

# Your LINK to Ministry Resources

NE Ohio Resource Center

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## Future Church

The ELCA has announced a design for the future. Part of that design expands our outreach to young adults. Earlier this year a new ministry developed by and for young adults (18-30) was initiated. Within 4 months over 1000 individuals had participated in remote weekly gatherings of reflection around a particular theme. The ministry has become known as ABIDE. Materials used this fall with a link to the spring/summer topics are available at <https://sites.google.com/view/2020fallabide/welcome/abide-content>.

To learn more about this ministry and connect via social media visit:

<https://www.elca.org/youngadults>

Share this with young adults locally and across the country. Use the materials for your own personal small group reflection; topics include grief, doubt, hope, joy, community, newness and journey.

Sign up for the Advent Pilgrimage in the Holy Land at

<https://preview.tinyurl.com/yy4o5zme>

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### Staffed Hours

8-4 Mon, Tues & Thurs

Call or email ahead of visit for recommended resources to be immediately available for viewing.

Not able to visit? Most items can be mailed.

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## Year B Lent

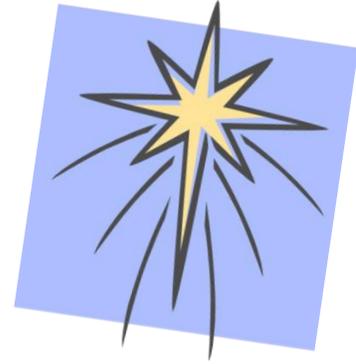
Ash Wednesday is Feb. 17, 2021, As you prepare for Lent you may want to consider using an Episcopalian resource **Groundwork: Digging Deep for Change and Growth**. This resource provides supporting text, commentary, questions and activities which could easily be adapted for your congregation. Director for Evangelism Mission Julianne Smith can help provide appropriate mission-related resources comparable to the Episcopal resources. This Lenten resource can be found here:

[https://episcopalchurch.org/files/documents/final\\_book\\_ii.pdf](https://episcopalchurch.org/files/documents/final_book_ii.pdf) or contact the resource center for a copy.

A little known resource **And Still We Rise: A Six-Part Study on Personal and Congregational Transformation** would be an excellent resource. Available for preview from the resource center or purchase through Chalice Press.

Contact the resource center for additional recommendations or to preview resources.

Think of ways to spread light to those waiting for a vaccine. Perhaps a combination of postcards, phone calls or porch visits for each of the 12 days of Christmas or conducting an Epiphany House Blessing will keep spirits high for those who wait.



## New Arrivals

***Part-time is Plenty: Thriving without Full-time Clergy*** validates congregations who call pastors for the less than a full work week as well as individuals who serve a congregation in a less than traditional full-time call. Examples are given of the vital and vibrant ministry by congregations with less than full-time professional leadership as well as questions raised in fairly compensating leaders. With careful planning and partnership congregations and leaders can thrive with less than full-time leadership.

***The Read-Aloud Family: Making Meaningful and Lasting Connections with your Kids*** is helpful for family ministry leaders, parenting discussion groups and individuals. After making a case for reading aloud practical suggestions are offered regarding the selection of reading materials and engagement in conversation.

***Everyday Spirituality: Discover a Life of Hope, Peace and Meaning*** creates awareness of 27 different ways individuals may already be living out their spirituality. Author James Hazelwood with humor and reflection facilitates the nurturing of spirituality with everyday acts. An additional resource provides a three session guide for group conversation. This same resource provides an outline for a stewardship campaign that focuses on the sharing of stories as realized through the use of this book and cards. To view the guide contact the synod resource center or visit <https://www.everydayspiritualitybook.com/443251447>.

***N.T.Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides*** are designed for 45-60 discussions. An “open” question is provided to start each session followed by a specific scripture reading with follow-up questions for engagement and discussion.

Romans - 18 sessions

Colossians & Philemon – 8 sessions

1 & 2 Thessalonians – 8 sessions

1 & 2 Timothy and Titus – 12 sessions

1 & 2 Peter and Jude – 9 sessions

*We still have multiple copies of these books available to keep and use by your small group for the asking.*

## Christmas 2020

At the writing of this newsletter Covid-19 cases are escalating rather than retreating. If you need to rethink your congregation’s Christmas Eve celebration perhaps this resource for celebrating the Stations of the Nativity can be of use: <http://www.stpaulsmishawaka.org/html/stations/stations.html?mid=53>

Other congregations are putting lights or lighted trees in windows visible to traffic to spread light into the neighborhood during the dark nights of winter even though the building may be closed to the public.