

Subject: Easter is over. Now what?
Sent: Tues 5/9/17 3:59 PM



Iowa Religious Media Services

eNews

May 2017

Regular Business Hours

Monday-Thursday
9:00 am-4:00 pm

Office Closures

Monday, May 29, 2017-
Memorial Day

Looking for the perfect video clip?

New Streaming Video Option

IRMS has expanded its video streaming offerings to include **new** access to a video clip library. Watch this space each month to check out a different featured clip or you may contact us at questions@irms.org or (515) 277-2920 for more information.

This month's clip:

[Our Journey Called Life](#)

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's time for new resources, planning for fall and thought-provoking documentaries



So Easter is over and your Christian educators are asking: "Now what?" IRMS can help you answer that question! Our *Featured Resources* includes a great batch of new resources for adult study, most of which came through the March Preview Committee. They include the newest Adam Hamilton study, a look at our pluralistic world, the re-release of a Max Lucado study, a new women's study, a resource from Tim Tebow and an exhortation to **Watch Your Mouth!** We also spotlight the issues of aging and hunger. Our *Resources in Use* highlights the personal service we provide to churches wanting to do advance planning for fall 2017.

Finally, our *Meeting the Challenge* suggests several documentaries to shake up your adult small groups that want a break from the traditional six-week study routine. Easter is over. Now what? Order some new resources from IRMS to use now and get started on your planning for fall!

Yours,

Sharon

Featured Resources: New Resources for a New Year

[Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet \(DV1524\)](#)

PayPal icon, and enter the purpose of your payment and amount.

Where in the World is the Executive Director

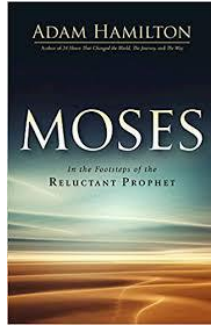
May 10 - IRMS Board Meeting

May 16 - IRMS Preview Committee Meeting

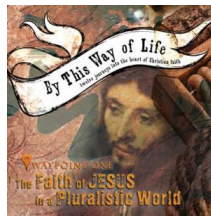
June 2-3 - All Iowa Presbyterians Gathering - Ames Collegiate Presbyterian Church - display

June 9-12 - 173rd Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church Des Moines HyVee Hall - display

June 23-25 - Episcopal Diocese of Iowa 27th Annual Summer Ministry School and Retreat - Grinnell College - display



(NEW) uses historical background, archaeological data, and Biblical text to guide us in the footsteps of the reluctant prophet who grew in his relationship with God. Join Adam Hamilton in this six-week study that retraces the life of Moses from his modest birth and rescue from the bulrushes to the courts of Pharaoh, from herding flocks in Midian to leading his people out of Egypt. (Young Adult-Adult)



The Faith of Jesus in a Pluralistic World (DV1521) (NEW)

implores us to consider Jesus' statement, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." While acknowledging that the future of the human race depends upon adherents of world religions coexisting peacefully, this six-session study explores how we can honor Jesus' words

without denying the existence of other paths God may create for humanity. (Adult)

A Grace-Full Life: God's All Reaching, Soul-Saving, Never-Ending Love (DV1519) (NEW)



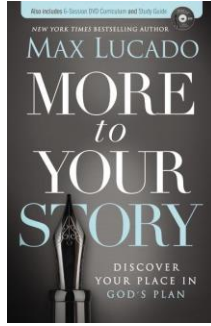
examine God's Word to discover how grace works in our lives and in our world. Through four-sessions, presenters Jorge Acevedo and Wes Olds explore *Prevenient Grace*, *Justifying Grace*, *Sanctifying Grace* and *Glorifying Grace*. (Young Adult-Adult)

Listen, Love, Repeat: Other-Centered Living in a Self-Centered World (DV1515) (NEW)



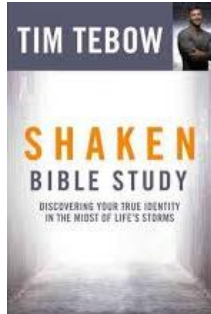
reminds us that in our "me-first" culture, a "me-second" way of living is the key to happiness. This accessible, affirming six-session study gives us both encouragement and practical ideas on how to best reach out to others through both planned and random acts of kindness. (Adult)

More to Your Story (DV1516) (NEW)



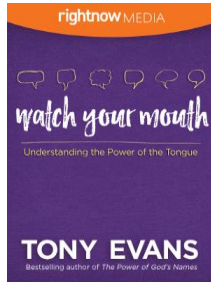
is the popular recently re-released Max Lucado study, [God's Story, Your Story \(KT300\)](#). This six-session study reminds us that when we understand that we are part of God's story, orchestrated by His will, our life has purpose, we recognize our value and we are open to discover our unique path. (Young Adult-Adult)

[Shaken Bible Study: Discovering Your True Identity in the Midst of Life's Storms \(DV1517\) \(NEW\)](#)



features Heisman Trophy winner, Tim Tebow passionately sharing glimpses into his journey of adversity and the lessons he's learned along the way. In this four-session study, perfect for a youth group or men's group, Tebow discusses the importance of building confidence and identity in God, not the world. (Junior High-Adult)

[Watch Your Mouth \(DV1518\) \(NEW\)](#)



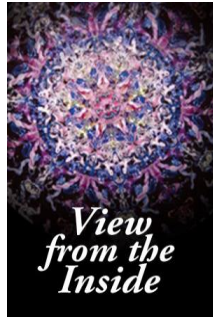
encourages us to use our mouths to model the character of God. Tony Evans reminds us not to let our words bring destruction, but to let those words minister to and speak life to the world around us. This four-session study shares real-life stories and life-changing insights to help us learn what the Bible teaches about talking and how to tame the tongue. (Pre-K-Adult)

New from the Lutheran Resource Center:

[Hunger No More: Faces Behind the Facts \(DV1470\)](#)



(NEW) introduces us to the people behind the facts on hunger. Learn how we can make a difference as we encounter people of faith across America who have taken up the challenge of eradicating hunger in the US and globally. (Adult)



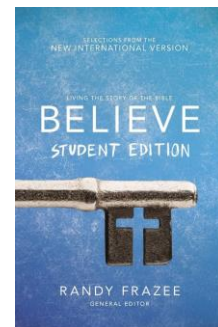
[View from the Inside: Older Adults \(DV1497\)](#)
(NEW)

focuses on the majority of older adults who are living happy, healthy and independent lives and challenges us to rethink our own attitudes and beliefs about growing old. Narrated in storytelling fashion by an older adult, this video is a loving testimony to all older adults, both current and future. The View from the Inside Series includes [DV372 View from the Inside: Alzheimer's Disease - The Journey Within](#). (Jr. High-Adult)

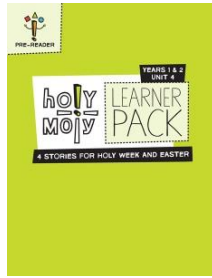
Resources in Use: Summer planning session to prepare for fall

Last summer, Pastor Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy of the Madrid United Church of Christ reserved a day to come to Iowa Religious Media Services with a few of her volunteers to develop a plan for the following year's Sunday school curriculum. Besides the pastor, the planning contingency included the head of her Christian Education Committee and three Sunday school teachers, each responsible for a different age group.

Because IRMS has the space available, as well as equipment to preview material, Mary Beth and her volunteers were able to spread out and take a close look at a variety of resource suggestions. "I was hoping that by several of us picking the curriculum, we would have more 'buy in' and ownership into our Sunday school program," shares Mary Beth. She appreciated the library staff's knowledge and suggestions on available resources. After careful consideration, the group decided to use the [BELIEVE \(KT348=\)](#) curriculum, a Bible-reading experience, anchored to the core teachings of Scripture. The BELIEVE series has resources for all ages, including [BELIEVE - Kids' Edition \(KT350\)](#), [BELIEVE - Student Edition \(KT349\)](#) and [BELIEVE - Adult Resource \(KT348\)](#) as well as a wealth of support materials. Using this program enabled the group to select everything they needed for the whole year. Mary Beth had wanted to get a jump-start on planning her program and thought the organized visit really worked!



In fact, it worked so well, Mary Beth and a volunteer came back on the morning of April 26th to plan for the 2017-2018 Sunday school programming year. In the past, Mary Beth has



used various curriculum from the publisher Spark House, most recently using [Holy Moly \(KT354=\)](#), designed to ignite a Biblical imagination that will last a lifetime in younger elementary students. Following the arc of the biblical narrative, this resource family provides two years of material with videos that illustrate the stories through visuals and sound effects only. Because Mary Beth was familiar with **Holy Moly**, she thought

[Connect \(KT353=\)](#), also by Spark House, would be a logical next step for her elementary-age students. Exploring the themes found throughout the Bible's greatest stories, **Connect** also includes materials to be used over a two-year span, featuring a Bible-centered approach.



When asked if Mary Beth thought other subscribers might benefit from scheduling a time to visit **IRMS** to peruse resources for Sunday school, women's groups, or small groups, her response was an enthusiastic, "Most definitely! Tracey was extremely helpful. She knows the various curricula so well and brought us many samples in many different styles."

With the slowing of programming schedules during the summer months, there is no better time to schedule a visit to **IRMS** and plan your year in advance. Just let us know when you would like to come and give us a few specifics on what your group is seeking. We will reserve a room for you and prepare a selection of resources tailored for you and your group to preview. We can then reserve the resources you choose for up to a year in advance. Then, based on your requested dates, we'll have them ready for you to pick up or to mail to you. Please give us a call at 515-277-2920 or email questions@irms.org to schedule your personal consultation!

Meeting the Challenge: Easter is over. Now What?

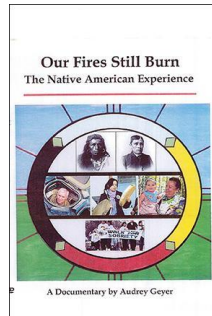
Q: *After almost a full year of six-week studies, our small group is ready for a change of pace as we go into summer. While we are still committed to studying topics that make a difference in our world, we need a different approach. Have you got any suggestions that might fit our needs?*

A: *Have you considered using a group of documentaries? The IRMS resource collection includes a number of excellent documentaries that would be a perfect fit. Depending on your time frame, you can select one for each session, or you can use several broken up over the course of several weeks.*

Below we highlight just a few recently added resources to help you focus your understanding and expand your mission. As always, please contact us (515.277-2920) or questions@irms.org for additional suggestions!

[Our Fires Still Burn \(DV1520\)](#)

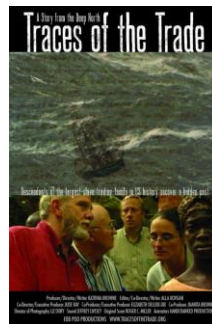
(NEW)



invites us into the lives of contemporary Native American role models living in the Great Lakes area. This 57-minute documentary dispels myths surrounding American Indians while revealing how they continue to heal from the past, confront today's challenges, keep their culture alive, and make significant contributions to society. (Sr. High-Adult)

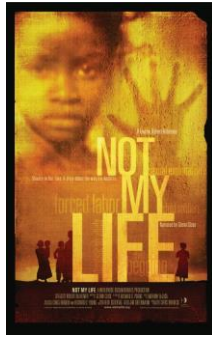


[Before the Flood \(DV1523\)](#) (NEW) features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. With unprecedented access to world leaders, DiCaprio searches for hope in a rising tide of catastrophic news. (Sr. High-Adult)



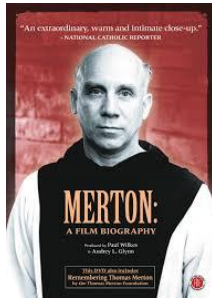
[Traces of the Trade - A Story from the Deep North \(DV1522\)](#) (NEW)

shares the familial story of producer/director Katrina Browne as she embarks on a surprising journey to discover the history of her slave-trading Northern ancestors. In this 86-minute documentary, the DeWolf family faces the questions: What is the legacy of slavery? Who owes what to whom for the sins of our fathers? What history do we inherit as individuals and as citizens? How does Northern complicity change the equation? What would repair, both spiritual and material, really look like? The disc also includes a 56-minute abridged version of the feature film as well as a wealth of other video material. (Sr. High-Adult)



[Not My Life\(DV1489\)](#) (NEW) explores the dire practice of human trafficking on five continents and in a dozen countries. The film introduces us to a world where millions of children are exploited daily through an astonishing array of practices. While the film depicts the cruel and dehumanizing practices of human trafficking and modern slavery on a global scale, the ultimate message, told through freed victims and the growing number of victim advocates, is one of hope. (Sr. High-Adult)

New from the Lutheran Resource Center



[Merton: A Film Biography \(DV1514\)](#) (NEW) provides a comprehensive look at a man hailed by many as a prophet. A remarkable 20th-Century religious philosopher, Thomas Merton wrote more than 70 books on spirituality, social justice and quiet pacifism. To tell his significant life story, this 57-minute documentary weaves interviews, passages of Merton's writing, and scenes from the places he called home. (Adult)

IOWA RELIGIOUS MEDIA SERVICES is an ecumenical multi-media resource center and lending library supported by six mainline denominations in Iowa and the Upper Midwest.