Resources for Advent and Christmas  

Last Update November 20, 2013

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UCC Resources:

Advent A to Z: Prayerful and Playful Preparations for Families
Author: John Indermark & Sharon Harding

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Beginning December 1 and running through December 26, Advent A to Z: Prayerful and Playful Preparations for Families will explore an Advent-related word that begins with a successive letter in the alphabet. This is followed by suggestions for simple, easy-to-prepare, and complete activities (discussion starters, games, crafts, meditations, journaling, outreach project, devotions). Through use of scripture and tradition, John Indermark & Sharon Harding fill the season of Advent with an abundance of characters, themes, and symbols. Each casts a slightly different perspective on the meaning of Jesus’ birth and God’s promised realm, the two chief components for which this season bids our preparation.

Let’s Make a JESSE TREE!
Devotionals for Young People
Author: Darcy James

Learn More/Order:
https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/716872192?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=47321&store_id=1401

Kids learn the Christmas story as they create and add symbols to their very own Jesse Tree Advent Calendar. This resource includes easy, step-by-step instructions and 25 Bible readings.
A Different Kind of Christmas Living and Giving Like Jesus
Author: Mike Slaughter
Format: DVD (with Leader Guide)
Learn More/Order Adult Resources:

Learn More/Order Youth Resources:
https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1943674121?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=45068&store_id=1401

Learn More/Order the Children’s Study Version:
https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1943674121?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=45066&store_id=1401

Five-week study offering churches ways to focus more on Jesus' birth and less on consumerism.
Resources are available for adults, youth and children.

Finding Bethlehem in the Midst of Bedlam
Author: James A. Moore
Learn More/Order Adult Resources:

Learn More/Order Youth Resources:

Learn More/Order the Children’s Study Version:
https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1943674121?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=48522&store_id=1401

Five-week Advent study for 2013. Resources are available in formats appropriate for adults, youth and children.

*Resources listed in this section have been successfully utilized and recommended by local church(es) in the New Hampshire Conference United Church of Christ.
Other Prayer Resources*:

Grandad’s Prayers of the Earth
Age Level: 6 years old and up
Publisher: Candlewick Press
Author: Douglas Wood
Illustrator: P.J. Lynch
Learn More/Order: http://www.candlewick.com/
(This book is also available on http://www.amazon.com)

From the Candlewick Press website, “Grandad is the boy’s best friend. Being with him always makes the world seem right. And how vast that world is: a world of tall trees that reach for the clouds and sun and moon and stars -- and what else is reaching for heaven but a prayer? Each time he and Grandad walk in the woods, the boy listens for the prayers of the earth. And finally the boy asks: "Are our prayers answered?" One day, long after Grandad is gone, long after the boy is grown, he understands Grandad’s reply: "If we listen very closely, a prayer is often its own answer."

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