

# GOING HOME!

## The Resource Center Returns to BTSR Campus

The Board of Directors and staff of The Resource Center are pleased to announce that we will return to Virginia Hall on the campus of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond in time for the opening of the Fall semester at the three schools of the Richmond Theological Consortium. We will follow our practice of closing for the first two

weeks in August, and for the remainder of August we will be in the process of packing, moving, and unpacking in our new space. Our two satellite locations will be closed the entire month. We will be available by phone or e-mail and will do our best to meet your resourcing needs during this interim period.

**TRC** is located  
In Virginia Hall  
on the campus of  
Baptist Theological Seminary  
at Richmond

*Satellite Locations:*  
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church  
8175 Pleasant Grove Road-  
Mechanicsville  
&  
Manakin Episcopal Church  
985 Huguenot Trail  
Midlothian

*Mailing Address:*  
(address)  
Richmond, VA 23227

*Phone:* 804-358-8306  
*Toll-free:* 888-241-5132  
*Fax:* 804-358-6366

*E-mail:*  
[resourcecenter@cavtel.net](mailto:resourcecenter@cavtel.net)  
[www.resourcingchurches.com](http://www.resourcingchurches.com)

We ask your patience, your prayers, and if you have an extra hour or two, put on your work clothes and come lend a hand. There will be work for everyone: taking resources off shelves and packing them in boxes, labeling boxes for easy identification, breaking down shelves, readying the art collection for moving, perhaps stowing some of our awkward and unboxable items in your car and driving the three blocks to our new location. On the other end, there will be unpacking, assembling shelves, and shelving resources, and in between we have a large floor to paint! We need help, and can promise you lots of cold drinks, plentiful snacks, great company, and profound thanks!

### A Word of Welcome

President Ron Crawford, noting our return to the campus, wrote, “We are delighted to welcome The Resource Center back to the campus of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, adding that The Resource Center “provides a vital service for students, faculty, local congregations, and anyone wanting to find a reliable resource for local church ministry. Welcome back!”

### And A Word of Thanks

We are grateful to Ginter Park Baptist Church who took us in when we needed a home in the summer of 2004, and moved us upstairs after two floods. And special thanks to the Harrell Class for sharing their classroom with us!

JOIN US for TEACHERS TOOLBOX 2008: Saturday, September 13, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Manakin Episcopal Church, 985 Huguenot Trail, Midlothian; see details page 3.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

In a day when institutional memories are short, and promises soon forgotten, it's heartening to hear about exceptions.



The Resource Center returns to the BTSR campus this month, singing our doxologies and remembering the day in 2000 when we were first offered space in Virginia Hall. President Tom Graves pointed his finger at us sternly and said, "Be clear. I don't want you to be one bit more Baptist than you are right now - - and not one bit less ecumenical than you've ever been!" You are, he added, "about serving congregations and that's what BTSR is about, too."

Our first sojourn in Virginia Hall was time-limited; we knew it would be, because the building was slated for eventual renovation. When the time came, Tom came personally to deliver the news, and left us with a promise: when the work is done, "there will be space for The Resource Center." Kind folks at Ginter Park Baptist Church took us in, but we were hidden and not easily accessible. Tom retired early, renovations fell behind schedule, funding was short. It would have been so very easy to forget us, but BTSR's new President, Ron Crawford, didn't miss a beat. The promise would be kept; we're going home.

Ecumenical agencies are everybody's child during good times, nobody's child when money tightens. Ecumenist Gary Peluso-Verdend, in a study on local and regional ecumenism for the Lilly Foundation, noted that "ecumenical organizations live at the boundary where the church meets the world, especially the world-that-is-coming-to-be".

The Resource Center, with its ecumenical heritage (25 years of bringing Richmond churches together across denominational lines) has operated at that boundary. Now, as Christians struggle to learn to live with people of other faiths, our Joseph V. Nash Multicultural Collection, arguably the finest of its kind in the country, equips us to continue serving on the boundary between the church and the world-that-must-come-to-be, if our children are to live in peace. It is promises kept that will enable us to be there. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Amen.

Faithfully,  
*Judith FaGalde Bennett*  
Executive Director

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*Jesus  
never told anyone  
that his or her needs  
were trivial  
or  
not spiritual enough.*

*He told no one,  
"Get your mind  
on higher things!"  
Surprisingly often  
the surface need  
is fulfilled,  
but because God  
longs to heal our  
whole selves,  
we can expect  
new doors to open  
&  
unexpected  
new  
ways of life  
to be offered.*

Flora Slosson  
Wuellner

*Miracle: When Christ  
Touches Our Deepest  
Need*

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NEW HOME of The Resource Center, on the ground floor of Virginia Hall to the right and left of the entrance pictured here. While our mailing address is 1209 Palmyra Avenue, our entrance is from the parking lot that extends from Palmyra to Westwood Avenues.

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## A CHALLENGE:

### SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THE RESOURCE CENTER

As The Resource Center returns to the BTSR campus, I come asking you for a small gift. The Resource Center counts on the generous contributions of our individual members and our church members. Currently the financial situation warrants an all-out appeal to you, our patrons, for help.

I am aware that *Gleanings* will be sent out to over 800 participants. If each of us would sit down right now and write a check for \$10.00, \$20.00, or even \$100, we would stabilize the current situation, and the move back to the BTSR campus. Without your financial support, we will be too close to the sense of "foreclosure," a word that is foremost in our minds these days.

I know that we are in economically difficult times, but I also know that most of us can give something to the Center. Please write a check today, and send in the enclosed envelope. If all 800 of us send in \$20, we will avert a potential "foreclosure."

Lastly, we need new member churches, new member organizations, new member seminaries, new member pre-schools, and new individual members. Your help in maintaining your membership (tax deductible contribution), your help through tax deductible annual gifts, and your help in sharing the good news of The Resource Center is God's work. I've written my check, will you write one too? Please give today!

Blessings,  
Ann Charlescraft, D.Min.  
Chair, TRC Finance Committee

### ANNOUNCING: 2008 FALL NEW MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL

Membership in The Resource Center is a great way to save on the resources you need for ministry this Fall. Join by October 15 and enjoy member benefits through all of 2009. Membership entitles you to access to our collection of more than 13,000 resources, including the Joseph V. Nash Multicultural Collection, the Isabel W. Rogers Women's Collection, and the Naomi Wray Art Collection. Also subscription to *Gleanings*, membership rates for events, and the consultation services of staff. Rates are as follows:

Congregations (based on worship attendance): up to 149 persons, \$75; 150-300, \$125; 300-500, \$250; over 500, \$400. Individuals/Family: \$30. Organizations: up to 5 persons, \$50; 5-10, \$75; over ten, \$100. Friends: \$50. Sustaining Membership: \$125.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: If your church is currently a member of The Resource Center, now is the time to make sure your membership is in place in your church's 2009 budget!

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When we create,  
as when we pray,  
"we begin to hear the self  
we actually are  
emerging out of our  
shadow selves,  
our counterfeit selves,  
our pretended selves.  
We become aware of what  
is in us,  
the best and the worst.  
Our best parts,  
if left un-lived,  
can be as poisonous as  
our worst, if left unhealed."  
Participating in  
the creative act helps us  
to see ourselves as we are  
and as we might become.  
Like prayer,  
the creative act draws us into  
our fulfillment in God.  
Creativity, an essential tool  
for shaping the soul,  
provides a pathway  
to the fierce truth of our life.

Karla M. Kincannon  
*Creativity & Divine Surprise*

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## COMING UP at TRC

### TEACHERS TOOLBOX 2008

Ten Great Ideas You Can Use This Sunday  
Saturday, 9/13, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

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Sheep are not very smart animals. Left to their own devices they will graze a field down to its roots . . . follow one another without reason . . . break down a fence to get to greener grass. Sheep are prone to all kinds of maladies . . . Their feet have a tendency to rot & continually need to be trimmed. They fall victim to maggot & lice infestations in their skin & wool. They are infected by intestinal parasites that threaten their lives. On the other hand, sheep had great economic value . . . It is clear, then, why sheep need caretakers who are constantly on the lookout for them. Shepherds live close to their flocks, watching out for straying members, threatening predators, birthing ewes, & hurting lambs. . . . Unlike those who care for other domesticated animals, shepherds cannot leave their sheep alone for long. Their care has to be constant. Knowing what we have learned about shepherds enables us to compare the shepherd's care of the sheep to God's care for us. The image reminds us that God's love & presence with us is constant, that God looks out for our needs . . . that God's care is close & personal.

Nancy Ferguson  
*Retreats for Renewal:  
5 Models for  
Intergenerational Weekends*

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#### *Creativity in the Classroom: Teaching in the Image of God*



**DENISE BENNETT:** *Bible Stories Alive!*  
Storyteller, musician, Chaplain/Educator at The Hermitage;

**LOIS CHAPMAN:**  
*Creating Mandalas for Prayer & Meditation*  
Artist, actor, musician; Program Director, Trinity United Methodist Church, Smithfield.



**JUDY GATTIS SMITH:**  
*Yes, You CAN Be A Creative Teacher*  
Educator, author, currently leading innovative *The Way of the Child*, Bon Air United Methodist Church.

**SUZANNE STOVALL VINSON:** *Art Play: Connection with the Creator*  
Artist, Baptist minister & educator, mother of a 2-year-old!



**JOHN BYRD:** *Communicating through Puppets*  
Ventriloquist, Licensed Professional Counselor, a leader in Stephen Ministry at Bon Air United Methodist Church.

**TO BE HELD AT**  
Manakin Episcopal Church  
985 Huguenot Trail Midlothian, VA 23113

REGISTRATION \$45 ((\$40 TRC members)  
Lunch \$5 additional or bring your own;  
drinks provided.  
Group rates: 5 or more from same church/school,  
\$5 discount per registrant.  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 29.

## COMING UP at TRC

### OUTSTANDING CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS APPRECIATION BANQUET 2008

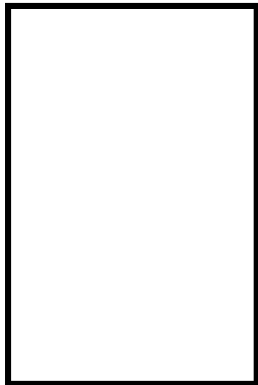
Friday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.

Bon Air Baptist Church

Dr. Karen Marie Yust, Keynote Speaker

Associate Professor of Christian Education, Union-PSCE

No more seating is available at this year's banquet. We have already reached the maximum of 500, and are working to secure a larger venue for next year's event,. Information will be released as soon as it is available; we thank you for your past support for this gala event.



Honoree Pat Palmer, Manakin Episcopal Church, & her guest, Dr. Muhammed Sahli (above) at 2007 banquet

The Rev. Dr. Paula Parker (left), one of two recipients of a special award for outstanding work as a Christian educator in a non-traditional setting, for her work with the Daughters of Zelophehad, at 2007 banquet.

### ANNUAL VBS CURRICULUM FAIR

In Partnership with Cokesbury

January 27-29, 2009

Lingle Hall on the campus of Union-PSCE

1-8 p.m. Tuesday 1/27 & Thursday, 1/29

1-5 p.m. Wednesday 1/28

Special Cokesbury discount for kits ordered on site.

### CURRICULUM: EVALUATING, ADAPTING, WRITING IT YOURSELF

A workshop with the Rev. Nancy Ferguson, author of *Christian Educator's Guide to Evaluating & Developing Curriculum* published this year by Judson Press

Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Registration: \$50 (\$45 TRC); lunch \$5 or bring your own

Register by February 26

### INTERESTING WOMEN

Annual Celebration of Women's History Month

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

### HEALING STORIES

A workshop with storyteller, musician, chaplain Denise Bennett

Thursday, May 7, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Registration \$50 (\$45 TRC members); lunch \$5 or bring your own

Register by April 27

CEUs available

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Each of our lives has many stories—about our abilities, struggles, desires, relationships, work, interests, & beliefs. We also have stories about our families, gender, communities of faith, cultural groups, & countries of origin. The beliefs, ideas, & practices of the groups to which we belong & the broader culture in which we live strongly influence the way we understand our lives & the stories we feel free to tell about ourselves.

Over time we draw all our stories together into a narrative that we call "Me" - - who I am, the face I present to the world. We become the stories that we tell.

Kim Barker, Linda de Meillon, Leigh Harrison

*Birtherd in Prayer: Pregnancy as a Spiritual Journey*

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## NEW RESOURCES at TRC

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One does not put together  
a perfect religious  
organization and then add  
some spirituality . . .  
Think of a congregation's  
spirituality as  
the true architecture  
of the church.  
The church cannot grow  
apart from it,  
nor is it free to engage in  
any major reform  
that does not consider the  
role of the Holy Spirit  
in the midst of the  
congregation.  
The beauty of the  
architect's full vision is  
rarely seen until the  
completion of a building,  
even though the builders  
constantly consult the  
architect's plans.  
The work of the Holy Spirit  
may be latent for decades,  
waiting to be revealed  
in God's time.

Bill Kemp  
*Ezekiel's Bones:  
Rekindling Your  
Congregation's Spiritual  
Passion*

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### CD-ROM:

Law [Amazing Bible Race] (Abingdon)  
Veracity (Abingdon)  
Worship & Music, [planning software] (Presbyterian Association of Musicians)  
Invitation to Christ: Font & Table - Office of Theology & Worship (PCUSA)

### DVD:

Saving Jesus – Marcus Borg, Amy Jill Levine, Walter Brueggemann, et al.  
Living the Questions 2.0 – An Introduction to Progressive Christianity  
Fasting – Lynne M. Bash (Formatio)  
NOOMA Series, 13 discs - Rob Bell  
The Power of Forgiveness – Martin Doblmeir, director (Journey Films)  
Generation of Hope - Global Ministries (UMC)  
The Day the Earth Was Silent - Michael McGuffee (Inquiring Voices)  
Golden Rule Politics (Baptist Center for Ethics)  
Interfaith Listening Program (PCUSA)  
Worship Feast: Liturgical Dance - Erin Kacos (Abingdon)

### BOOKS:

Engaging Biblical Authority - William P Brown, ed. (Westminster John Knox)  
Triangular Teaching - Barbara Bruce (Abingdon)  
Christian Educator's Guide to Evaluating & Developing Curriculum – Nancy Ferguson (Judson)  
From Zero to Hero - Anita Edlund (Abingdon)  
Drama Queens (& Kings) - Marcia Stoner (Abingdon)  
The Way of Pilgrimage-Sally Chambers, Jonathon Norman & Gavin Richardson (Upper Room)  
Ready to Go Fundraisers - Lynn Strother Hinkle, Kendra Fredrickson, et. al. (Abingdon)  
The Work of the Bivocational Minister - Dennis W. Bickers (Judson)  
Annie the Kitchen Queen - Charlotte Johnstone (Presbyterian Women)  
The Next Generation - Patricia C. Pongracz & Wayne Roosa (Wm. B Eerdmans)  
Dancing with Ten Thousand Things - Tom Balles (iUniverse)  
Tribal Church – Carol Howard (Alban Institute)  
Mission Trips That Matter - Don C. Richter (Upper Room)  
Shaping Sanctuary – Kelly Turney, ed. (Welcoming Church Movement)  
Leadership in Congregations - Richard Bass, ed. (Alban Institute)  
The Toxic Congregation - G. Lloyd Rediger (Abingdon)  
The Spirit-Led Leader - Timothy C. Geoffrion (Alban Institute)  
When Moses Meets Aaron - Gil Rendle & Susan Beaumont (Alban Institute)  
This House We Build - Terry Bookman & William Kahn (Alban Institute)  
Hospitality: Risking Welcome - Helen R. Neinast & David O. Jenkins (Abingdon)  
The Interfaith Prayer Book - Ted Brownstein (Interfaith Resources)  
What Do Our Neighbors Believe? - Howard Greenstein (Westminster John Knox)  
When Dinosaurs Die - Laurie Krasny Brown & Marc Brown (Little Brown & Company)  
Together for Good - Ell P. & Henry H. Mitchell (Judson)  
Children's World Cookbook - Angela Wilkes & Fiona Watt (EDC Publishing)  
Soul Sanctuary - Jason Miccolo Johnson (Bullfinch)  
Faithful Elephants - Yukio Tsuchiya (Houghton Mifflin)  
The Wounded Heart of God - Andrew Sung Park (Abingdon)  
The True Story of Pocahontas - Linwood Custalow & Angela L. Daniel (Fulcrum)  
You Gave Me a Wide Place - Paul Stroble (UpperRoom)  
Talking in the Dark - Steve Harper (Upper Room)  
Pilgrimage - Patricia D. Brown (Abingdon)  
I Want to Live These Days with You - Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Westminster John Knox)  
The Stewardship Companion - David N. Moser (Westminster John Knox)  
The God-Hungry Imagination - Sarah Arthur (Upper Room)  
The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss - James W. Kemp (Judson)  
Dancing the Sacraments - Elaine M. Ward (CSS Publishing)  
Praying with the Church - Scot Mc Knight (Paraclete )  
Starting a Praise Band - Lance Winkler & Adam Hamilton, eds. (Abingdon)

EVENT REGISTRATION

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want lunch? Circle one; if yes, include in fee below: YES NO

Registration Fee Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL form with check by the registration deadline to:  
The Resource Center, 1209 Palmyra Ave., Richmond, VA 23227.

EVENT REGISTRATION

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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OUR MISSION is to resource congregations, schools, agencies, and individuals for ministry in a diverse and ever-changing world.



*GLEANNINGS*

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 1084  
RICHMOND, VA

**CENTRAL LOCATION:**

Virginia Hall on the campus of Baptist  
Theological Seminary at Richmond  
1209 Palmyra Avenue

Monday—Thursday  
1:00—5:00 p.m. &  
by appointment

**PHONE:**

(804) 358-8306  
Toll-Free (888) 241-5132

**FAX:**

(804)358-6366

**E-MAIL:**

resourcecenter@cavtel.net

**WEBSITE:**

www.resourcingchurches.com



**SATELLITE LOCATIONS**

**MANAKIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

985 Huguenot Trail  
Midlothian, VA 23113  
(Wednesday, 1-5 p.m.)

**PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

8175 Pleasant Grove Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23116  
(Monday, 1-5 p.m.)

**SAVING YOUR VALUABLE  
TIME & MONEY BY  
BRINGING RESOURCES  
CLOSER TO YOU!**

IS YOUR CHURCH A MEMBER of THE RESOURCE CENTER?