

# Mar.

## MULTI-MEDIA RESOURCE CENTER

323 Main St., Bellwood, PA 16617

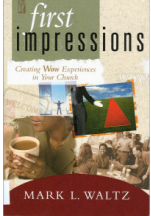
Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:30am-2:30pm

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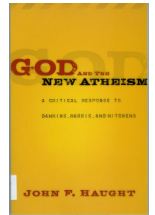
# 2009

### All brand new:



**269.2Wal** **First Impressions; Creating Wow Experiences in Your Church** by Mark L. Waltz Before a service even begins, first-time guests usually decide whether they'll return to your church. This means church leaders need to create no-fail, practical ways to ensure a visitor's *first* impression is the *best* impression. When guests feel valued, they will return. And when they do, they'll have the opportunity to experience Jesus' love. Let visitors know "You matter to God, so you matter to us." The author shares the strategies that work in his church—and takes "greeting to a whole new level. Adapt these practical ideas to your church's unique setting, and it won't be long before *everyone* feels welcome. 144 pages.

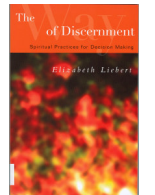
**211.80922Hau** **God and the New Atheism: A Critical Response to Dawkins, Harris, and Hitchens** by John F. Haught The author gives clear, concise, and compelling answers to the charges against religion laid out in recent best-selling books by Richard Dawkins (*The God Delusion*), Sam Harris (*The End of Faith*), and Christopher Hitchens (*God is Not Great*). For some, these "new Atheists" appear to say extremely well what they believe to be wrong with religion. But, as Haught shows, the treatment of religion in these books is riddled with logical inconsistencies, shallow misconceptions, and crude generalizations. Can God really be dismissed as a mere delusion? Is faith really the enemy of reason? And does religion really poison everything? 124 pages.



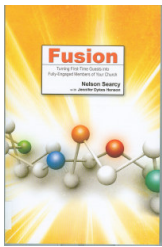
**254.5McI** **Beyond the First Visit: the Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church** by Gary L. McIntosh We all like to think that our church is the friendliest one in town. But do visitors see it that way? Church consultant Gary McIntosh invites you to take another look at your church through the eyes of a first-time guest to identify the things that might be holding them back from a second visit. This very practical book offers sound advice on assessing and improving the ways in which your church attracts people, welcomes them, does follow-up, and brings them into the church family. More than simply offering mere techniques, it gives suggestions for making a welcoming attitude part of the very fabric of your church. 186 pages.



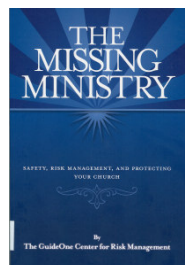
**248.4Lie** **The Way of Discernment: Spiritual Practices for Decision Making** by Elizabeth Liebert In this graceful book, the author introduces the way of discernment—the practice of making faithful decisions—and invites us to begin our own discernment journey. At the heart of the book is a series of helpful practices that can be done individually or in a group setting. By means of these practices, Liebert shows us how to become increasingly perceptive of God's work in the world and, in the process, to live more holistic, discerning lives in response. 170 pages.



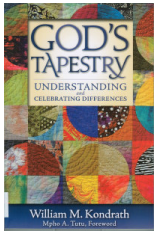
**254.5Sea** **Fusion: Turning First-Time Guests Into Fully-Engaged Members of Your Church** by Nelson Searcy Next Sunday, God will prompt hundreds of thousands of people in the U.S. and millions around the world, to visit a church for the first time. The Sunday after that, He will do it again. God is consistently blessing His Church with regular guests. Are we doing all we can to accept and honor His blessing? Built on Searcy's Assimilation Seminar, Fusion offers you a step-by-step, biblically grounded tested and proven plan for establishing a relationship with new-comers that starts with the first seven minutes of their visit and ultimately prompts them to become fully developing members of your congregation. This innovative, practical guide is full of how-to information, testimonials from newcomers-turned-members and from participating church leaders, examples of assimilation materials, and check point to make sure you stay on track. Here is help for setting newcomers on the path toward true life transformation and spiritual maturity. 189 pages.



**254.22Gui** **The Missing Ministry: Safety, Risk Management, and Protecting Your Church** by The GuideOne Center for Risk Management Prevent a tragedy at your church. According to national statistics on church insurance claims, more than half of the tragedies that occur at churches can be prevented or minimized—if proper precautions are taken. So what can you do to safeguard your church? Simply follow the clear instructions in the practical, step-by-step guidebook. Experts at the GuideOne Center for Risk Management lay out a clear, simple, doable strategy for safeguarding your people, your property, and your ministries. You'll discover how to: Form a Church Safety and Security Team, Identify your greatest risks, Prepare for emergencies before they occur, Keep you facility safe and secure, Create financial safeguards, Assure employee and volunteer safety, Safeguard children and youth, Organize transportation safety. 187 pages.

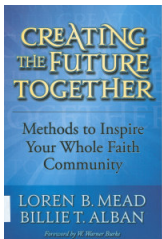
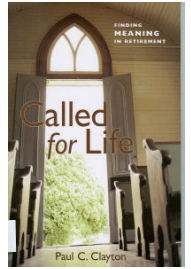


## All brand new from The Alban Institute



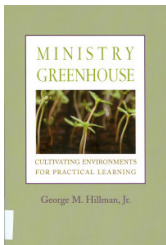
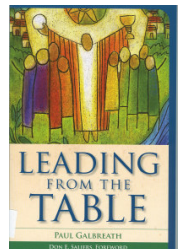
**250.22Kon** *God's Tapestry: Understanding and Celebrating Differences* by William M. Kondrath Even in congregations that may on the surface appear to be homogenous, a multitude of differences exist. In *God's Tapestry*, Kondrath shows us how to embrace our true multiculturalism—our differences of race, gender, age, theology, language, sexual identity, and so forth. He does this by exploring differences on four levels—personal, interpersonal, institutional, and cultural. He also demonstrates a threefold process for becoming multicultural: recognizing our differences; understanding those differences and their significance and consequences; and valuing or celebrating those differences. While ministry is the work of the entire faith community, not only ordained or professional staff, it is critical that leaders learn the art and skill of recognizing, understanding, and valuing differences. Then the congregations and agencies they serve, having learned and practiced the art and skill of celebrating differences, can be the yeast that raises this awareness of God's diverse blessings in the wider world. 285 pages.

**253.20846Cla** *Called for Life: Finding Meaning in Retirement* by Paul C. Clayton “Who am I now?” newly retired clergy ask. “What, if anything, is God calling me to do and be after retirement?” all inquire. This book is built on the assumption that most people don't want to spend the last third of their lives doing nothing. What they want is a life that is worth living, an occupation that will help others, and a retirement in which they can continue to exercise their calling. Clayton uses examples from his own experience and from others, laity and clergy, to explore retirement and the three components of our calling: our identity, our gifts, and our occupation. He also examines the role of community in our calling and retirement; the challenges of the transition into retirement; options for meaningful activity; the importance of identifying our purpose; doing and being in retirement; and the final call to death. Readers will be encouraged to see retirement as an opportunity to do what they have always wanted to do and to become the kind of person they have wanted to be. 118 pages.



**253.7Mea** *Creating the Future Together—Methods to Inspire Your Whole Faith Community* by Loren B. Mead, Billie T. Alban Congregations today face a multitude of challenges in trying to adapt to a quickly changing world. Balancing new concerns with core values is a complicated process that can leave too many members feeling that their voices and needs are not being met. Loren B. Mead and Billie T. Alban have developed this book to share their knowledge of how congregations can use large group methods to navigate these new waters. Large group methods involve getting all the stakeholders together to work on major issues of common concern. Mead and Alban outline four such methods—two for identifying a preferred future and two designed to create community and discover common interests. This book is not meant to be a how-to volume; its primary purpose is rather to familiarize leaders with these whole-system approaches and to provide a conceptual framework for evaluating their potential usefulness against any given challenge. 150 pages.

**264.3Gal** *Leading From the Table* by Paul Galbreath The communion table stands as an intersection between Word and Sacrament, between memory and hope, between pastor and congregation, between receiving and serving, and between community and individual. Leading from the table, says Galbreath, professor of preaching and worship, is a way of thinking, speaking, acting, and living that grows out of learning to recognize and embody these connections in our lives as a congregation and as individuals. Developing leadership skills that connect the congregation's eucharistic practice to the life and work of the church is essential to moving toward unity within congregations, denominations, and throughout the church. This book is not a how-to manual on presiding techniques, however. Rather, this book is a series of reflections about the way the prayer at the communion table provides a pattern for our lives. The goal is to shift our understanding of table prayer from a formula led by the pastor to a road map that highlights intersections between the practices at the table and the daily practices in the life of the community that gathers around the table. 141 pages.



**253.071Hil** *Ministry Greenhouse—Cultivating Environments for Practical Learning* by George M. Hillman, Jr. Known as “the internship guy” at Dallas Theological Seminary where he teaches, George Hillman talks daily with students about God's movement in their lives. The goal of *Ministry Greenhouse* is to help seminary and Bible college students, their supervisors, and the lay leaders who work with them create the best environment for leadership development through a beneficial internship. An internship is not busy work or cheap labor but is instead fundamental to the development of a leader. Hillman first makes a case for internships, arguing that the purpose of the seminary or Bible College is to train both theologians and practitioners. He explores the meaning of “call,” identifies the ingredients of a successful internship, discusses strategies for establishing goals for an internship, and offers guidance for reflecting on learning during an internship. Hillman also provides tools for identifying competencies and sample goals. 162 pages.