

RESOURCE CENTER NEWS
Eastminster Presbytery Office

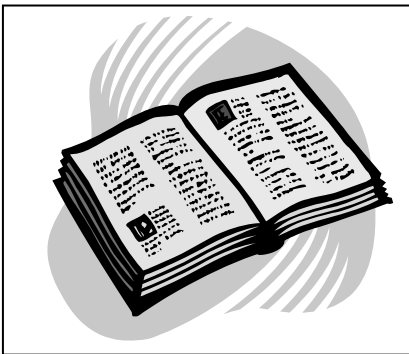
Email: lorrainejones@faithfulness.com
330-505-2167 or toll free 1-800-215-2416
Lorraine Jones, coordinator

Resource Center Hours:

Mon 9:00 a.m. —2:00 p.m.

Wed 9:00 a.m. —2:00 p.m.

Thurs 9:00 a.m. —2:00 p.m.



I am pleased to announce that the Resource Center now carries two studies from the Efirm Bible Study Series: The Book of Romans and The Book of Revelation. For each session, participants watch a 20 minute DVD presentation from Dr. James “Mickey” Efirm, a professor Emeritus of Duke University Divinity School, and follow along in a workbook which highlights Dr. Efirm’s main points. Each study lesson also contains questions for discussion to help participants think about key concepts in the presentation. Each study starts with a session that gives the background of the book you are studying. For example, in the Revelation study, we first learn about the history of the exile. In 538, Cyrus let the Hebrews go home from exile but they were still suffering hardships. Dr. Efirm, (Who has been called “the Andy Griffith of the chalkboard”) then explains Deuteronomistic Theology, the Wisdom Movement, and the apocalyptic mindset in a way that the layperson can understand. Suddenly, we begin to understand a bit more about the foundation of the book of Revelation. Participants will cover the entire book of Revelation, verse-by-verse in 16 sessions. The study for the book of Romans is completed in 13 sessions. Both are available at the Resource Center.

The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions (HarperOne, 2007) is also now available at the Resource Center. Eight topics surrounding the “historical Jesus” and two theologians with widely divergent views make interesting reading for everyone. Marcus Borg and N. T. Wright determined what topics they wanted to discuss, created an outline for the book, and then decided the order in which they would take turns addressing the topics. Each author wrote their first draft alone before turning it over to the other for comments and rewriting the final version in dialogue format. If you would like to look at both sides of the argument for how we can know Jesus, what He did, the reason for His death, the mystery of Jesus’ birth and resurrection, and other topics, sign out The Meaning of Jesus at the Resource Center.

Insight: Harry Potter (Primetime Parables, 2010) is a 15-minute DVD with a reproducible guide book that does three things. It asks J.K. Rowling (the author of the Harry Potter series) about her faith and then shows how the Harry Potter books (and/or) movies uses Christian themes. Finally, the study looks into the Bible to see what it has to say about these things. A one session study for youth or adults.

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!FREE!

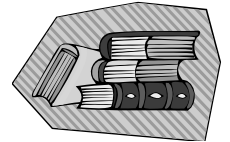
Harry Eberts has graciously donated many, many books from his private library to the people of Eastminster Presbytery. This is your invitation to browse through his collection and to take those books that you would like to have in your private library or your church library. You will find scholarly works on both the Old and New Testament as well as Christian classics.

Where: Eastminster Presbytery Resource Center

When: Beginning January 27th feel free to go through the books in the boxes in the Resource Center anytime the Presbytery offices are open. (Mon – Thursday 8:30 – 4:30)

Cost: Nothing. Take as many books as you like for yourself or your church. This is a gift from Dr. Eberts. (Do bring a bag though.)

Questions: Contact Lorraine Jones at the Resource Center Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 am until 2 pm. 330-505-2167 ext. 103.



Another Freebie.....

The Resource Center has a supply of bulletin covers for Lent if anyone would like them. We have packages of 50 bulletins in the small (a total of 250 bulletins) and large size (a total of 300 bulletins) with the verse from Isaiah 53:5 on the front. “He was wounded for our transgressions, and with his stripes, we are healed.”



Sometimes, we think it is tough to be a Christian in the world today. Now, think about the Christians in the first century. Maybe they had a few stories about Jesus or a letter from a nearby church. The very earliest Christians were just figuring out how to show the love of Jesus to the world. They created the *Didache*—a small manual that told newcomers how to be a Christian before there were any doctrines or creeds. Author and theologian Tony Jones has completed a book and accompanying DVD called The Teaching of The Twelve (Paraclete Press, 2009) in which he discusses how we can use the beliefs and practices written down by the ancient *Didache* community. He explores what it means to “Be Church” and what it means to follow the way of Jesus. The Teaching of the Twelve contains the text of the *Didache*; you may see that it is like the Bible and dismiss it as less than what it is or it may invoke your anger. Hopefully, it will remind you about what is important in Christianity—showing the love of Jesus to the world. The DVD is divided into sections that correspond to the chapters in the book so it is very easy to use the book and DVD together as an ongoing study. There are 7 chapters of which, chapter 2 (16 pages long) contains the complete text of the *Didache*. The book and DVD are available for signout now at the Resource Center.