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 See: www.metanoiabooks.org.uk/featured_products.php

New Titles Catalogue Spring 2007

Anabaptism

ANABAPTIST SONGS IN AFRICAN HEARTS

Global Mennonite History Series: Africa
John A Lapp and C Arnold Snyder (Eds)
 9781561485499 Good Books (2006) 300pp £7.95
 "The story of God's work in Africa did not begin with the arrival of the missionaries, but rather – from the African perspective – their arrival continued, reinterpreted and re-shaped an ancient story," begins this honest collection. Themes of the churches claiming their particular expressions of faith, of achieving self-reliance, of coping with difficult governments, of discovering their gifts despite their material poverty, thread through the book.

PURPOSE DRIVEN MENNONITES Exploring God's Work in the World

Craig Pelkey-Landes
 9781877736810 MMN (2004) 24pp £2.75
 Here are some findings and personal reflections on how several Mennonite congregations have used Rick Warren's 'Purpose Driven' resources.

TESTING FAITH AND TRADITION

Global Mennonite History Series: Europe
John A Lapp and C Arnold Snyder (Eds)
 9781561485505 Good Books (2006) 300pp £7.95
 Seldom have the distinguishing features of the Dutch, the French, the German, the Swiss, the Russian – and more recently, the UK and the Spanish – Mennonite churches been examined. These churches' cultural and historical differences are significantly unique, and they are a key part of the history told in these chapters by European Mennonite historians and church leaders. The Umsiedler, with their sheer numbers and religious vigour, are a current force included in this ongoing story.

Biblical Studies

365 WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE Daily Bible Readings with Christian Aid

Peter Graystone
 9781853115967 SCM (2005) 376pp £14.99
365 Ways to Make a Difference is a daily Bible reading and study scheme that will help you make direct connections between its message and what is happening in the world around you.

JESUS AND THE EYEWITNESSES The Gospels as Eyewitness Testimony

Richard Baukham
 9780802831620 Eerdmans (2006) 504pp £18.99
 This new book argues that the four Gospels are closely based on eyewitness testimony of those who knew Jesus. Noted New Testament scholar Richard Baukham challenges the prevailing assumption that the accounts of Jesus circulated as "anonymous community traditions," asserting instead that they were transmitted in the name of the original eyewitnesses. To drive home this controversial point, Baukham draws on internal literary evidence, study of personal names in the first century, and recent developments in the understanding of oral traditions.

LIKE FIRE IN THE BONES Listening for the Prophetic Word in Jeremiah

Walter Brueggemann
 9780800635619 Fortress (2006) 256pp £19.99
 "No scholar of this generation has had a greater fire in his bones for communicating the word of God than Walter Brueggemann. These essays on Jeremiah exemplify his insistence that criticism should lead to interpretation, and remind us again why prophets like Jeremiah still matter in the 21st century." – John J. Collins, Holmes Professor of Old Testament, Yale

MATTHEW SCM Theological Commentary on the Bible

Stanley Hauerwas (Ed.)
 9780334041115 SCM (2006) 300pp £19.99
Matthew, the third volume in the SCM Theological Commentary on the Bible, brings the stimulating insights of one of today's most exciting theologians to the first Gospel. This commentary, like each in the series, is designed to serve the church – through aid in preaching, teaching, study groups, and so forth – and demonstrate the continuing intellectual and practical viability of theological interpretation of the Bible.

PSALMS**Believers Church Bible Commentary***James H Waltner*

9780836193374 Herald Press (2006) 838pp £21.95

"James Waltner's immense study of the Psalms merits close attention and wide use. It is a commentary that is well informed on critical issues but, more importantly, is alive and alert to theological, pastoral concerns. Waltner reads the Psalms in and for the church, and makes connections that will serve the pastoral, liturgical, devotional life of the church. We can be grateful for this important contribution." – Walter Brueggemann

READING THE BIBLE**Approaching and Understanding Scripture***Howard Ingham (Ed.)*

9780906359365 SCM (2006) 57pp £10.00

"One of the most creative resources for Bible study that I have come across." – John Drane

THE ROMAN EMPIRE AND THE NEW TESTAMENT**An Essential Guide***Warren Carter*

9780687343942 Abingdon (2006) 144pp £9.99

This book will help the reader see how social structures and daily practices in the Roman world illumine so much of the content of the New Testament message. For example, to grasp what Paul was saying about food offered to idols one must understand that temples in the Roman world were not "churches," and that they functioned as political, economic, and gastronomic centres, whose religious dealings were embedded within these other functions. Brief in presentation yet broad in scope, *The Roman Empire and the New Testament: An Essential Guide* will introduce students to the information and ideas essential to coming to grips with the world in which early Christianity was born.

SAILINGACTS**Following an Ancient Voyage***Linford Stutzman*

9781561485468 Good Books (2006) 300pp £9.50

"Explorers are easy to admire or despise, but very difficult to understand without going on the trip," writes Stutzman. "To really appreciate the experiences, the drama, and development of Paul the explorer, you need to sail with him."

So begins *SailingActs*, inviting readers to come on board. Stutzman draws thoughtful comparisons from his own travel mishaps and adventures to the ones Paul experienced on his journeys. This book is in the tradition of Bruce Feiler's *Walking the Bible*.

Stutzman's knowledge of the socio-political setting in the first-century Roman empire provides an informative backdrop to understanding Paul and reading his epistles in a new light.

The book includes dozens of photos, maps showing the couple's travel routes, a list of all the repairs and replacements Stutzman made to the aging boat which he bought sight-unseen, and an itinerary of places they visited.

TELLING OUR STORIES**Personal Accounts of Engagement with Scripture***Ray Gingerich and Earl Zimmerman (Eds)*

9781931038362 Cascadia (2006) 287pp £14.50

As the book shows, the model of telling personal stories of wrestling with Scripture creates a space for mutual understanding that can detour around the typical conflicts. Such storytelling goes beyond abstract arguments about the authority of the Bible or how it is understood to reach the heart of each Christian's relationship with Scripture and its ultimate Teller. The twenty-one stories in this book offer paths through the church's conflicts over biblical interpretation and application.

"The contributors were able to connect on a human level, despite varying interpretations on a divisive issue. This commitment to talk with rather than past each other gives me a heartening glimpse of the beginnings of community theology." – Laura Breneman, Assistant Professor of Religion, Bluffton University

Christian life**DOING THEOLOGY IN ALTAB ALI PARK****Reflection and Commentary on the Author's Work as a Community Theologian in London's East End between 2000 and 2004***Kenneth Leech*

9780232525717 DLT (2006) 288pp £19.95

The story of one of the UK's most celebrated Anglican priest's years as a community-based theologian in Whitechapel in the East End of London, a small inner city area, yet an area which is profoundly global, housing both the financial centre of the City, and the largest Bengali community in the world outside of the Indian subcontinent! It is a remarkable record of failure and disappointment, of confusion and frustration, of darkness and perplexity, as well as of joy, fulfilment and creativity.

HEROES AND VILLAINS*Mike Alsford*

9780232525731 DLT (2006) 176pp £10.95

"Current films, television shows, books and graphic novels are dominated by heroes and villains, but what makes for a true hero or villain and what values do they represent? Easy to read and full of examples from recent films and books, I found this book highly entertaining and thought-provoking. We need to see the larger patterns behind the stories we love to read and watch." – Vic Thiessen

RELIGION AND FILM**An Introduction***Melanie J Wright*

9780836193275 IB Tauris (2006) 244pp £14.95

"This is an academic but accessible book on the relationship between religion (theology) and film. Taking an in-depth look at six very different kinds of religious films, Wright explores this relationship and also gives us some solid objective handles with which to reflect on the dialogue between theology and film. I enjoyed it very much." – Vic Thiessen

Conflict Mediation/VORP**THE LITTLE BOOK OF COOL TOOLS FOR HOT TOPICS****Group Tools to Facilitate Meetings When Things are Hot***Ron Kraybill and Evelyn Wright*

9781561485437 Good Books (2006) 80pp £5.50

Shows how to help people hear each other when they feel like shouting; how to focus on the issues at stake rather than having a war of personalities; how to employ actual practices for better understanding (interviews, small-group discussions, role-reversal presentations); and how to move a group toward making a decision that all can honestly support.

THE LITTLE BOOK OF DIALOGUE FOR DIFFICULT SUBJECTS**A Practical, Hands-On Guide***Lisa Schirch and David Campt*

9781561485512 Good Books (2006) 80pp £5.50

Authors Schirch and Campt demonstrate dialogue's life and possibilities in this clear and absorbing manual: "Dialogue allows people in conflict to listen to each other, affirm their common ground, and explore their differences in a safe environment."

THE LITTLE BOOK OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FOR PEOPLE IN PRISON**Rebuilding the Web of Relationships***Barb Toews*

9781561485239 Good Books (2006) 80pp £5.50

Restorative justice, with its emphasis on identifying the justice needs of everyone involved in a crime, is helping restore prisoners' sense of humanity while holding them accountable for their actions. Toews shows how people in prison can live restorative justice principles.

RITUAL AND SYMBOL IN PEACEBUILDING*Lisa Schirch*

9781565491946 Kumarian (2006) 224pp £18.50

"This careful study of the place of ritual and symbol in peacebuilding is essential reading for everyone working for peace in their communities. Symbolic, nonverbal ritual acts like shaking hands and sharing a meal often make more progress toward real peace than rational discussions and negotiations. This book shows us how to incorporate ritual and symbol into traditional approaches to peacebuilding, like mediation. This is a fairly academic book but immensely helpful!" – Vic Thiessen

Human Relationships**CELEBRATING DIFFERENCE, STAYING FAITHFUL****How to Live in a Multi-Faith World***Andrew Wingate*

9780232525328 DLT (2005) 208pp £12.95

"Rooted in firm conviction and a lifetime of open and generous meeting with people of other faiths, Andrew Wingate brings together issues often kept apart – dialogue and evangelism, reconciliation and conversion, spirituality and social action. This book is striking proof of the ability of inter-faith encounter to be a place of renewal for Christian discipleship." – Michael Ippgrave, Archdeacon of Southwark

GRIEF AND SEXUALITY**Life After Losing a Spouse***Rachel Nafziger Hartzler*

9780836193404 Herald Press (2006) 150pp £9.75

The multiple layers of loss caused by the death of a spouse are addressed by a wide array of available literature. But *Grief and Sexuality* is deeper and bolder than most, exploring intricate connections between loss and spirituality and their links to sexuality. Rachel Nafziger Hartzler uses brand new research and personal experiences to describe the transformation available to those who have survived the death of a spouse and to sketch guidelines for managing sexual energy.

Mission

CHANGING MISSION

Learning from the Newer Churches

Stuart Murray

9780851693057 Church House (2006) 153pp £8.99

"Another important work from Stuart Murray, this is already a Metanoia bestseller. Written in his usual engaging style, this book is another excellent contribution to the ongoing efforts to revitalise Christianity in the UK. Newer churches provide challenges and insights we must examine closely if we are to do mission today. This book encourages us to do just that. Highly recommended." — Vic Thiessen

EXILES

Living Missionally in a Post-Christian Culture

Michael Frost

9781565636705 Hendrickson (2006) 280pp £10.99

Exiles seeks to integrate all aspects of life and decision-making and to develop the characteristics of a Christian life lived intentionally within emerging (postmodern) culture. It presents a plea for a dynamic, life-affirming, robust Christian faith that can be lived successfully in the post-Christian world of twenty-first century Western society. This book will present a Christian lifestyle that can be lived in non-religious categories and be attractive to not-yet Christians.

THE FORGOTTEN WAYS

Reactivating the Missional Church

Alan Hirsch

9781587431647 Brazos Press (2007) 288pp £12.99

"This is a provocative and insightful contribution to the discovery of effective missional engagement with post-Christendom Western culture. Grounded in Alan's own experience as a missionary pastor and illustrated by examples from various places, *The Forgotten Ways* challenges and equips both inherited and emerging churches to recover the dynamic of a missional movement." — Stuart Murray Williams

A GENTLE WIND OF GOD

The Influence of the East Africa Revival

Richard K MacMaster with Donald R Jacobs

9780836193183 Herald Press (2006) 300pp £9.75

This book tells the story of how this movement ultimately provided Mennonites and others a way to re-ignite the smouldering fires of revival. Embedded in the story is the message of God's redeeming and sanctifying power. The story describes the mystery. It is a mystery of God's grace. It is the mystery that is revealed in every authentic movement of God's Spirit in the world.

INSIDE THE ORGANIC CHURCH

Learning from 12 Emerging Congregations

Bob Whitesel

9780687331161 Abingdon (2006) 192pp £9.99

A new generation of churches is emerging, calling new disciples to the way of Jesus by proclaiming the Good News and seeking the transformation of culture. Bob Whitesel takes us inside congregations that draw upon ancient traditions and modern technologies to create a spiritual community and shows how the practices of the "organic church" can be instructive for all those wishing to reach today's world with the gospel of Christ.

MEETING OUR MULTIFAITH NEIGHBORS

Brice Balmer

9780836193398 Herald Press (2006) 196pp £9.75

"Balmer uses personal stories of the ecumenical experiences in the multifaith community where he works. He cites biblical injunctions to build bridges to our neighbours of multifaith backgrounds. He supplies exhaustive information from cultural practice and religious observance to break down stereotypes between people of various faiths who now share the same space. Balmer's plea cannot be timelier." — Stanley W Green

NEEDS-BASED EVANGELISM

Becoming a Good Samaritan Church

Robert D Pierson

9780687332489 Abingdon (2006) 112pp £7.99

Being a Good Samaritan church begins with the leadership. It requires an absolute commitment to address the needs of people in order to invite them to become disciples of Jesus Christ. But in order to compete with and appeal to unchurched people in today's secular and consumer-driven society, the church needs to be entrepreneurial in its method of evangelist outreach. In this book, Rev. Robert Pierson, shows how churches can better organize ministry in order to be effective witnesses. By meeting felt needs of people through intentional ministries, the church will grow to be sure; but more importantly it will fulfil its biblical mandate to care for those who are hurting and suffering.

UNDERSTANDING ISLAM

The First Ten Steps

Christopher Hewer

9780334040323 SCM (2006) 244pp £14.99

"It is usually easier to translate a text from a foreign language to one's own. This, however, requires the translator to have a full understanding of the text and a command of one's own language. So it is with faith and culture. The author has a deep knowledge of Islam, which he communicates with clarity and obvious sympathy to people of the West, both Muslims and non-Muslims. The reader is taken in a series of logical steps to the destination of *Understanding Islam*. This is achieved in an attractive style that holds the reader's attention throughout this journey." — Shaykh Dr M A Zaki Badawi KBE, Founder and First Principal of the Muslim College, London

Peace

BLESSED ARE THE PACIFISTS

The Beatitudes and Just War Theory

Thomas Trzyna

9780836193466 Herald Press (2006) 138pp £7.75

Trzyna takes a fresh look at pacifism as a way of life and a practical method of conflict resolution that is grounded in the Scripture, particularly the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel. Based on a study of just war theory and contemporary world events, this book does not rehearse familiar debates about how to justify war. Rather, it approaches the topic from the provocative angle that the work of peacemakers requires setting goals to be measured in generations, not years.

BRITAIN'S BOMB

What Next?

Brian Wicker (Ed.)

9780334040965 SCM (2006) 211pp £12.99

Britain's Bomb: What Next? is a book for every Christian concerned about the actions of the current government in relation to the future defence of the country. Currently the Labour government look likely to support replacing the nuclear capacity of the UK, despite the prime minister's own acknowledged religious beliefs, and the many formidable reasons against such a decision.

This book presents advice and opinion from experts across a range of different disciplines on the question of the future of Britain's nuclear weapons.

MAKING PEACE IN THE POST-CHRISTIAN ERA

Thomas Merton's Challenge to the 'War on Terror'

9781872370606 Pax Christi (2006) 54pp £3.00

Presentations given at a conference to explore the contemporary implications of Thomas Merton's book, *Peace in the Post-Christian Era*. Contribution from Fr Gerry McFlynn, Fr Anthony Maggs, Valerie Flessati plus text of Merton's letter to PAX and discussion.

WHAT ABOUT HITLER?

Wrestling with Jesus's Call to Nonviolence in an Evil World

Robert W Brimlow

9781587430657 Brazos Press (2006) 192pp £12.99

Jesus's admonition to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us is a difficult injunction to put into practice. Is it ever permissible for Christians to respond to or retaliate against unmitigated evil? Robert Brimlow grapples with this thorny question in *What about Hitler?* Throughout the book, he elegantly weaves together scriptural meditations, personal vignettes, and lucid philosophical thinking on various Christian stances toward war and violence. In addition, Brimlow delves into the mind of German pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, author of *The Cost of Discipleship*, who eventually conspired to assassinate Adolf Hitler.

Social Justice

CHRISTIAN FAITH AND THE TRUTH BEHIND 9/11

A Call to Reflection and Action

Dave Griffin

9780664231170 WJK (2006) 208pp £9.99

A tireless investigator, Griffin has sorted through enormous amounts of government and independent data and brought to the surface some very unsettling inconsistencies about what really happened. In this, his latest book, he analyses the evidence about 9/11 and then explores a distinctively Christian perspective on these issues, taking seriously what we know about Jesus' life, death, and teachings. Drawing a parallel between the Roman Empire of antiquity and the American Empire of today, he applies Jesus' teachings to the current political administration, and he explores how Christian churches, as a community intending to be an incarnation of the divine, can and should respond.

Spirituality

EVEN THE DEMONS SUBMIT

Continuing Jesus Ministry of Healing

Loren L Johns and James M Krabill (Eds)

9780936273402 Institute of Mennonite Studies (2006) 232pp £15.50

"*Even the Demons Submit* is a real page turner. I found several of the pieces particularly fascinating, as authors opened themselves cautiously to new understandings, through comparison with their already espoused fields of interest." – Galen Johns, Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

SIMPLY CHRISTIAN

Tom Wright

9780281054817 SPCK (2006) 216pp £8.99

"Readers will welcome such ready access to one of the fine teachers of the church." – Walter Brueggemann

Theology & Ethics

ATONEMENT AND VIOLENCE

A Theological Conversation

John Sanders (Ed.)

9780687342945 Abingdon (2006) 224pp £12.99

Drawing on the classical theories of the Atonement, engaging in creative theological construction, the contributors present set of cogent, cohesive alternatives to either rejecting the doctrine of the atonement out of hand, or uncritically accepting it. Contributors include: J Denny Weaver, Thomas Finger, Hans Boersma and T Scott Daniels.

COSMOLOGY, EVOLUTION, AND RESURRECTION HOPE

Theology and Science in Creative Mutual Interaction

Robert Russell

9781894710671 Pandora Press (2006) 122pp £15.00

Cosmology, Evolution, and Resurrection Hope is a collection of lectures presented by theologian and physicist Robert John Russell at the fifth annual Goshen Conference on Religion and Science. It includes professor Russell's discussions of related topics with conference participants.

I WAS A STRANGER

A Christian Theology of Hospitality

Arthur M Sutherland

9780687063246 Abingdon (2006) 104pp £6.99

Hospitality is not simply the practice of a virtue but is integral to the very nature of Christianity's position toward God, self, and the world – it is at the very centre of what it means to be a Christian and to think theologically. Sutherland offers a challenging definition of hospitality and calls us to a practice that is the virtue by which the church stands or falls. Draws on modern theologians (including Howard Thurman, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Karl Barth, Martin Luther King Jr., and Letty Russell) and considers American slavery, the Holocaust, feminism, and prisons. Sutherland eloquently presents a Christian theology of hospitality.

JESUS AND CREATIVITY

Gordon D Kaufman

9780800637989 Fortress (2006) 144pp £11.99

Outside the dualistic categories of the biblical worldview, Kaufman finds, the enormously creative and influential figure of the historic Jesus can have a vital role in the emergence and development of the cosmos and human history. Within that role, he argues, Jesus, his relation to God, and his centrality to Christian faith become clearer and our own lives and actions take on a new meaning.

THE MYTH OF A CHRISTIAN NATION

How the Quest for Political Power Is Destroying the Church

Gregory A Boyd

9780310267300 Zondervan (2006) 207pp £11.99

Boyd shows how Jesus taught us to seek a "power-under" kingdom, where greatness is measured by sacrifice and service. There are no sides or enemies because we are meant to embrace and accept everyone. In *The Myth of a Christian Nation*, Dr Boyd challenges readers to return to the true love of Calvary and the message of the cross – setting the "power-over" politics of worldly government aside.

RETHINKING CHRIST AND CULTURE

A Post-Christendom Perspective

Craig A Carter

9781587431593 Brazos Press (2007) 192pp £12.99

Mark Thiessen Nation (author of *John Howard Yoder: Mennonite Patience, Evangelical Witness, Catholic Convictions*) says, "H Richard Niebuhr's days are numbered. Or so one can only imagine. This carefully argued and well-written book should bring the curtains down on the more than fifty-year reign of Niebuhr's typology in *Christ and Culture*. Carter not only shows how this paradigm is inadequate for our world but offers an alternative paradigm that is at once fuller and richer for understanding the church's social existence in the midst of a broken world that is loved by God."

VIOLENCE AND THEOLOGY

Cheryl A Kirk-Duggan

9780687334339 Abingdon (2006) 80pp £6.99

Theology and Violence introduces the pervasive, stark reality of violence that weaves through general and religious culture in the West: including Scripture, classic literature, and nursery stories; history and politics; music, sports, television and video games; and even theology itself. From this persistently honest analysis, Kirk-Duggan then leads us to explore themes of justice, conflict resolution, holistic and cultural health, and spiritual and theological wellness, as ways to overcome violence today.

Director's Cut Spring 2007

Highlighting recent, noteworthy and best-selling titles selected by Vic Thiessen

Recent & noteworthy titles:

TAKE OUR MOMENTS AND OUR DAYS

An Anabaptist Prayer Book – A four-week cycle of morning and evening prayers

Arthur Paul Boers, Eleanor Kreider, John Rempel, Mary H Schertz and Barbara Nelson Gingerich (Eds)

9780836193343 Herald Press (2006) 118pp £6.95

Have you been waiting for an Anabaptist collection of daily prayers? Your wait is over. This distinctively Anabaptist collection of prayers/readings is organised into a four-week cycle centring around significant scriptures in the ministry of Jesus: the Lord's Prayer, the Beatitudes, the miracles, and the parables. An excellent resource!

TELLING OUR STORIES

Personal Accounts of Engagement with Scripture

Ray Gingerich and Earl Zimmerman (Eds)

9781931038362 Cascadia (2006) 287pp £14.50

A delightful collection of stories by leading Mennonites that takes a unique approach to a controversial subject, the interpretation of Scripture. The approach is to begin with personal stories that allow us to understand each other before tackling the issues of conflict. In my opinion, this is exactly how we should be working at doing theology together – I enjoyed this book very much.

ANABAPTIST SONGS IN AFRICAN HEARTS

Global Mennonite History Series: Africa

John A Lapp and C Arnold Snyder (Eds)

9781561485499 Good Books (2006) 300pp £7.95

TESTING FAITH AND TRADITION

Global Mennonite History Series: Europe

John A Lapp and C Arnold Snyder (Eds)

9781561485505 Good Books (2006) 300pp £7.95

These two books, which I found thoroughly fascinating, look at the history of Mennonites in Africa and Europe, with a focus on the story being told today.

PSALMS

Believers Church Bible Commentary

James H Waltner

9780836193374 Herald Press (2006) 838pp £21.95

You will not want to miss the latest contribution to the Believers Church Commentary. It looks excellent.

HEROES AND VILLAINS

Mike Alford

9780232525731 DLT (2006) 176pp £10.95

(For review see Christian Life category above)

CHANGING MISSION

Learning from the Newer Churches

Stuart Murray

9780851693057 Church House (2006) 153pp £8.99

(For review see Mission category above)

UNDERSTANDING ISLAM

The First Ten Steps

Christopher Hewer

9780334040323 SCM (2006) 244pp £14.99

Written by one of the UK's leading experts in Christian-Muslim relations, this book is a clear and concise introduction to the world of Islam. It is also very easy and fun to read. In a time when the demonisation and misunderstanding of Muslims is far too common, we must make a greater effort to understand our Muslim neighbours. This book is an essential first step (first ten steps!).

JOURNEYS OF THE MUSLIM NATION AND THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Exploring the Mission of Two Communities*David W Shenk*

9780836192520 Herald Press (2003) 232pp £9.50

This book, written by a leading Mennonite missiologist, examines Islam and Christianity at their deepest spiritual, cultural and communal levels and explores their similarities and differences.

MEETING OUR MULTIFAITH NEIGHBORS*Brice Balmer*

9780836193398 Herald Press (2006) 196pp £9.75

This book is yet another step in our effort to build bridges with neighbours from different faith traditions. It is very accessible and provides an excellent case study of a community seeking to reach out to neighbours from different faiths.

JESUS AND CREATIVITY*Gordon D Kaufman*

9780800637989 Fortress (2006) 144pp £11.99

Having thoroughly enjoyed Kaufman's recent book *In the Beginning - Creativity*, I am very much looking forward to what must be the sequel. You can read the description elsewhere in the catalogue.

BLESSED ARE THE PACIFISTS**The Beatitudes and Just War Theory***Thomas Trzyna*

9780836193466 Herald Press (2006) 138pp £7.75

A fresh look at pacifism that looks at just war and current events but focuses on long-term goals? Sounds good to me. I am looking forward to this book's arrival at Metanoia.

WHAT ABOUT HITLER?**Wrestling with Jesus's Call to Nonviolence in an Evil World***Robert W Brimlow*

9781587430657 Brazos Press (2006) 192pp £12.99

I've been waiting for someone to write a book with this title and look forward to reading it. Brimlow explores various responses to this frequently-asked question and looks at the words and life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who took part in a conspiracy to assassinate Hitler.

ATONEMENT AND VIOLENCE**A Theological Conversation***John Sanders (Ed.)*

9780687342945 Abingdon (2006) 224pp £12.99

The latest contribution to the discussion on atonement theories and their relationship to violence. This book draws on diverse Mennonite responses, among others. Not yet in the shop, so I haven't seen it.

COSMOLOGY, EVOLUTION, AND RESURRECTION HOPE**Theology and Science in Creative Mutual Interaction***Robert Russell*

9781894710671 Pandora Press (2006) 122pp £15.00

A timely collection of lectures from a Goshen Conference on Religion and Science. I look forward to its arrival.

RELIGION AND FILM**An Introduction***Melanie J Wright*

9780836193275 IB Tauris (2006) 244pp £14.95

(For review see Christian Life category above)

VIOLENCE AND THEOLOGY*Cheryl A Kirk-Duggan*

9780687334339 Abingdon (2006) 80pp £6.99

This very short book on the pervasiveness of violence in our culture and how to overcome it looks very intriguing.

CHRISTIAN FAITH AND THE TRUTH BEHIND 9/11**A Call to Reflection and Action***Dave Griffin*

9780664231170 WJK (2006) 208pp £9.99

Another book I am waiting to read, this one examines the inconsistencies about what really happened on 9/11, offers a Christian perspective based on the teachings of Jesus, and looks at how churches can respond.

RITUAL AND SYMBOL IN PEACEBUILDING*Lisa Schirch*

9781565491946 Kumarian (2006) 224pp £18.50

(For review see Conflict Mediation/VORP category above)

Bestselling Titles from Previous Director's Cuts:**DISSIDENT DISCIPLESHIP****A Spirituality of Self-Surrender, Love of God, and Love of Neighbor***David W Augsburg*

9781587431807 Brazos Press (2006) 256pp £12.99

This is surely one of the best and most important books that David Augsburg (one of the most well-known Mennonite authors) has written. Using a wealth of wonderful stories and anecdotes, this accessible and inspiring book presents an Anabaptist spirituality that moves beyond a relationship limited to us and God to one that includes our neighbour. Full of wisdom and wit and even some poetry, this is a must-read.

A CULTURE OF PEACE**God's Vision for the Church***Alan Kreider, Eleanor Kreider and Paulus Widjaja*

9781561485048 Good Books (2005) 203pp £6.25

Building on their excellent work in our all-time bestseller, *Becoming a Peace Church*, Alan and Eleanor, together with Paulus Widjaja from Indonesia, have written a critical introduction to the church's calling to be a "culture of peace". It covers all the important aspects of the discussion, from the Biblical foundation, to peace inside the church, to peace in the workplace and peace in the world around us (with a critical chapter on peace and evangelism), in a simple, very easy-to-read style. This book is an absolute must-read for every Anabaptist in the world (and everyone who is serious about following Jesus).

FAITH AND POLITICS AFTER CHRISTENDOM**The Church as a Movement for Anarchy***Jonathan Bartley*

9781842273487 Paternoster Press (2006) 176pp £9.99

What is the church's role in twenty-first century politics? In our post-Christendom society, Jonathan Bartley challenges the church to be prophetic, challenging injustice and undermining some of the central norms on which society is built. Don't miss this newest addition to the *After Christendom* series.

TRANSFORMING THE POWERS**Peace, Justice, and the Domination System***Ray C Gingerich and Theodore G Grimsrud (Eds)*

9780800638177 Fortress (2006) 224pp £11.99

I am not usually a fan of essay collections, but this one is exceptional! Along with two wonderful new essays by Walter Wink, these easy-to-read essays from leading Anabaptist scholars builds on Wink's acclaimed *Powers* trilogy, applying his analysis on the redemption of the powers to economics, politics and government, war and peace, personal ethics, and ecological and social justice. A must-read for Christians who want to help transform the Domination System.

PREPARING SUNDAY DINNER**A Collaborative Approach to Worship and Preaching***June Alliman Yoder, Marlene Kropf, Rebecca Slough*

9780836193213 Herald Press (2006) 498pp £11.95

This book is long overdue. Using the metaphor of a meal, it provides a brilliant theological framework for worship services and then takes us through every part of those services. A great guide and resource for everyone involved in Sunday worship.

CONSUMING PASSION**Why the Killing of Jesus Really Matters***Simon Barrow and Jonathan Bartley (Eds)*

9780232526073 DLT (2005) 144pp £10.95

This is an excellent collection of controversial essays on what the killing of Jesus means for us today. With contributions from, among others, Steve Chalke, Stuart Murray, Michael Northcott, Ched Myers, J. Denny Weaver, the editors, and even from me, this is a book you won't want to miss.

AT PEACE AND UNAFRAID**Public Order, Security, and the Wisdom of the Cross***Duane K Friesen and Gerald W Schlabach (Eds)*

9780836193084 Herald Press (2006) 456pp £12.50

How do we live out Jesus' way of nonviolence and participate in societies that don't share our convictions? This collection of essays examines contemporary Mennonite perspectives on security and public order.

GETTING IN THE WAY**Stories From Christian Peacemaker Teams***Tricia Gates Brown (Ed.)*

9780836192483 Herald Press (2005) 160pp £11.75

As William O'Brien writes on the back cover, "the work of Christian Peacemaker Teams is at the cutting edge of contemporary Christian witness". When I think about Christian responses to war and terrorism, I think first of CPT. This collection of accounts of CPT work in six areas of conflict around the globe is not only enlightening but also inspiring and challenging, as it calls us to follow Jesus' way of peace.

SIMPLY IN SEASON

Recipes that celebrate the rhythm of the land in the spirit of More-with-Less

Cathleen Hockman-Wert and Mary Beth Lind
9780836192971 Herald Press (2005) 336pp £13.75
The third in the bestselling MCC cookbook trilogy, this book features eating and using local, seasonal foods in wholesome delicious dishes. My wife tells me it's a great cookbook and a must-have.

LOVING WITHOUT GIVING IN

Christian Responses to Terrorism and Tyranny

Ron Mock
9781931038249 Cascadia (2004) 272pp £14.95
The most practical book yet written on Christian responses to terrorism, it provides no less than a hundred responses to terrorism that Christian individuals and groups can work with. Mock summarizes the dynamics that drive terrorism like this: The terrorist, nursing a corrosive grievance against a dehumanized enemy and despairing of political effectiveness, puts faith in the effectiveness of violence to remedy or avenge the grievance. He then goes on to show how Christians can respond to each of these dynamics. An excellent resource for Christians looking for responses to terrorism at a variety of levels.

POST-CHRISTENDOM

Stuart Murray
9781842272619 Paternoster Press (2004) 272pp £9.99
This brilliant book is must-reading for all Christians in the UK who want to explore what it means to be a church on the margins as Christendom comes to an end. In a style that is easy-to-read yet full of profound insights, Stuart analyses the Christendom era and shows how we can no longer operate with its values and assumptions. We need to find fresh ways to read the Bible, engage in mission and be church. If you haven't read this book yet, find a copy soon.

THE CHURCH AFTER CHRISTENDOM

Stuart Murray
9781842272923 Paternoster Press (2005) 235pp £9.99
A sequel to *Post-Christendom*, this book asks all the right questions as Murray examines the changes happening in the church today and explores the church's future in the UK. Comprehensive yet accessible, and full of Murray's customary wisdom, this book is essential reading for all who believe the church can once again play a meaningful and vital role in people's lives.

JESUS AGAINST CHRISTIANITY

Reclaiming the Missing Jesus

Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer
9781563383625 Trinity Press (2001) 368pp £15.99
If you're ready for a book that will challenge not only how you see Jesus, but how you look at the Bible, then try this absorbing book that explores the implications of seeing both Jesus and the God he revealed to us as nonviolent. A shocking yet thoroughly enjoyable book, written by a passionate Christian who sees peace and justice at the heart of the gospel of Jesus.

SAVING CHRISTIANITY FROM EMPIRE

Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer
9780826416278 Continuum (2005) 184pp hb £16.99
I read it in the spring and it did not disappoint. With Nelson-Pallmeyer's customary passion, he examines and critiques the U.S. move toward global domination and the way it is supported by American Christians, thus distorting Christianity. After describing what is happening in his country, Nelson-Pallmeyer explores the theme of empire in the Bible before turning to the radical nonviolence of Jesus and how we can put nonviolence into practice.

IS RELIGION KILLING US?

Violence in the Bible and Qu'ran

Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer
9781563384080 Continuum (2005) 192pp £9.99
This book looks at how a more literal reading of the scriptures of Christianity, Judaism and Islam has been responsible for much of the violence in our world today. Nelson-Pallmeyer suggests that it is time to revisit our interpretation of these scriptures and understand how they all point to a nonviolent God who shows us the way to peace not war. A concise, easy-to-read and very topical book.

THE NONVIOLENT ATONEMENT

J Denny Weaver
9780802849083 Eerdmans (2001) 256pp £12.99
The recent controversy in the Evangelical Alliance about the penal substitution theory of atonement has made this book by Weaver a very topical one. It makes a strong case for why the atonement must be nonviolent and offers a thorough defence of Weaver's own view of the atonement, called the Narrative Christus Victor Theory. A must read for those who think it is time to question the adequacy of orthodox thinking on atonement.

GOD'S POLITICS

Why the American Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It

Jim Wallis
9780745952246 Lion (2006) 416pp £9.99
This excellent and bestselling book asks the questions: "Since when did believing in God and having moral values make you pro-war, pro-rich, and pro-Republican? And since when did promoting and pursuing a progressive social agenda with a concern for economic security, health care, and educational opportunity mean you had to put faith in God aside?" While the book is clearly situated in the U.S., its message is applicable wherever there is a right and left in politics and to all who are interested in how religion and politics interact.

SEPARATION AND THE SWORD

Radical Confessional Rhetoric from Schleithem to Dordrecht

Gerald Biesecker-Mast
9781931038348 Cascadia (2006) 312pp £15.75
This book is a must-read for all who are interested in how the early Anabaptists viewed their relation to the social order ruled by the sword. It is well-written, thorough, fascinating and not afraid to be controversial. While I might not recommend this book to the casual reader interested in an introduction to Anabaptist thought, lay people should not be deterred by a rather difficult Introduction. Read my full-length review on our website.

JOHN HOWARD YODER

Mennonite Patience, Evangelical Witness, Catholic Convictions

Mark Thiessen Nation
9780802839404 Eerdmans (2006) 224pp £11.99
This book, written by a previous director of the LMC, is "an insider's introduction to Yoder, demonstrating how a committed Mennonite could also be profoundly evangelical in his witness and broadly catholic in his Christian sensibilities.

MAKING PEACE WITH CONFLICT

Practical Skills for Conflict Transformation

Carolyn Shrock-Shenk and Lawrence Ressler (Eds)
9780836191271 Herald Press (1999) 200pp £9.95
A practical guide to understanding and transforming conflict based on biblical and Anabaptist principles. Over 20 noted authors shaped by many experiences and cultures tell of lessons taught by walking conflict's holy ground. Some insights will be familiar, some new – and some able to trigger new conflict! Alastair McKay contributed a chapter to this book.

THE JOURNEY TOWARD RECONCILIATION

John Paul Lederach
9780836190823 Herald Press (1999) 176pp £9.50
Respected world-wide for his work in conflict transformation, especially in international conflict, this work by the leading Mennonite voice in the field is the place to start a study on reconciliation.

NEVER CALL THEM JERKS

Healthy Responses to Difficult Behaviour

Arthur Paul Boers
9781566992183 Alban Institute (1999) 147pp £9.75
An excellent and very readable book from a Mennonite pastor that invites church leaders to a mature approach in dealing with people labelled "difficult" or worse!

EXTRAORDINARY RELATIONSHIPS

A New Way of Thinking About Human Interactions

Roberta M Gilbert
9780471346906 John Wiley (1992) 325pp £9.99
Best single introduction to family systems theory. Roberta Gilbert puts systems thinking to practical use in relationships at work, and home and demonstrates relationship principles of seeing individuals as separate, equal and open. The book encourages readers to look at the patterns of interaction in our closest relationships, particularly in our original families, in order to unlock ways to create improved relationships.

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