

Christian Formation

Resources from MennoMedia and Herald Press

Times have changed. Sunday School may not look like it did last fall. We may be unsure what group gatherings will look like in a few months, but we are sure we want to foster growth in relationship with God and others. Here are some tips to guide your congregation through this time of uncertainty.

- **Think small:** Rather than restarting the same Sunday school classes as last year, think small. Foster deeper connections by offering a larger number of small classes. Smaller groups foster more dialogue, particularly on screens. Consider offering your Bible Study at multiple times, each limited to 45 minutes online. Participants will feel more comfortable sharing reflections if the group is small.
- **Activate a small group ministry:** Many people found small groups meeting digitally a lifeline last spring as social distancing orders went into effect. If your church doesn't yet have small group studies, start them. The books in the Jesus Way series from Herald Press unpack topics related to faith in concise, helpful ways and would be ideal for small group study.
- **Pray together:** In the months of social isolation, loneliness has taken hold among many. The *Rejoice!* daily devotional is often used individually, but this would be a good time to hold virtual prayer meetings so people can pray together.
- **Book club conversations:** Many Herald Press books have study questions at the end of each chapter. Many others have downloadable study guides available at HeraldPress.com/study-guides. Invite a group from your church to join in reading and talking about a specific book. *This Is God's Table*, *Signs of Life*, and *By the Way* are ideal books with relevant topics for these times. If you're interested in connecting with a Herald Press author to join your book club, contact us at hp@MennoMedia.org.
- **Start a kids' book club:** Help children learn Jesus' way of peace by starting a kids' book club. *Making Waves* is a perfect book for elementary age readers. They will read about fifty inspiring people past and present who stood up for what's right to make the world a better place. Invite kids from your



church to meet together one night a week this fall (digitally or in-person) to talk about the people profiled in the book and how they are standing up for what's right. Make a digital reading chart to allow kids' to track their progress and think of creative responses to do each week, such as journaling, writing a poem, doing a craft, drawing a scene or acting it out. If meeting digitally, keep it short and perhaps give instructions for the creative responses and then check-in the following week on what they created. For other book ideas, check out the Shalom Readers ideas from Central Plains Mennonite Conference.

- **Shine curriculum:** If your Sunday school is meeting digitally this fall, encourage families to follow the Shine curriculum at home. COMING SOON—a digital Parent Guide that contains a simple weekly plan for families to share the Bible story, pray, sing, and do an easy activity together. This guide can be used with Shine's leaflets and student magazines as well as the new Bible storybook, *All of Us: God's Story for You & Me*.

INSIDE: Sunday School that lights the way. Preview the new Shine coming Fall 2020.

SHINE
LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

LOVE
→ JESUS ←

grow
in faith

CHANGE
THE WORLD

Find more resources at www.MennoMedia.org.
Canadian customers can order books from CommonWord.ca

Sunday school & church resources order form included!
Orders due December 30, 2019

 **MennoMedia**
An agency of Mennonite Church USA
and Mennonite Church Canada

 **HERALD**
P R E S S

SHINE

LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

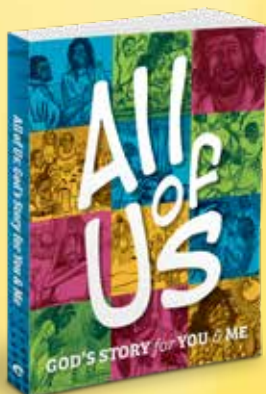
Fall 2020

Becoming a People of God

Welcome to the Fall 2020 quarter of *Shine: Living in God's Light!* We begin with stories from Genesis, focusing on the family of Abraham and Sarah. This family has many challenges, as all families do! They struggled to get along and love each other well. They weren't sure if God was going to come through for them. They also learned to make peace and to trust God's promises. The book of Exodus follows the story of the Israelites as they suffered in slavery and then were led to freedom. After many years, they finally came to the Promised Land.

These ancient stories have much to teach about who God is and what it means to be the people of God. We can learn more about living in community with others. Through times of struggle and times of joy, we can draw strength from our relationship with God and each other.

SEE ORDER FORM FOR ALL AGE LEVELS AND FULL PRODUCT LISTING.



All of Us

God's Story for You & Me

Put the Bible in the hands of your children with easy to read text and striking illustrations. *All of Us* is the source of the weekly Bible story for primary, older elementary, and multi-age children. This one-year volume contains all the Bible stories for that year. Order one for each child and teacher.

Everybody Sing!

Music communicates faith. Available in CD and downloadable MP3 formats, Shine music comes with song lyrics and guitar chords. Shine's new music collection is sold as a double album with songs for every purpose and season of the church year. The collection, entitled *Everybody Sing*, includes these two albums:

- **Worship Songs for Children:** Songs for gathering, worship, prayer, and blessing for children of all ages
- **Songs for the Season:** Songs for Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter



Protect your time. Prioritize relationships. **Restore your spirit.**



Reconnect

Spiritual Restoration from Digital Distraction

Ed Cizewski. **\$16.99 USD**

Social media and technology have shortened our attention spans, disrupted our connections with others, and even muddled our spirituality. *Reconnect* helps Christians rewire their technology addictions and train themselves to be present and aware of God rather than tuned into the constant distractions.

Reclaiming Christianity for the hurting



Jesus of the East

Reclaiming the Gospel for the Wounded

Phuc Luu. **\$16.99 USD**

Luu offers a counter-narrative to Western Christianity, which for centuries has legitimized colonization and violence to prop up the powerful at the expense of the masses. Pulling from the tradition of the early Eastern church, the present work of theologians of the oppressed, and Luu's own experiences, *Jesus of the East* offers a transformative vision of healing for the world.

Ideal for congregational study!

The Jesus Way

Small Books of Radical Faith

Delve into big questions about God's work in the world. These concise, practical books are deeply rooted in Anabaptist theology. Crafted by a diverse community of internationally renowned scholars, pastors, and practitioners, The Jesus Way series helps readers deepen their faith in Christ and enliven their witness. **\$12.99 USD each.**



What Is the Bible and How Do We Understand It?
Dennis R. Edwards

Why Did Jesus Die and What Difference Does It Make?
Michele Hershberger

What Is the Trinity and Why Does It Matter?
Steve Dancause

Why Do We Suffer and Where Is God When We Do?
Valerie G. Rempel

Books with **print study guides**



Reunion
The Good News of Jesus for Seekers, Saints, and Sinners
Bruxy Cavey
\$16.99

Study Guide:
Reunion
A Study Guide for Seekers, Saints, and Sinners
\$9.99

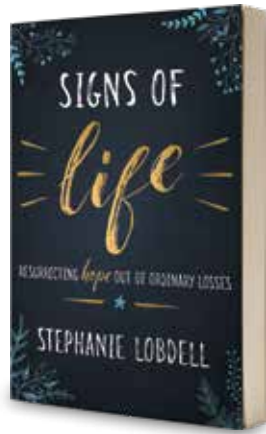
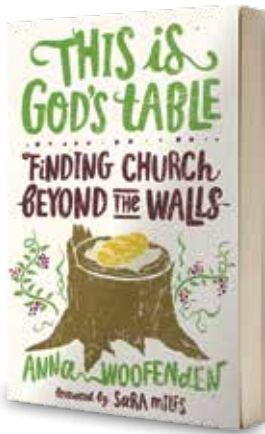


Smart Compassion
How to Stop “Doing Outreach” and Start Making Change
Wesley Furlong
\$15.99

Study Guide
Smart Compassion
A Handbook for Making a Difference When You Don’t Know Where to Start
\$9.99



Books with **FREE downloadable study guides**



This Is God’s Table
Finding Church Beyond the Walls
Anna Woofenden
\$16.99

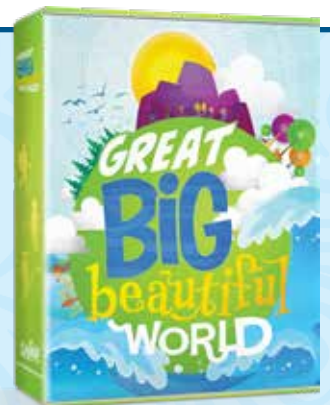
Signs of Life
Resurrecting Hope out of Ordinary Losses
Stephanie Lobdell
\$16.99

By the Way
Getting Serious about Following Jesus
Derek Vreeland
\$16.99

Plant seeds of faith and **watch them grow!**

Vacation Bible school 2020: **Great Big Beautiful World**

Welcome to *Great Big Beautiful World*, an interactive VBS where children explore, celebrate, and care for God’s good creation! Through worship and drama, Bible study, nature-themed art projects and snacks, active games, and science explorations, children will discover God’s love for all of creation. They will be challenged to care for God’s world in tangible ways—both during VBS and at home. The *Great Big Beautiful World* VBS starter kit from Shine Curriculum comes with everything you need to implement an engaging, Bible-based, creation-focused VBS program no matter your setting. **Boxed Set: \$174.99 USD**



These challenging times call for thinking outside the box—the kit box, that is! Shine is developing strategies, adaptations, and digital products to help churches and families explore God’s *Great Big Beautiful World* in new ways amid social distancing.

COMING SOON—a “VBS at Home” leader guide to help churches create a fun and meaningful VBS experience for families. The digital guide includes a Bible storytelling option, wondering questions and discussion prompts, two nature-themed activities that get kids outside and off their screens, a prayer practice, and snack and media suggestions for each day.

Visit the Shine website at ShineCurriculum.com and follow Shine on social media sites often to keep tabs on all the creative new ideas and products for making *Great Big Beautiful World* your most memorable VBS yet!



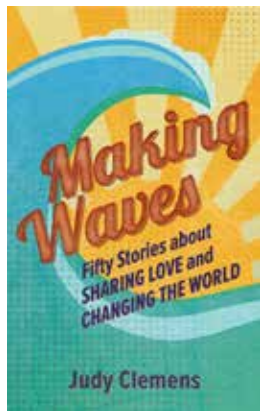
A New Worship and Song Collection

VOICES TOGETHER

Voices Together is coming soon. Have you ordered everything you need? Besides the pew edition, other resources include a large-print edition, accompaniment edition, worship leader edition, and projection edition.



Inspiring Stories for Kids



Making Waves

Fifty Stories about Sharing Love and Changing the World

Judy Clemens

\$14.99 USD

Read about fifty inspiring people who have chosen to love their enemies and done good to those who harmed them. Filled with true stories from past and present, this captivating book is a showcase of heroes who have stood up for what's right to make the world a better place.

For Youth

Generation Why

Digital download: **\$20.99 USD**

(includes rights to make copies for leaders in your congregation)

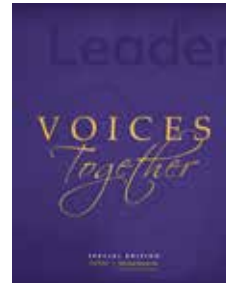
Print: **\$18.99 USD**

Help youth apply the Bible to real life and discuss their faith using *Generation Why*. This all-in-one, topical Bible study curriculum guides youth and their leaders on a journey for meaning and identity, encouraging youth to encounter and explore Scripture to make it their own. In a time of violence, injustice, materialism, and hard questions, *Generation Why* offers a different point of view.

Each unit has either five or six sessions, plus an extender session, and includes reproducible handouts. Refer to the order form for available titles.



Periodicals

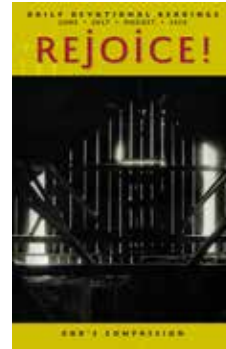


LEADER

Practical. Effective. Anabaptist.

Annual individual subscription: \$41.20 USD ind./\$35.00 USD bulk*

Practical, hands-on ideas for effective ministry, with a focused Anabaptist lens. The articles and worship resources in each issue are easy to understand and put to good use. Published quarterly.



REJOICE!

Daily Devotional Readings

Annual individual subscription: \$35.80 USD ind./\$30.40 USD bulk*

Refresh your soul as you spend time with God each day being encouraged and inspired to grow in faith. Each daily devotional includes Scripture, an inspirational message, and a prayer. Published quarterly.



Introducing Salt & Light!

SALT & LIGHT

Salt & Light is the new quarterly Bible study for Sunday school. This successor to *Adult Bible Study* includes weekly sessions with thought-provoking commentary and discussion prompts. Daily Bible readings, free online essays, reproducible teaching aids, and suggested resources for additional study help participants make connections throughout the week.

The new design is simple, attractive, and easy to read, and each weekly session includes the accompanying NRSV Scripture text. *Sal y Luz* is the Spanish-language version.

Fall 2020—Joining God: Relationship and Worship

The phrase "in God's image" refers both to humankind and to the incarnation—the coming of Jesus to our world in human form. Being formed in God's image means there is hope for us and the kingdom of God, and that holy, joyful living is possible.

Participant Guide: \$29.85 USD/\$26.75 USD bulk*

Large print: \$39.40 USD/\$35.25 USD bulk*

Participant guide writer: Carol Duerksen

Salt & Light Leader

\$45.30 USD/\$41.20 USD bulk*

Includes all material found in the participant guide plus teaching plans for insight, discussion, and learning activities.

Leader guide writer: David Morrow

Salt & Light is also available in Spanish!

Sal y Luz: \$18.00 USD, download only

Free! Salt & Light Online & Reproducibles

A weekly article, written just before the date of each session, connects the Scripture to current events in the church and world. Reproducible teaching aids are also available. Available FREE at MennoMedia.org/SL.

*Bulk pricing: Five or more to one address. Pricing subject to change.

Find more resources at www.MennoMedia.org.

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Fall orders due June 30, 2020



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Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Code _____

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Have you signed up with a standing order? Inquire today!

Shine, Fall 2020: Becoming a People of God

Early Childhood—ages 3–5

- _____ **80680** Student leaflets \$10.99
- _____ **80681** Teacher's guide \$15.99
- _____ **80682** Resource pack \$29.99

Primary—grades K–2

- _____ **80683** Student leaflets \$10.99
- _____ **80684** Teacher's guide \$15.99
- _____ **80685** Resource pack \$29.99
- _____ **80694** All of Us: God's Story for You & Me \$10.99

Older Elementary—grades 3–5

- _____ **80686** *Spotlight* magazine \$10.99
- _____ **80687** Teacher's guide \$15.99
- _____ **80688** Resource pack \$29.99
- _____ **80694** All of Us: God's Story for You & Me \$10.99

Multiage—grades K–5

- _____ **80689** Teacher's guide \$15.99
- _____ **80690** Resource pack \$29.99
- _____ **80694** All of Us: God's Story for You & Me \$10.99

Junior Youth—grades 6–8

- _____ **80691** *Quest* devotional \$10.99
- _____ **80692** Teacher's guide \$15.99
- _____ **80693** Resource pack \$26.99

Essential Resources

- _____ **80695** Everybody Sing (double album download) \$21.99
- _____ **80696** Everybody Sing (double album CD) \$21.99
- _____ **80694** All of Us: God's Story for You & Me \$10.99

Adults & Leaders

- _____ **80635** Reconnect \$16.99
- _____ **80671** Jesus of the East \$16.99
- _____ **80130** Reunion \$16.99
- _____ **80252** Reunion Study Guide \$9.99
- _____ **80039** Smart Compassion \$15.99
- _____ **80180** Smart Compassion Study Guide \$9.99
- _____ **80483** This Is God's Table \$16.99
- _____ **80561** Signs of Life \$16.99
- _____ **80586** By the Way \$16.99
- _____ **80564** What Is the Bible and How Do We Understand It? \$12.99
- _____ **80565** Why Did Jesus Die and What Difference Does It Make? \$12.99
- _____ **80566** What Is God's Mission in the World and How Do We Join It? ... \$12.99
- _____ **80567** Why Do We Suffer and Where Is God When We Do? \$12.99

*Study Shelf Books discounted 25% when buying 5 or more copies, paying with credit card.

Children & Youth

- _____ **80609** Making Waves \$14.99

WEE WONDER: SHARING GOD'S LOVE WITH TWOS

Visit Congregational Resources at MennoMedia.org to learn about *Wee Wonder*.

- _____ **9550** Boxed Set \$139.99
- _____ **9501** Leader's Guide \$29.99
- Includes a Leader's Guide, Music CD, two Bible Story Picture Sheets, and the 12 Bible Activity Card packets.
- _____ **9543** Music CD \$12.99
- _____ **9544** Story Picture Sheet \$0.99

Bible Activity Cards (Each packet includes enough for five students). \$10.99 each

- _____ 1: We come to church
- _____ 2: God made the world
- _____ 3: We thank God
- _____ 4: Jesus is born
- _____ 5: Jesus and his friends
- _____ 6: Loving God
- _____ 7: God is with us
- _____ 8: Holy Week and Easter
- _____ 9: Jesus told stories
- _____ 10: We help others
- _____ 11: God's people share
- _____ 12: Word pictures for God

GENERATION WHY (Print: \$18.99 each)

- _____ **2616** Clueless and Called
- _____ **2691** Do Miracles Happen?
- _____ **2624** Do the Right Thing
- _____ **2799** Fight Right
- _____ **2659** God Is a Warrior?
- _____ **2667** How Do You Know?
- _____ **2586** How to Be a True Friend
- _____ **2640** How to Read the Bible
- _____ **2632** Keeping the Garden
- _____ **2721** Mantras, Menorahs, and Minarets
- _____ **2594** The Radical Reign
- _____ **2829** Salt, Light, and the Good Life
- _____ **2683** A Speck in the Universe
- _____ **2713** Testing the Waters
- _____ **0273** Who Is God?

Digital downloads available at MennoMedia.org/GenerationWhy: \$20.99

Salt & Light: Bible Study for Anabaptist Christians

Fall 2020—Joining God: Relationship and Worship	Single	Bulk†
_____ AB8501 Salt & Light, participant guide	\$7.70	\$6.95
_____ AL8501 Salt & Light, large print	\$10.15	\$9.25
_____ AT7101 Salt & Light, leader guide	\$11.55	\$10.40
_____ SD8501 <i>Sal y Luz</i> (download only)	\$18.00	

Periodicals

	Single	Bulk†
_____ RJ5601 Rejoice!	\$9.05	\$7.80
_____ LD1801 Leader ††	\$10.55	\$9.15
Fall 2020: Voice Together		

†Bulk rate: Five or more copies to one address.

‡All current purchasers receive access to electronic files of *Leader* worship resources.

All prices in USD. Pricing subject to change without notice. For current Canadian dollar prices, please email CustomerService@MennoMedia.org or call 800-245-7894. QUARTERLY ORDER DEADLINES: Fall: June 30; Winter: September 30; Spring: December 30; Summer: March 30. DATED MATERIALS, including Shine, must be returned (to Newton, KS) within 30 days after the beginning of the quarter of usage. UNDATED MATERIALS in unused, original condition may be returned for credit up to 90 days following purchase.