MARC NEWS

Michigan Area Resource Center

The United Methodist Church

YOU CAN BORROW VIDEOS AND SHEET MUSIC

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All Resources Are New!

Attentiveness: Being Present (DVD0270) This 12-week small-group study helps explore key features of Christian character and then apply those learnings in daily life. Based on two complementary teachings of Jesus, "Come and See" and "Go and Do," during the first 6 weeks, this resource will guide your group to learn, experience, and reflect on a specific feature of Christian character. And during the second 6 weeks, you and your other group members will choose and implement an action plan for living out character: applying a specific feature of Christian character in your personal lives; implementing that component of Christian character in your Community – family, church, neighborhood, workplace, or civic community. Topics include: *Listening to the Right Voices; Keeping Time; Self-Awareness; Listening Alone, Listening Together.* (1 DVD; Leader's guide & participant's book; for adults)

Salt of the Earth: Palestinian Christians in the Northern West Bank (DVD0272): Living as religious minorities in turbulent times, nine Palestinian Christians share their faith, hopes and challenges in this series of documentary short films. This film grew out of a desire among their Palestinian neighbors to share their stories and a desire among Christians in the West to hear them. This DVD is in Arabic with optional English subtitles. Nine segments are: 1. Advent; 2. The Wall; 3. A Mantle; 4. Life; 5. Exile; 6. Resurrection; 7. The Garden; 8. The Cross; 9. Message to America (15-20min./session; Salt Films, Inc., ©2006; for Sr. High & up)

2007 MARC ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

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This is Christianity (DVD0267): Featuring Maxie Dunnam, this study uses the Apostles' Creed as a framework to introduce the Christian faith. He approaches the subject with no assumptions; he "starts from scratch" and clearly explains the essentials of the Christian faith. Filled with contemporary illustrations, this resource gives those who are not familiar with Christianity an opportunity to identify with something with which they are familiar. (1 DVD; 7 sessions; 10 min./ session; leader's guide & book; for adults)

Morning Coffee Series # 1: Genesis (DVD0271) Similar in format to Zondervan's popular NOOMA series, this resource features original music, beautiful scenery and conversation-generating homilies by United Methodist pastor Mark Flynn. This first volume in a new series has a bold, yet easy-on-the-palate blend of exotic and interesting flavors that will spark discussion in your group about the basics of the Christian faith. In this first serving, you'll go beyond the creation story to savor important issues raised in Genesis. Sit down and enjoy a cup by yourself or with a few friends. You'll be amazed at how easy conversations begin. Sessions are: **Creator:** Learning to ask the right questions is the first step in reading the Bible; **Humanity:** What God says about the nature of humanity; **Sin:** It's not what you think it is. (1 DVD; 3 sessions; 5-9 min./session; discussion guide; for college & up)

Stumbling Blocks to Faith (DVD0273): Many people say they would like to become a Christian believer but cannot because of some insurmountable stumbling block. Here is a candid presentation of the allegations and Christian responses from theologian Robert Norris, missionary Hope Kim, Pastors Lon Solomon and Jim Byrne, American Enterprise Institute scholar Michael Novak, and C. S. Lewis Institute fellow Art Lindsley. Sessions are: 1. Hypocrisy; 2. Intolerance/Other religions; 3. Science and faith; 4. Suffering; 5. Sacrifices. This video will help study group members talk their way through difficult faith-related issues raised by Christians and/or about Christians. (1 DVD; 5 sessions; 20 min./session; study guide; for adults)

Can We Talk...? Christian Conversations about Homosexuality (DVD0278-0279): Since 1972, The United Methodist Church has struggled with a variety of understandings of homosexuality as it relates to who we are as faithful Christians. Recently, church legislators strongly encouraged its agency on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (CUIC) to develop resources that help United Methodists talk with civility about their different views of homosexuality in an open atmosphere where unity and understanding could grow. DVD 1 has an introduction and historical overview and offers personal stories, perspectives on homosexuality, and a summary of the four dialogue sessions. DVD 2 offers information about setting up dialogues on the local level; presents biblical insights, thoughts on the nature of the church and ministry options; and provides worship materials. CD is filled with a wealth of materials designed to get church members talking. DVD resource does not present solutions to divisions over the issue of homosexuality but provides a usable tool to keep the conversation going. (2 DVDs & 1 CD; running time varies; for adults)

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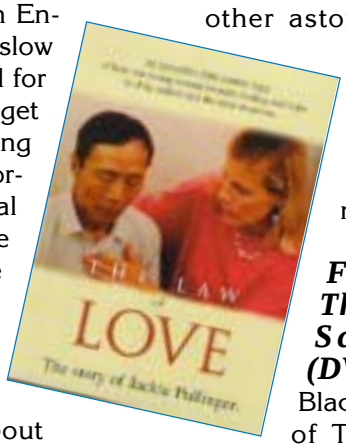
Nooma Series #14: Breathe (DVD0274): Throughout our everyday lives we don't pay much attention to the way we breathe, do we? But for thousands of years, people have understood that our physical breath is actually a picture of a deeper spiritual reality. In the Bible, the word for "breath" is the same as the word for "spirit." There's an inherent dilemma at the core of what makes us human. (1 DVD; 14 min.; study guide; for Sr. High & up)

The Law of Love (DVD0275): Twenty-two-year-old Jackie Pullinger graduated as an oboe student at the Royal College of Music in England and then boarded a slow boat to China and prayed for guidance about where to get off. She ended up in Hong Kong. She began with no organization and no financial base, just an unshakable conviction that the same Jesus who helped and healed the hurting and hopeless can do the same today. This is a candid documentary about Jackie's work amid the drug-crazed vice and violence of the old Walled City in Hong Kong. Her courage and strength shine through, showing viewers humanity at the brutal edge of existence and how tenderness and love—accompanied by the Gospel of Christ—can transform lives. (1DVD; 51 min.; for Sr. High & up)



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Charles Wesley: The Story of Hymn Writer (DVD0276): Charles Wesley was one of the most prolific hymn writers of all time, having penned more than 6,500 hymns. When John and Charles Wesley met the Moravians during a journey to Georgia, both men were taken with the German hymns the group sang (a long-standing tradition with the Moravian Church). John became fluent in German and translated many of the Moravian hymns. Following his conversion, Charles Wesley often wrote a hymn a day and the brothers published numerous hymnals. Now viewers can watch these stories and other astonishing stories about Methodism's beginnings come alive in this dramatic impersonation of Charles Wesley. (1 DVD; 90 min.; for Sr. High & up)

Following the Path: The Women of Color Scholars Program (DVD0277): In 1988, the Black Clergywomen Caucus of The United Methodist Church discussed the lack of women-of-color faculty at UM seminaries and theological schools. What began as a discussion resulted in a scholarship program—the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry's Women of Color Scholars Program. This resource shares the experiences and candid observations of courageous women who dared to dream and who, through the support of the program, are now changing how universities, seminaries and pulpits of The UMC look. This inspiring program increases the awareness of the gender issues, diversity and isolation faced by women of color while they pursue advanced degrees in theology and religious studies. (1 DVD; 39 min.; for adults)