.

20 faith building lessons to help youth make good decisions about friends, the world, school, and temptation. This book has great active, relational lessons. It is geared to 5th and 6th graders but is surely adaptable for teens.

Student-Led Devotions for Youth Ministry: 38 Easy-to-Do Activities for Building Faith. Group: Loveland, 1998.

This resource has 38 devotions covering all kinds of topics. Includes a Scripture and Topical Index. A quick and easy to use resource for beginners and a great resource to empower youth.

Drama

Live the Story: Short, Simple Plays for Churches. Dianne Greenslade, Ed. Wood Lake Books: Winfield, B.C. 1997.

This is a resource of ready-to-use dramas which are organized according to the seasons of the church year. By means of introduction, it also includes sections on the "History of Religious Drama" and "Tips on Performing." A good resource!

Nadasdy, Dean. Cross Views: Story Dramas that Teach the Faith. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis. 1996.

Another resource of ready-to-use dramas, ideal for a worship setting. Each play is based on a scripture passage and is organized according to theme. Each play is meant to run approximately 6-8 minutes.

Rice, Wayne and Mike Yaconelli. Greatest Skits on Earth: Vol. 2 – Skits with a Message. Youth Specialties: Grand Rapids, Michigan. 1987.

This collection of ready-to-use skits can be used in worship or as discussion starters in meetings and gatherings. Based on scripture, these skits are easy to use with all ages.

Games

All Star Games from All Star Youth Leaders. Mikal Keefer and Bob Buller, Eds. Group Publishing, Inc. Loveland Colorado. 1998.

A helpful resource by Youth Leaders who share their tried, tested and true game and activity ideas. It is organized according to the type of game (icebreakers, mixers, cooperative games, etc.). This resource also includes practical advice from Youth Leaders concerning how to design your own games and how to tell whether or not a game is successful. A great resource!

Great Group Games for Youth Ministry. Michael Warden, Ed. Group Publishing, Inc: Loveland, Colorado. 1998.

Another helpful resource for games and activities. It includes a clear list of supplies and the number of people needed to play. This resource also makes note of the area or space in which the games are best suited to be played. A good resource!

Quick Crowdbreakers and Games for Youth Groups. Group Publishing, Inc. Loveland Colorado. 1993.

This collection of crowdbreakers and games is organized with an easy-to-use table of contents. A good resource for activities for any event.

Prayer

Dreams Alive: Prayers by Teenagers. Carl Koch, Ed. St. Mary's Press, Christian Brothers Publications: Winona, Minnesota. 1991.

This is a great resource! All of the prayers in this book were written by young people for young people. The prayers are honest, real and address many of the issues which are of a concern to youth. It contains many different forms of prayer (journal entries, poems, etc.), and is organized topically.

Program Development / Theory / Youth Research

Barna, George. Generation Next. Regal Books: Ventura, California, 1995.

Although dated already, this U. S. nationwide survey, reveals the feelings, beliefs, and behaviours of teens, giving a pretty a good picture of where youth are and where they are headed.

Clark, Chap. The Youth Worker's Handbook to Family Ministry. Youth Specialties, Inc.: Grand Rapids, Michigan. 1997.

This book is a basic introduction to Family Ministry. It includes practical ideas and strategies for restructuring youth ministry into family ministry.

Fields, Doug. Purpose Driven Youth Ministry: 9 Essential Foundations for Healthy Growth. Zondervan Publishing House: Grand Rapids, Michigan. 1998.

This book outlines a philosophy of youth ministry and focuses on the purpose of Youth ministry. This is a good resource for visioning.

Freudenberg, Ben and Rick Lawrence. The Family Friendly Church. Group: Loveland, 1998.

This book offers those who read it a perspective of youth ministry in the context of the current shift to family ministry. It is a good read for those who are integrating youth ministry as part of the whole congregational life.

Hill, Paul (Ed.). Up the Creek With a Paddle. Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, 1998.

A great guide in navigating the waters of youth ministry, this book puts in your hands a number of proverbs shaped by the collective wisdom of 16 experts in the field. A great little resource.

The Official ELCIC Youth Ministry Survival Packet. Eastern Synod Youth Ministry Committee and the national Youth Ministry Co-ordinating Committee, ELCIC, Eds. ELCIC: Kitchener, Ontario and Winnipeg, Manitoba. 1998 and on-going.

This is a Lutheran resource which has been supplied to every congregation in the ELCIC. It is a series of pamphlets which include program ideas as well as practical 'how-to's' for leaders. Subsequent pamphlets are mailed periodically and are to be added to the collection. This is a well organized and helpful resource.

Pass It On! Ready to Use Handouts for Asset Builders. Search Institute: Minneapolis, 1999.

This resource is a great resource not only for anyone in youth ministry but in ministry period. It contains handouts that help people identify ways in which they can become asset builders in people from children right on up.

Roehlkepartain, Eugene C. Building Assets in Congregations: A Practical Guide for Helping Youth Grow Up Healthy. Search Institute: Minneapolis, 1998. *Combines solid theory about healthy youth development with practical strategies and approaches, making this book an invaluable resource for every church serious about its ministry to, with, and for young people. A must read for all people involved in youth ministry.*

Ward, Pete. God at the Mall: Youth Ministry that Meets Kids Where They're At. Henderickson Publishers, Inc.: Peabody, Massachusetts, 1999. *This resource takes a look at youth ministry as outreach ministry. As the title suggests, this is an exploration of meeting kids where they are and then introducing them to faith in Christ*

Youth Spirit: Program Ideas for Church Groups. Anne Saunders, Ed. Wood Lake Books: Winfield, B.C. 1997. *This is an outstanding resource! It contains creative and hands-on activities for youth groups, as well as relevant Biblical references, reflection questions and worship ideas. It is organized thematically and according to the church year. An excellent resource!*

Resources

Christie, Les. How to Work with Rude, Obnoxious and Apathetic Kids: Positive Discipline with Youth. Victor Books: Wheaton, Illinois. 1994. *This is a helpful book in seeking to understand some of the root causes of behavioral problems or problems with apathy within a youth group setting. It also addresses problems such as abuse within the family setting and the youth worker's role in such situations. Violence, learning disabilities, the role of stress and the effects of alcohol on families are additional topics which are addressed.*

Creasy Dean, Kenda and Ron Foster. The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry. Upper Room Books: Nashville. 1998. *This is an excellent resource on the spiritual roots of youth ministry. This book provides a spiritually rich and holistic approach to ministering with and to young people. It advocates for the multi-generational involvement of young people in the life of the church. An inspiring and soul-feeding resource!*

Dittmer, Terry K. Keeping the Faith: God's Truth for Inquiring Young Adults. Concordia Publishing House: St. Louis Missouri. 1997.

This is a good resource. It is Lutheran (Missouri Synod) and presents itself as a guide in helping to understand Luther's Small Catechism. It is well organized and easy to understand.

Dittmer, Terry K. Youth Ministry Sketchbook: 130 Practical Ideas for Ministry.
Concordia Publishing House: St. Louis Missouri. 1995.

This is an excellent resource! It covers a wide-range of topics, such as spirituality, program ideas and how to maximize the involvement of young people. It is clear, concise and honest and full of great ideas!

Worship

Creative Worship Ideas: 70 Meaningful Ways to Involve Teenagers in Worship.
Lois Keffer, Ed. Group Publishing: Loveland, Colorado. 1993.

This is a helpful resource on worship. It includes a section on 'Creative Worship Ingredients' as well as ready-to-use skits for use in a worship setting. Some editing of content may be necessary.

Good Grace-Filled God, Eh! A Worship Resource Book for Youth Groups.

Krister Ulmanis, et al., Eds. National Youth Ministry Committee, ELCIC:
Winnipeg, Manitoba. 1996.

This is a great resource for leading devotions with a youth group or for use when planning a youth-led worship service. It is written by people of the ELCIC and is organized according to the seasons of the church year. It includes poems, reflections, litanies, banner patters, prayers, sermon plays and more!