



Resource Center

New Advent/Christmas Resources

This year I did not create a new Advent/Christmas booklet. I have posted on our website 2013's booklet and this list of the new resources. If you don't have a computer to access the website to view last year's booklet, please contact me and I will be happy send you a copy. Contact me at 724-783-7196 or carolm@kiskipby.org

COUNTING THE DAYS, LIGHTING THE CANDLES: A Christmas Advent Devotional (BK 5AX 145) Of course we know that Christmas is about Jesus...So why is it that we miss seeing him in the midst of all the hustle and bustle? This devotional will help your family or your church rejoice and rest in the holiday season. Beginning with December 1 and all through the month, you'll find separate readings for adults and children for each day. Also included are 4 activity suggestions that will enhance your family or church's experience of the season.

TASTE AND SEE: Experiencing the stories of Advent and Christmas (BK 5AX 146) An Advent small-group study built around reading of scripture combined with an imaginative reading approach. The title hints at how readers are invited to experience the stories of the season with their senses. Drawing on that experience of scripture, participants then consider how these stories speak to their own lives.



LIGHT OF LIGHTS: Advent devotional from The Upper Room (BK 5AX 155) The collection of meditations is arranged to coordinate with the themes of the four candles on an Advent wreath: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. Meditations are included for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and the Sunday after Christmas. A complete Leader's Guide for small groups and instructions for making an Advent wreath are included.

CELEBRATE: An Advent Experience (BK 5AX 210) In this 4-week devotional for families or congregations, you will be encouraged to participate in this tradition with a twist. This resource challenges you to fill your Advent calendar with daily acts of mercy. Instead of over-the-top excessiveness because of merely want, prepare by doing acts of mercy where there is need. Lives get busy during this time of the year, and making life busier is not the goal of this experience. The devotionals, readings, and other materials are all designed to help you enter more deeply into this season of advent. Celebrate through acts of mercy.

CAUTION: Don't get so caught up in trying to make the season special, that you forget what makes it special – the birth of the Son of God.

EXPLORING ADVENT WITH LUKE: Four Questions for Spiritual Growth (BK 5AX 212) This examination of Advent helps readers to rediscover the power of the events leading up to the birth of Christ. The four questions of Luke 1, as posed by Zechariah, Mary, Elizabeth, and the people in the Temple, spur readers to personal reflection on disappointment, inadequacy, openness, and trust. Ideal for individual and small-group use.

ONCE-A-DAY: 25 Days of Advent Devotions (BK 5AX 216) This devotional booklet takes you through the entire Advent season with thoughts on the person of Jesus: his involvement at the creation of the world, his life in the Gospel accounts, and who he is today. You will meet and examine the lives of various individuals involved in the incarnation, and during the week of Christmas examine the response to this miraculous and gracious event, both in heaven and on earth.

UNDER WRAPS: The Gift We Never Expected (BK 5AX 217)

Four weeks of daily devotions on the character of God exemplified in the Old Testament and then revealed through Jesus Christ. The reflections, ideal for use during Advent, include Scripture, reflections, personal stories and insights, daily challenges, and prayers.



AN INTER JOURNEY TO CHRISTMAS: Advent Devotional (BK 5AX 221) This provides you with a way to set aside time for a short spiritual journey every day--a time to reconnect and meditate. Each day begins with a short prayer followed by an inspirational story.

ON THIS HOLY NIGHT: The Heart of Christmas (BK 5BX 244) Rekindle the true meaning of Christmas with the help of six gifted Christian communicators. **Max Lucado**—a look into Joseph's story, a man caught between what God says and what makes sense. **Rick Warren**—the real gift of Christmas is that God sent His own Son to connect with the human race. **David Jeremiah**—why the name of Jesus is so important and perfect. **John Maxwell**—how to journey like the wise men to unexpected places. **Jack Hayford**—a look into Mary's story, a woman who embraced the seemingly impossible with God at her side. **Bill Hybels**—rediscovering meaning in the nativity scene.

JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON: Celebrate The True Meaning of Christmas (BK 5AX 245) Overflowing with a rich collection of readings on Advent, Scripture meditations, Christmas tips and special traditions, recipes, prayers, poems and more.



HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED: Inspiration for the Christmas Season (BK 5AX 254) Containing a beautiful collection of Scripture meditations based on the names of Jesus. Each page includes a Bible verse with devotional comment and brief prayer.

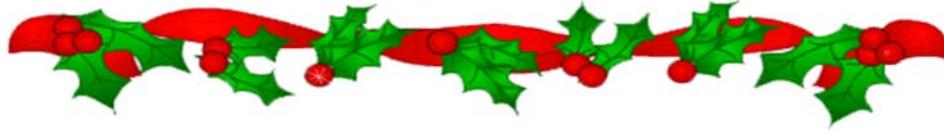
ALL I REALLY WANT FOR CHRISTMAS: Reading for a Modern Christmas (BK 5AX 279) Sometimes the happiest and holiest time of the year is also the hardest for people to enjoy. These daily readings offer the skeptic, the over-committed the opportunity to make room-perhaps just enough room for God to show up. The weeks leading up to Christmas can spark a strong spiritual longing for more. Although it may never be articulated, we sense beneath those longings is a yearning for an experience of God. These brief writings address the challenges and realities of the season and include a simple action, ritual or meditation designed to gently steer the reader toward the deeper meaning of the season.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS PRESENT EVER (BK 5AX 331) Versatile -- "ready-to-use" -- no memorization required.. Appropriate for Christmas Eve or any Sunday morning in Advent. Involving children of all ages and one adult, it can be used in any size church with a few participants or many. Two versions -- a longer version intended for a full-length service and a shortened version to be used in place of a sermon -- are also included. Symbols of Christmas (a tree, ornaments, candy canes, a crèche and more) are combined with biblical readings and brief dialogue to create a greater understanding of Christian traditions. While the narrative dialogue is being read, a silent, active nativity scene is shown to illustrate the first Christmas present ever. (Copying privileges included.)

WAITING HERE FOR YOU: Advent Journey of Hope (BK 5AX 342) Christmas. We have plenty of time to anticipate it, or in some cases...dread it. And, before we know it, it's gone as quickly as it came. What's it all for? Is there really hope for today in the story of a baby born so long ago? These questions and others are answered in the promises of Advent. Advent is simply a season of expectant waiting and preparation. Most often, the arrival of an event or a person is made all the more sweet by our anticipation. How could waiting and expectation change your Christmas season?

FIVE LITTLE CHRISTMAS DRAMAS FOR TODAY'S KIDS (BK 5AX 263) Every year small congregations stress over the difficult task of producing a successful children's play. These fun and simple dramas let small churches celebrate Christmas without mayhem and stress, and they empower children to play a pivotal role in highlighting the divine purpose of the Christmas holiday. With minimal set design and diverse roles for children of all ages, this collection of Christmas dramas will bless directors and congregations alike. Each drama has listed the approximate length of time the play will take, how many cast members are needed, props, and the stage set-up. This book also has the **copy/printing privileges included**.

OF LOVE & MIRACLES (BK 5AX 401) Present the Christmas story to your congregation this year with story, song, verse, and warmth of candlelight. This beautiful service includes an optional service of Holy Communion, suggested hymns and prayers, and a complete order of worship. The service can be presented by the pastor alone or with the help of as many participants as desired. The order of worship may also be adapted for use during the Sundays of Advent.



MISSION POSSIBLE: Sermons for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany based on the Gospel Texts (BK 5AX 402) In nineteen sermons, Charley Reeb sets out to remind us that God's mysterious ways are limitless in power.

THE LORD OF OUR LIGHT: An Advent Study (BK 5AX 403) The study invites you to explore God's hope and presence through a study of the scripture readings for Advent and Christmas. Key Bible readings call us to praise God as we actively wait for the coming of God's redemption and new creation. Through the readings, we hear the call to celebrate the light of God revealed through Jesus Christ.



THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS (BK 5AX 404) Consider God's gift of salvation; the treasure of his friendship; the transforming power of his presence; and the victory he offers us in Christ! In this classic collection, contributors including Charles Swindoll, Max Lucado, and Charles Colson offer meditations on "The Birth of Jesus Christ"; "Adopted Children of the King"; "The True Meaning of Peace"; etc.

COMING HOME (BK 5AX 405); LONGING FOR MORE (BK 5AX 406); EXPECTING (BK 5AX 407) A collection of daily Advent devotions that are excellent for personal or congregational use such as Advent Wreath lighting devotions.

THE JESSE TREE: Advent Devotional (BK 5AX 408) Each day throughout Advent a different part of the biblical story is highlighted leading us through the Advent season to the birth of Jesus Christ. Great for use with children, families, small groups, and individuals.



CURRICULUM

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD IS JESUS (CU 5AX 012) Children learn how the birth of Jesus brought light into a dark world—and how Jesus' light still guides us today. Grades K - 8

GLORY TO THE GIVER AND THE GIFT (CU 5AX 013) Children prepare to receive the gift of Jesus, and to celebrate that gift by giving glory to God! Grades K - 8

JUST LIKE ME (CU 5AX 014) Jesus was born in an ordinary stable for ordinary people like shepherds—and like you and me! Grades K - 8



Below is a helpful list of resources that contain sermons in for the Advent/Christmas season. Unfortunately due to a shortage of preaching supplies, some churches may find themselves without a speaker on a Sunday during this season. Consider letting someone from your church take charge and read something from one of these resources.

LIGHT FROM THE HILL (BK 5AX 032)

GIFTS WE BRING TO HONOR THE KING: Sermons and Resources for Advent & Christmas (BK 5AX 109)

WRINKLED WRAPPINGS: Sermons for Advent and Christmas (BK 5AX 133)

COMING HOME: Advent/Christmas Sermons from the book of Haggai (BK 5AX 137)

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SERMONS (BK 5AX 150)

THE THREE WISE WOMEN: Messages on Mary, Elizabeth and Anna (BK 5AX 268)

A MORE URGENT SEASON: Advent/Christmas Sermons (BK 5AX 264)

DON'T FORGET THE CHILD: Advent/Christmas Sermons (BK 5AX 265)

SONGS FOR A SAVIOR: Sermons and Worship Resources for Advent & Christmas (BK 5AX 224)

HOLY E-MAIL: Second Lesson Sermons for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany (BK 5AX 306)

A GOD FOR THIS WORLD: Gospel Sermons for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany (BK 5AX 308)

AND THEN CAME THE ANGEL: Gospel Sermons for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany (BK 5AX 310)

PRAYING FOR A WHOLE NEW WORLD: Gospel Sermons for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany (BK 5AX 327)

IT'S NEWS TO BE: Messages of Hope (BK 5AX 325)

A CHRISTMAS JOURNEY: Sermons, Monologues, Children plays, Christmas Eve Services (BK 5AX 389)

GOD'S NEW POSSIBILITY: Based on Gospel Text (BK 5AX 395)

A CHRISTMAS QUARTET: Reflections of the Nativity (BK 5AX 396)

MISSION POSSIBLE: Gospel Sermons for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany (BK 5AX 402)

Any of the Advent Bible Studies by James Moore can be easily used as a wonderful sermon

THE MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS (BK 5AX 127)

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE CHRIST CHILD (BK 5AX 129)

CHRISTMAS GIFTS THAT ALWAYS FIT (BK 5AX 175)

WON'T YOU LET HIM IN (BK 5AX 183)

LET'S GO OVER TO BETHLEHEM (BK 5AX 184)

CHRISTMAS GIFTS THAT WON'T BREAK (BK 5AX 330)

FINDING BETHLEHEM IN THE MIDST OF BEDLEM (BK 5AX 397)



Merry Christmas