



Indiana-Kentucky Conference Resource Center Reviews

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We hope that these materials will assist you in your ministry and your spiritual journey and practice.

- **Hours:**
Monday—Friday
8:30—4:30
- **Material from UCC Resources, United Church Press & Pilgrim Press that you may borrow**
- **Printed material, videos, DVDs, & CDs available**



DVDs



Review by Nancy Dickinson



Abstinence Comes to Albuquerque Stuart Television Productions

The DVD “Abstinence Comes to Albuquerque” is a documentary about the controversy over abstinence education coming to the Albuquerque public school system, and

the firestorm of controversy that ensued as parents and educators dealt with all sides of the issue. The federal government is spending hundreds of millions of dollars on abstinence-from-sex-until-marriage education across America. The debate in Albuquerque is typical of what is happening in other communities across the country as well. Included in the documentary is a wide spectrum of people: teens, parents, public health officials, educators, and state and national advocates on all sides of this issue. It will help viewers evaluate different kinds of sex education programs, including our UCC “Our Whole Lives” curriculum.



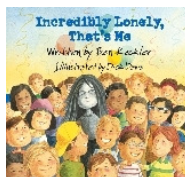
Books



Reviews by Nancy Dickinson

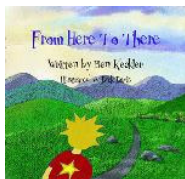
Incredibly Lonely, That's Me!

by Ben Keckler
Eagle Creek Publications



From Here to There

by Ben Keckler
Eagle Creek Publications



These two books in “The Express Yourself” series are by our own Ben Keckler, Director of Chaplaincy at Hendricks Regional Health in Danville and part-time pastor at Prince of Peace UCC in Bargersville, Indiana. Ben’s special interest is helping children and families through times of grief and loss. In Incredibly Lonely one journeys through times of loneliness with Melissa who has lost her big sister, with all of the emotional feelings and stages that a nine year old girl might feel. In From Here to There, one experiences the story of Chris Morrison’s journey toward death and how he struggles with questions and feelings about death. These both are in our IKC Resource Center. Two other books have been published in this series: My Friend, Matilda teaches that love and friendship are the best gifts a person can receive in times of sadness, and A Confuzzled Christmas is a story about

lessons learned by a pine tree upon entering the home of a grieving family. All books can be ordered through ben@eaglecreekpubs.com

Making a Home For Faith

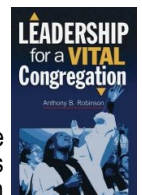
by Elizabeth Caldwell
United Church Press



Nurturing children in Christian faith is often a challenge to busy families and parents who may need help in responding to children’s questions and ideas for developing lives of discipleship. Too often much, if not all, of faith education is left to the church. In Making a Home For Faith Elizabeth Caldwell, professor of educational ministry at McCormick Theological Seminary, offers guidance and ideas to parents and caregivers for encouraging children’s faith. Chapters on developing family rituals, both daily and during seasons of the church year, talking about faith and theological questions with children, and developing parents’ own life of faith which allows them to model discipleship are included in this small book which can be used in church groups as well as by families. Church leaders might use this resource to encourage a partnership of home and church in nurturing children and their families in Christian life.

Leadership for Vital Congregations

by Anthony Robinson



The first book in the “Congregational Vitality” series of which he is editor. Robinson is an ordained minister with the United Church of Christ and a national consultant/speaker to congregations and church leaders seeking renewal and transformation. This book might as well be titled “Leadership for ALL Congregations,” as the ideas put forth could help all churches and pastors. Robinson reminds us that leadership of churches and the roles of pastors are now essentially different from previous decades, as the church is (or should be) changing in our secular culture to meet new challenges. He shares ideas from many notable leaders and teachers, and couples each style or principal of leadership with a biblical example. Included are chapters focusing on definitions and functions of leaders, styles of leadership (which can be combined), seven strategies for pastors, developing spiritual leaders, roles and responsibilities of congregations, vision and burnout, and leadership as a spiritual practice. Ideas for lay leadership and organization of congregations for a vital church are included, though the book is written mainly for pastors.