
A Publication of the  THE RESOURCE CENTER

Gleanings

Fall 2006

Coming Up at THE RESOURCE CENTER

Teachers Toolbox:

10 Great Ideas You Can Use This Sunday

Saturday, September 30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Laurel Presbyterian Church

Judy Gattis Smith, Keynote Speaker

Workshops by: Cindy Lee, Denise Bennett, Suzanne Stovall Vinson &
Judy Gattis Smith

TRC is located in Room 209
at Ginter Park Baptist Church
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Pumpkins, Peacocks & Potlatch:

A Multicultural Festival for Children of All Ages

Saturday, October 28, 3-5 p.m.

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church

8175 Pleasant Grove Road in Mechanicsville

Honoring Those Who Teach:

Third Annual Outstanding Christian Educators Banquet

Friday, November 17, 6:30 p.m.

Bon Air Baptist Church

2531 Buford Road in Bon Air

Dr. William C. Boshier, Jr., Keynote Speaker

Annual Vacation Bible School Curriculum Fair

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, February 6-8, 2007

1-8 p.m.

Location to be announced.

From the Director



The church as the body of Christ is called to a self-emptying, a pitching of tent in the working-class world . . . called out to live lives formed by the radical sharing of bread and wine in the Eucharist, the church opposes the distortions of the official world - - the principalities and powers. . . This church as tactic engaged in the craft of discipleship will be a foretaste of the reign of God, albeit in broken and imperfect ways. This church will be a social witness by its very existence as a worshiping community . . . This church can reach out to others as neighbors, angels, and Christ himself, to learn again and again what God is about in the world. This church can be peaceable and embody the truth of its crucified and risen Lord.

Tex Sample
Blue Collar Resistance
&
*the Politics of Jesus:
Doing Ministry with
Working Class Whites*

The word “journey” gets bandied about so much in religion/spirituality circles these days that one hesitates to use it. It gets used (some, I would suspect, say *over-used*) because it somehow describes our lives as we experience them in this period in time. It is certainly one way of describing the life of this resource center over the past nine months or so. Here are the highlights (maybe “lowlights” would be more descriptive): On January 30th we were to close immediately to the public because of air quality issues in our basement location., to move within thirty days and, in order to protect our collection, it needed to be cleaned off the premises.

We explored other location options, always with an eye toward maintaining our links with the seminaries and our return to the campus of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond when renovations there are complete. That is expected to happen sometime in 2007. We found no viable options. Then in mid-June the door opened, quite literally, to an upstairs location in Ginter Park Baptist Church, subject to verification that our collection was “clean”. That verification came on July 29th, but cleaning of the new space awaited us in August. By the time this newsletter reaches you, all of our collection will have been moved from the storage/cleaning area.

As we moved through winter and spring, it felt to us a lot like wandering in the wilderness. We continued serving those patrons who took the time to call us about their needs, and we delivered to their doorstep, to their church, or met them by appointment in our parking lot. In that sense, we never completely closed, but it took a bit longer to locate resources amidst the hundreds of boxes! Beyond that, however, we used the time to make two important decisions. First, in order to expand service to patrons, and in response to frequent suggestions through the years that we open branches in other locations, we established two satellites, each staffed one day a week: Mondays at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Mechanicsville, and Wednesdays at Manakin Episcopal Church in Midlothian. Both locations are being used on a steadily growing basis. On Tuesdays and Thursdays our “base” location at Ginter Park Baptist Church is now open.

Second, in consultation with marketing consultants, we decided to give up on our too-long name that most folks couldn’t remember, and that didn’t fit on standard address labels - - and to change it officially to something much shorter: *The Resource Center, Inc.* So far the new name has met with enthusiastic approval! Over the next few months we will schedule several Open House events, daytime and evening, to welcome our patrons to our new locations, under our new name. The dates will be announced as they are set; watch our website, which is also undergoing a transformation: www.resourcingchurches.com or contact us at resourcecenter@cavtel.net.

All in all, if not a journey, it’s certainly been a trip! We’ve not travelled far in terms of miles, but a great distance in terms of endurance, flexibility, appreciation for our patrons, and commitment to this ministry of resourcing. It has been suggested that the early church’s first resource was the Holy Spirit. If you asked our Board of Directors, or our staff, what kept us going through the long months, I suspect all would agree: it was the Holy Spirit who kept us on task. For me, the Spirit spoke personally through a quote that came across my desk via e-mail in mid-August: *Hope is the feeling you have that the feeling you have isn’t permanent.* And

From the Director (continued)

it wasn't. My despair during the wilderness wanderings is over, and hope lives again. Or, to put it another way - - *we're back! Our shelves are full of new resources and the coffee's on - - so, y'all come!*

Faithfully,

Judith FaGalde Bennett
Executive Director, TRC

LOOKING AHEAD

Teachers Toolbox: Ten Great Ideas You Can Use This Sunday

Saturday, September 30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Laurel Presbyterian Church
Judy Gattis Smith, author of numerous books on Christian education, nationally known consultant and teacher, will present the keynote address, drawing on her most recent book, *Teaching Children the Mystery of God*.

Featured workshops include:

- ◇ "Bible Stories Alive! For Kids", led by Denise Bennett, biblical storyteller, musician, and Chaplain at The Hermitage
- ◇ "Sing It, Move It, and Give God the Praise", led by Cindy Lee, musician, Minister of Discipleship at Shady Grove United Methodist Church
- ◇ "Hands-On Creativity", led by Suzanne Stovall Vinson, artist and Minister of Education at Ginter Park Baptist Church
- ◇ "Introduction to *The Way of the Child: Helping Children Experience God*", the exciting new Upper Room addition to the *Companions in Christ* series, which takes seriously and joyfully children's capacities, deep needs, and spirits; led by Judy Gattis Smith.

Registration \$20 (TRC members \$15); maximum church rate \$40; registration deadline September 25. Register by contacting is at 804-358-8306, toll-freeP 888-241-5132; by e-mail: resourcecenter@cavtel.net.

2006 Christian Educators Recognition Banquet

Friday, November 17, 6:30 p.m. - Bon Air Baptist Church

Fads, movements, trends - - they all come and go. What remains is the core of the church's ministry that guarantees its future: Christian education, the formation of another generation of disciples. The Fall of 2006 once again offers the opportunity to recognize those in our churches who faithfully carry out the ministry of teaching. Is there someone in your church who provides invaluable presence and service in your educational program? This year's banquet provides another opportunity to honor that person and his or her work.

Consider nominating an educator from your church and joining us for this gala evening on Friday, November 17th, 6:30 p.m. at Bon Air Baptist Church (2531 Buford Road). You are invited to nominate, according to your own criteria, a person to be honored for his or her contributions to your educational ministry. Then bring a group from your church to join us in this celebration. Each honoree will be listed in the printed program and individually presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

We are pleased that Dr. William C. Boshier, Jr., will be our speaker. Noted nationally and internationally, as well as across the Commonwealth, for his educational leadership, Dr. Boshier is a member of Fairmount Christian Church where he is a veteran Sunday School teacher.

There is no charge to submit your nomination, but there will be a charge of \$25 per person to attend the banquet. There is no charge for your honoree. Proceeds will

When your youth have identified their gifts, lead them beyond that point. How they use those gifts is even more important than the gifts themselves. Their learning to use their skills for the good of others can make a difference in their self-esteem and their ability to help others who are in need. Youth who are more confident in their gifts can become the friend whom someone desperately needs, the able-bodied laborer, the reader, the listener, the organizer, the teacher, or the server . . . Those experiences will show them that serving others is something they can do any time, any day, and anywhere as a way of living their faith.

Marcy Balcomb
*Single Digit Youth
Groups, vol. 2*

Jesus tended his body by resting when he needed to rest and by sleeping when he needed to sleep. .When we focus only on Jesus/ teaching, preaching, and healing, we may overlook this fact . . . In much of our society, rest and sleep are not highly valued. . . .

When parents work full time and their children have numerous after-school activities to attend and all the household chores need to be done, who can hope to get eight or seven or even six hours of sleep every night? Students need to study. Caregivers are needed twenty-four hours a day. How can we rest when others might think we are just plain lazy or weak or unwilling to do our share of the work? Look at Jesus; consider his work. Jesus had important things to do, too. . . . Yet, Jesus knew that physical strength was required to do what he was called to do. So, when he was tired, he rested.

Mary Jane Gorman
Tending Body, Heart, Mind & Soul: Following Jesus in Caring for Ourselves

support the ministry of The Resource Center and establish an endowment fund that will ensure future support for our work with churches in central Virginia and beyond.

Christian education has been central to our mission at The Resource Center since our beginning twenty-one years ago. We invite all interested congregations to join us on the occasion of this Third Annual Christian Educators Recognition Banquet. Contact us for a nomination form at 804-358-8306, toll-free at 888-241-5132, or by e-mail at resourcecenter@cavtel.net.

Consider This: *Occasional Reviews*

A great many resources come across my radar screen; some of them appear exciting and promising at first glance - - and sometimes they are. Others, I must admit, just don't grab my attention. One such genre is "Christian" fiction for adolescent girls. Not that I didn't hold writers who go there in utmost respect, because teens, male or female, are a tough crowd. However, I'd agreed to review one such book - - Dandi Daley Mackall's *grace notes*, the first in Zondervan's "faiThGirLz!" series. My deadline was at hand so at 7:30 this morning I propped myself up in bed with a cup of coffee and began reading and making notes. Two hours later I closed the book, looked at the clock and understood why I was hungry.

Mackall and Zondervan are onto something here. I liked Gracie Doe aka Jane Doe from the beginning of the book - - Gracie who lives her life through her blog, "That's What You Think". An apt observer of human nature and a talented writer, Gracie uses her blog to comment on her school, its teachers and her classmates, and members of her blended family. But she also uses it to hide from the world, to keep everyone at a safe and emotionally-manageable distance. Her blog catches on and her audience grows, but it also causes pain for some of her readers and she comes close to losing her blog site, her anonymity, and some potential friends. Along the way she learns some important things, like how our differing gifts matter and should be valued, that she doesn't need to go it alone, and that we can use our gifts in ways that build community - - or not. And while the author finds a way to talk about Paul's notion that all the parts of the body are important, she isn't heavy-handed about it.

As a pastor and teacher I have always found teens interesting human beings; as a grandmother of seven teens the cup of my life overflows. But I worry about them in this high tech world in which they race toward adulthood. Their fascination and nonchalant proficiency with cyberspace amaze and terrify me. Adults need to be paying attention to issues of internet safety as their kids venture out into the online world. Zondervan's faiThGirLz! Series is worth looking at for that reason alone. Subsequent titles in the series, which follow Gracie and her friends, are: *love*, *annie*, *just jazz*, and *storm rising*. Parents could find this series a useful way to initiate conversation. Professional educators, youth ministers, anyone working with teens in the church, might consider this series for a teen or "tween" book club or discussion group.

- Judy Bennett

TRC Opens Satellite Locations

In response to feedback from our patrons, we have brought the resources closer to you! Check out our new satellite locations: Mondays, 1-5 p.m., at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 8175 Pleasant Grove Road in Mechanicsville; and Wednesdays, 1-5 p.m., at Manakin Episcopal Church, 985 Huguenot Trail in Mechanicsville. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-5 p.m., we will be open in our central location at Ginter Park Baptist Church, 1202 Wilmington Avenue. If you can call ahead to tell us what you need, we will make every effort to have those resources waiting for you.

NEW RESOURCES

Arts

- God Has Smiled on Me* - Isaiah Jones, Jr.
(Westminster John Knox)
Creation - Alister McGrath (Fortress Press)

Bible

- Twilight of the Gods* - David Penchansky
(Westminster John Knox)
Act Boldly - Sue Gamelin (ELCA)
Job - David C. Hester (Westminster John Knox)
VIDEO: "The Jesus Vision Video" - Campus Crusade
for Christ (Jesus Video Project)
DVD: "Jesus" - John Heyman, director (Jesus Video
Project)
A Marginal Jew - John P. Meier (Doubleday)
The Moral Teaching of Jesus - Mary Foskett
(Abingdon Press)
The Letter to the Hebrews - Daniel J. Harrington
(Liturgical Press)
The Book of Revelation - Catherine a. Cary (Liturgical
Press)
The New Testament Background - C.K. Barrett, ed.
(Harper San Francisco)

Christian Education

- CD-ROM: *Being Is What Is*, Young Adult Ministry
(PCUSA)
100 Creative Teaching Techniques - Phyllis Vos We
zeman (Twenty-Third Publications)
PERIODICAL: *Pockets, Living in Community* (Upper
Room)
Giving of Yourself as Jesus Did - Randy Southern
(Cook Ministry Resources)
Teaching to Wonder - Judy Gattis Smith (Educational
Ministries Inc.)
Developing a Child's Spiritual Growth - Judy Gattis
Smith (Educational Ministries Inc)
Planting Spiritual Seeds - Judy Gattis Smith
(Abingdon)
10 Best Parenting Ways to Ruin Your Teenager - Is
rael Galindo & Don Reagan (Educational
Consultants)
An Hour on Sunday - Nancy Beach (Zondervan)
Mental Aerobics - Barbara Bruce (Abingdon)
Exceptional Teaching - Jin Pierson (Standard Publish
ing)
Loving God with All Your Mind - Thomas Hawkins
(Discipleship Resources)

Christian Education - Adult

- DVD: NOOMA Series - Rob Bell (Zondervan):
"Rain" DVD: [NOOMA- 002]
"Flame"
"Trees"
"Sunday"
"Noise"
"Kickball"

"Luggage"

"Dust"

"Bullhorn"

"Lump"

"Rhythm"

"Matthew"

"Rich"

Living the Faith - Pamela Dilmore, Carol Miler &
Larry Berman (Abingdon)

Christian Education - Children

- DVD: *Davey and Goliath* Vol.1 (ELCA)
DVD: *Davey and Goliath* Vol. 2, "Learning about Car
ing for Others" (ELCA)
DVD: *Davey and Goliath* Vol. 3, "Learning about For
giveness" (ELCA)
DVD: *Davey and Goliath* Vol. 4, "Helping Each
Other" (ELCA)
VIDEO: "How to get Blessed without Sneez
ing" [includes study guide] - Avner Eisenburg
Jellybeans - Sylvia van Ommen (Roaring Brook Press)

Christian Education- Teen

- DVD: *Stories* Vol.1 (sex, betrayal, sharing faith) -
Doug Fields (Bluefish TV)
DVD: *Stories* Vol. 2 (drugs & alcohol, parental con
flict, overcoming obstacles) - Doug Fields
(Bluefish TV)
DVD: *Stories* Vol. 3 (self esteem, stress, broken home)
- Doug Fields (Bluefish TV)
Pop Culture, Leader Guide & Student Booklet - Sarah
Arthur (Abingdon)
God is Closer than You Think - John Ortberg
(Zondervan)

Church

- Fireweed Evangelism* - Elizabeth R. Geitz (Church
Publishing)
Becoming A Blessed Church - N. Graham Standish
(Alban Institute)
Friendship First - Thom & Joani Schultz (Group)
Act of God, Active God - Gary Harbaugh (Fortress)
Living Your Heart's Desire - Gregory S. Clapper
(Upper Room)
The Christian Handbook (Augsburg)
The Competent Pastor - Ronald D. Sisk (Alban Insti
tute)
Safe Sanctuaries - Joy Thornburg Melton (Discipleship
Resources)
Better Together -Robert D. Putnam (Simon & Schus
ter)
The Kingdom Focused Church - Gene Mims
(Broadman & Holman Publishers)
When a Congregation is Betrayed -Beth Ann Gaede
(Alban Institute)
Where 20 or 30 Are Gathered - Peter Bush & Christine
O'Reilly (Alban Institute)

Church - Denominational

The Kingdom Focused Church - Gene Mims (Broadman & Holman Publishers)

When a Congregation is Betrayed - Beth Ann Gaede (Alban Institute)

Where 20 or 30 Are Gathered - Peter Bush & Christine O'Reilly (Alban Institute)

Church - Denominational

Conversations with the Confessions - Joseph D. Small (Geneva Press)

An Introduction to Baptist Principles - Bill J. Leonard (The Baptist History & Heritage Society)

Receiving the Child - Episcopal Parish Services (ECUSA)

CD-ROM: *Final Report to the General Assembly - Task Force on Peace, Unity & Purity of the Church* (PCUSA)

Church - History

Prophet and Teacher - William R. Herzog (Westminster John Knox)

Christendom at the Crossroads - J.A. Sheppard (Westminster John Knox)

Joan of Arc - Dianne Stanley (Harper Trophy)

Saint Francis of Assisi - Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. (Hyperion Books for Children)

Church & Society

Just Eating? - Jennifer Halteman Schrock (Program Partners)

Just Eating? Leaders Guide - Jennifer Halteman Schrock (Program Partners)

Making Peace - Karen Henley (Standard Publishing)

Reading the Bible with the Damned - Bob Ekblad (Westminster John Knox)

The Heart is a Little to the Left - William Sloan Coffin (University Press of New England)

Credo - William Sloan Coffin (Westminster John Knox)

A Passion for the Possible - William Sloan Coffin (Westminster John Knox)

Crossing the Unknown Sea - David Whyte (Riverhead Books)

Church Year

A Child Is Born - Margaret Wise Brown (Hyperion)

Mouse Tales: Things Hoped For - Ruth L. Boling (Westminster John Knox)

Child of the Light - Beth A. Richardson (Upper Room)

Come Worship with Me - Ruth Boling (Geneva Press)

DVD: "Davey and Goliath's Snowboard Christmas" (ELCA)

Hundred Dollar Christmas - Bill McKibben (Simon & Schuster)

Look for the Light - Stephen P. Bouman (Augsburg)

CD-ROM: "A Time for Joy" - Virginia Graf (Vangar)

Ancient-Future Time - Robert E. Webber (Baker Books)

The Lenten Tree - Dean Meader Smith (Abingdon)

Behind the Scenes Christmas - Su Box (Abingdon)

Walk with Jesus: Stations of the Cross - Henri Nouwen (Orbis)

Congregational Leadership

The Spirit-Led Leader - Timothy C. Geoffrion (Alban Institute)

A Generous Presence - Rochelle Melander (Alban Institute)

Leading Small Groups - Nathan W. Turner (Judson Press)

Starting Small Groups - Jeffery Arnold (Abingdon)

Leading Life Changing Small Groups - Bill Donahue (Zondervan)

Family Ministry

CD: "Golden Ones" - Lu Sheets & Fev Pratt (Creative Parent)

Ending Marriage, Keeping Faith - J. Randall Nichols (Wipf & Stock Publishers)

The Mother-in-Law Dance - Annie Chapman (Harvest House)

Growing Up with Divorce - Neil Kalter (Fawcett)

Interfaith/Ecumenism

Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah - Susan Roth (Dial Books)

Fireflies in the Dark - Susan Goldman Rubin (Holiday House)

The Butterfly - Patricia Polacco (Philomel Books)

Christians and Jews - Mark Thomson (PCUSA)

The Yellow Star - Carmen Agra Deedy (Peachtree)

DVD: *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly*, IV (with Viewers Guide) - Bob Abernathy, editor (Thirteen / WNET)

Muslim Child - Rukhsana Khan (Albert Whitman & Company)

How to be a Perfect Stranger (3rd edition) - Stuart M. Matlins & Arthur J. Magida, eds. (Skylight Paths)

What Islam is All About - Yahiya Emerick (Noorart)

Islam - Karen Armstrong (Modern Library)

Islam - Hesham A. Hassaballa & Kabir Helminski (Three Leaves Press)

A Brief History of Islam - Tamara Sonn (Blackwell)

In One Body through the Cross - Carl Braaten & Robert W. Jenson (Eerdmans)

Life Stages

A Renewed Spirituality - Lynne M. Babb (InterVarsity Press)

The Sunset of Miss Olivia Wiggins - Lester L. Laminack (Peachtree)

Coming of Age - David W. Anderson, Paul G. Hill & Roland D. Martinson (Augsburg)

The Seasons of a Restless Heart - Debra K. Farrington (Jossey-Bass)

Autumn Years - Robert & Elizabeth King (Continuum Press)

Markings on the Windowsill - Ronald J. Greer (Dimensions)

Multicultural

PERIODICAL: *Lecciones Cristianas* (Dec.-Feb. 2005-2006) - Emmanuel Vargaz Alavez, ed. (Cokesbury)

Rosa Parks - Gini Holland (Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers)

Black Church Beginnings - Henry Mitchell (Wm. B. Eerdmans)

Inclusion - Eric H. F. Law (Chalice Press)

DVD: "Salt of the Earth" (Salt Films Inc)

CD/ DVD: "In the Heart of Worship" (African Heritage Presbyterian Association of Musicians)

Spirituality and Leadership - L. Rita Dixon (PCUSA)

Rosa Parks - Keith Brandt (Troll Associates)

Young Fredrick Douglass - Laurence Santrey (Troll Associates)

KIT: *Faith Talk Coasters* [Bilingual Spanish/ English] (Youth & Family Institute)

Korean Family Devotions [Bilingual Korean/ English] - Andrew Sungho Park, Brandon Cho, et.al. (Upper Room)

Los Ninos y La Oracion - Betty Shannon Cloyd (UpperRoom)

Come with Me to Africa - Gregory Scott Kreikemeier (Western Publishing Co.)

From Akebu to Zapotec - June Hathersmith (Wycliffe)

Living the Vision: Hispanic Ministries - Hector Rodriquez (PCUSA)

Nagasaki Under the Atomic Bomb - Michiko Nakano, ed. (Soesha/Books)

Dad, Jackie and Me - Myron Uhlberg (Peachtree)

Through Indian Eyes - James J. Cassidy Jr., editor (Reader's Digest)

Spirituality

It Takes a Church to Raise a Christian -Todd E. Bolsinger (Brazos Press)

Personal Pilgrimage - Viki Hurst (Northstone Publishing)

The Workbook on the Beatitudes - Maxie Dunnam & Kimberly Dunnam Reisman (Upper Room)

Sacramental Living - Dwight W. & Linda J. Vogel (Upper Room)

The Way of Transforming Discipleship (Leader & Participant Guide) - Stephen D. Bryant (Upper Room)

Embracing the Journey - Rueben P. Job & Marjorie Thompson (Upper Room)

Feeding On the Word - E. Glenn Hinson (Upper Room)

Deepening Our Prayer - Adele Gonzales (Upper Room)

Responding to Our Call - Gerrit Scott Dawson (Upper Room)

Exploring Spiritual Guidance - Wendy M. Wright (Upper Room)

Faith Journey through Fantasy Lands -Russell W. Dalton (Augsburg)

Standing Still - Meredith Jordan (Rogers McKay)

CD: "Be at Perfect Peace" - Meredith Jordan (Rogers McKay)

Stewardship

Offerings of the Heart - Rabbi Shawn Israel Zevit (Alban Institute)

The Giving Box - Fred Rogers (Running Press)

Stuff: Using All God Has Given Me (Leaders Guide & Learners Book) - Judy Latham & Deane Hartzell

Theology

The Gospel According to Oprah - Marcia Z. Nelson (Westminster John Knox)

The Wounding and Healing of Desire - Wendy Farley (WJK)

Why Christianity Must Die - John Shelby Spong (Harper San Francisco)

Here I Stand - John Shelby Spong (Harper San Francisco)

God's Funeral - A. N. Wilson (Ballantine Books)

Urban Ministry

Urban Disciples - Jenell Williams Paris & Margot Owen Eyring (Judson Press)

Women

A Feminist Introduction to Paul - Sandra Hack Polaski (Chalice Press)

Worship Boldly (2005- 2008) - Women of the ELCA (Augsburg)

Eve's Choice - Walter Graham (Abingdon)

Asian Feminist Theology - Kwok Pui-lan (Pilgrim Press)

Journey Within - Jeannette Drake (Northlight Publishing)

Worship

Brief Dramas for Worship - Karen Farish Miller & Brenda Motley Newman (Abingdon)

With All My Heart (Contemporary Vocal Solos) - Robin Cain, John Helgen. Phil Kadidlo et al (Augsburg Fortress)

What Song Shall We Sing? - John Ylvisaker (Augsburg)

Teaching Children Worship in the Sanctuary - Joyce MacKichan Walker & Carol A. Wehrheim (PCUSA)

Emerging Worship - Dan Kimball (Zondervan)

This Holy Mystery - Gayle Carlton Felton (Discipleship Resources)

Dancing the Sacraments - Elaine M. Ward (CSS Publishing Co.)

God's People at Prayer - John Killinger (Abingdon)