

Subject: **What's new? Resources! Program planning for the whole year! Interfaith cooperation!**
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Iowa Religious Media Services

eNews

Summer 2017

Regular Business Hours

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

Office Closures

Monday, September 4 -
Labor Day

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:

[When We Believe It, We Will See It](#)

Password: **5H327I9I52**

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Summer has arrived in Iowa, but the activities and services at IRMS continue unabated. While Tracey, Phyllis and Alan continue to serve our clients' resource and consultation needs through the office, I represented IRMS at three denominational events in June, with several more on the horizon of summer. I value these denominational contacts, because they are great opportunities to visit with you, our clients, and discuss your resource needs!



The IRMS eNews is yet another valuable service of your resource center, and this issue is no exception! Under *Featured Resources*, we showcase the newest resources vetted by the Preview Committee at the end of May. Those resources range from one that addresses the unique issues of clergy women to small group studies from Jessica LaGrone, Sarah Heath and Sister Joan Chittister, OSB, who offers an unforgettable interpretation of the Ten Commandments. That column also features three new documentaries covering the influence of Reinhold Niebuhr, racism and white privilege, and the divide over our American gun culture.

Resources in Use highlights one of the best services at IRMS - comprehensive consultation! Learn how one women's small group comes to IRMS each summer to plan what they will study in the coming year. *Meeting the Need* concludes this eNews issue with a selection of resources designed to promote peace through interfaith cooperation and dialogue. We hope you find these resources both illuminating and thought-provoking!

As these new resources expand the collection, you can see that your IRMS staff is actively addressing the diverse resource and education needs of our varied clientele. As always, we

and enter the purpose of your payment.

Where in the World is the Executive Director

July 16-18 - United Methodist Women's Mission u - Iowa Valley Community College, Marshalltown - resource presentations on *Living as a Covenant Community (Part 1)*, *Climate Justice: Call to Hope and Action*, & *Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States*

July 25-27 - Presbyterian Synod School 2017 - Buena Vista University, Storm Lake - display

August 26 - Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) All Congregational Gathering - Christian Conference Center, Newton - display

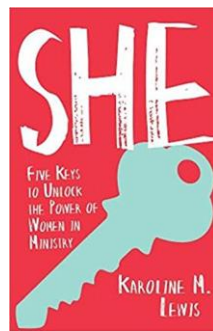
remain eager to help you find just the right resource for your group, where you are at this moment in your theological journey.

Yours,

Sharon

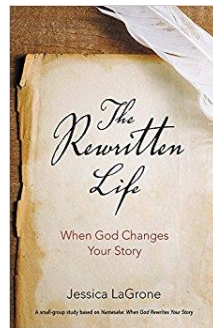
Featured Resources: What's New?

[She: Five Keys to Unlock the Power of Women in Ministry](#)



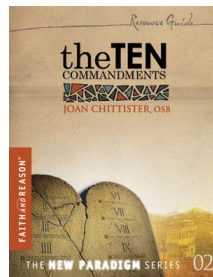
[\(DV1527\)](#) (NEW) covers everything from biblical arguments for and against women in the church to issues of apparel, providing insight into the distinct challenges women in ministry face. This five-session group experience for clergy, staff and laity, is designed to help leaders process and apply the information in their own lives and ministries. (Adult)

[The Rewritten Life: When God Changes Your Story: God Wants to Rewrite Your Story and Transform Your Life](#)



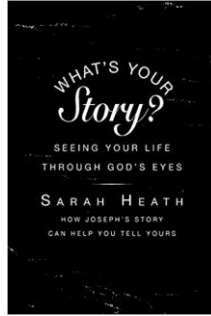
[\(DV1526\)](#) (NEW) is a powerful, practical biblical study, based on Jessica LaGrone's popular **[Namesake \(DV1140\)](#)** Bible study. Six sessions explore the transformational power of God through the stories of people in the Bible whose lives, and names, were changed forever by God. (Adult)

[The Ten Commandments: Laws of the Heart](#)



[\(DV1530\)](#) (NEW) invites us to think more deeply about the moral fiber of our society through this progressive, ten-session study. Asserting that the Ten Commandments provide an adventure in human growth, Sister Joan Chittister, OSB, offers an honest and refreshing approach to the Ten Commandments unlike anything else available today. (Adult)

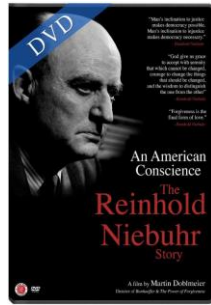
[What's Your Story? Seeing Your Life through God's Eyes - How Joseph's Story Can Help You Tell Yours](#)



[\(DV1525\)](#) **(NEW)** helps you explore your own life story, encouraging you to co-create with God the kind of life that will be a page-turner. Through four sessions, Sarah Heath empowers the use of narrative and encourages testimony to discover your unique gifts. (Adult)

[What Makes Me White? Part 2 \(DV1533\)](#) **(NEW)** provides a 25-minute continuation of the vivid narrative started in **What Makes Me White? (DV624)**. Join author Aimee Sands on her personal journey toward the realization of race as a learned social identity, one vividly experienced by people of color but largely unnoticed by whites. (Jr. High-Adult)

[An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story](#)



[\(DV1531\)](#) **(NEW)** explores the life and influence of an American original, Reinhold Niebuhr. This timely, 57-minute documentary by Martin Doblmeier profiles the pastor, writer and political activist, providing unique insight into the man who would become the leading voice of conscience for his time and for ours. (Adult)



[Armor of Light \(DV1529\)](#) **(NEW)** follows unlikely allies through trials of conscience, heartbreak and rejection, as they bravely attempt to place a moral lens on America's gun culture. With a compelling narrative, this 87-minute film by Abigail Disney looks in-depth at our fractured political culture, asserting that it is possible for people to find common ground across deep party lines. (Sr. High-Adult)

Resources in Use:

Plan your program a year in advance!

On a delightful sunny June morning a few weeks ago, Bonnie McCaughey, along with nine other eager participants in the

Ankeny Presbyterian Church Women's Bible Study Group, met at IRMS to plan their next year's studies. It is a tradition of this group to map their annual education plan at IRMS each summer. To prepare for the meeting, Bonnie calls IRMS to request a date to gather in the large conference room and offer some suggestions on the types of studies the group might enjoy. This year, Bonnie requested studies that utilized participant workbooks and also gave a few suggestions of presenters that the group enjoys - John Ortberg, Max Lucado and Jessica LaGrone. Adam Hamilton is another of their favorites.

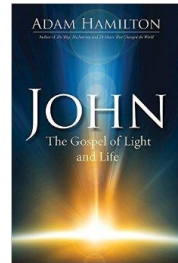
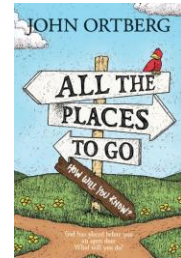


IRMS Library Manager, Tracey Stark, prepared the room before the group arrived, and she had pulled about a dozen studies in an effort to meet the requests of the group. She provided a DVD player for the group to preview the potential resources.

After an hour and a half of thoughtful discussion, warmed by generous laughter, the group selected studies including Max Lucado's [Grace -](#)



[More than We Deserve; Greater than We Imagine \(DV1118\)](#) , John Orberg's [All the Places to Go: How Will You Know \(DV1363\)](#), and Adam Hamilton's [John - The Gospel of Light and Life \(DV1395\)](#). Several of the newest IRMS additions round out their resource plan through May 2018.



We look forward to serving Bonnie's group again next year, and welcome the opportunity to provide the same service to any clients who would also like to jump-start their education planning!

Meeting the Challenge: interfaith cooperation to build a peaceful world

Q: This Spring, Eboo Patel visited Iowa and spoke at the Iowa Interfaith Exchange. His visit, along with news of violence perpetuated in the name of faith throughout the world, prompted our small group to discuss ways to encourage interfaith cooperation. What resources do you recommend to begin and continue the conversation on interfaith cooperation?

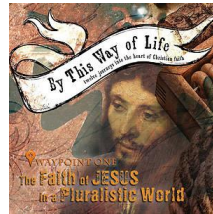
A: IRMS continues to grow its collection of resources in the area of interfaith study, understanding and dialogue. We highlight just a few here, but encourage you to review our online resource catalog at www.irms.org or call us at 515-277-2920 to find more.

[The Story of God with Morgan Freeman: Season One \(DV1528\)](#)



(NEW) takes viewers on a trip around the world, exploring different cultures and religions in the ultimate quest to uncover the meaning of life, God and all the big questions in between. Join Morgan Freeman on this six-session journey to discover how our beliefs connect us all. (Young Adult-Adult)

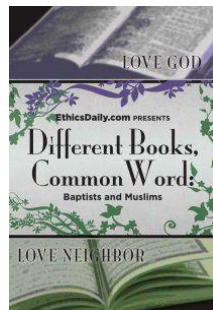
[The Faith of Jesus in a Pluralistic World \(DV1521\) \(NEW\)](#)



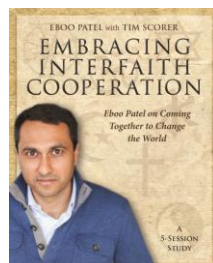
implores us to consider Jesus' statement: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." While acknowledging that the future of the human race depends upon adherents of world religions coexisting peacefully, this six-session study explores how we can honor Jesus' words without denying the existence of other paths

God may create for humanity. (Adult)

[Different Books, Common Word: Baptists and Muslims - Love God, Love Neighbor \(DV1425\)](#)



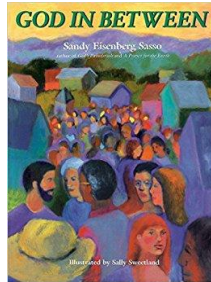
provides excellent examples of intentional dialogue between faith groups for the propagation of peace. Emphasizing building relationships, rather than comparing religious texts, the intertwining stories are based on the concept of the Golden Rule as the "common word" for both traditions. (Sr. High-Adult)



[Embracing Interfaith Cooperation - Eboo Patel on Coming Together to Change the World \(DV1123\)](#) is a five-session exploration of both the challenge and necessity of interfaith cooperation. Through conversation with individuals of diverse religious backgrounds, Patel shares his belief that

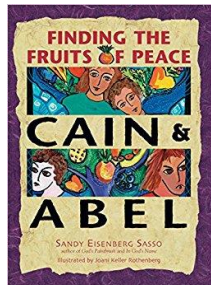
religion is at heart a bridge to cooperation rather than a barrier that divides. (Young Adult-Adult)

New from the Lutheran Resource Center:



[God In Between \(BK1962\) \(NEW\)](#) shares valuable lessons on multiculturalism and building relationships across lines of faith. This wonderful picture book featuring a magical, mythical tale teaches that God can be found where we are, within all of us and within the relationships between us. (Lower-Upper Elementary)

[Cain and Abel - Finding the Fruits of Peace \(BK1963\) \(NEW\)](#)



provides a modern retelling of the battling Biblical brothers. Whether on the playground, television or video games, our children learn about the fighting that exists in the world. This book reminds us that now more than ever, we need to talk to our children about why the natural emotion of anger may sometimes erupt into violence. (Lower-Upper Elementary)

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.