

Check It Out

Charity Kropf Memorial Library
Zion Mennonite Church

June 2008

New DVD's

VEGGIE TALES - GIDEON, TUBA WARRIOR, a Lesson in trusting God.

EMBRACING AGING — FAMILIES FACING CHANGE gives insights into care of the aging.

FINDING HOPE IN RECOVERY — FAMILIES LIVING WITH ADDICTION, a documentary about recovery, reconciliation and healing.

NURTURING SPIRIT THROUGH SONG - THE LEGACY OF MARY OYER. This explores Mary's legacy and is a teaching resource for church musicians, congregational song leaders, and students interested in learning the art of leading congregational singing.

You must give some time to your fellow men. Even if it's a little thing, do something for others-- something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.

Albert Schweitzer

From the Library Staff

These are the books you've been waiting to read! Hope you can find some time in your busy summer to enjoy!

- **A MENDING AT THE EDGE** by Jane Kirkpatrick is the third and last of the *Change and Cherish* series about the life of Emma in the Aurora Colony.
- **THE PARTING** and **THE FORBIDDEN** are Bev Lewis's newest books in *The Courtship of Nellie Fisher* series.
- **A BRIDE FOR DONNIGAN, ANOTHER HOMECOMING** and **A SEARCHING HEART** are three additional Janette Oke books that have been donated to our library.
- **ON SPARROW HILL** and **THE OAK LEAVES** are two inspiring books by Maureen Lang. One is a bittersweet novel of unconditional love for a child with Fragile X syndrome; one of discovery of an unwanted legacy in 150 year old letters.
- **WHERE MY HEART BELONGS** is a story by Tracie Peterson of two sisters' reconciliation toward one another and toward God.
- **THE HAPPENING** - The author, Harvey Yoder, tells the story of the Nickel Mines Amish School tragedy through the eyes of a fictional young victim.
- **THE NORMAL CHRISTIAN LIFE** is a discussion of Romans 5-8 written by Watchman Nee.
- **TEA IN THE DESERT, A MEMOIR** by Stephen Penner of his experiences during his two years of MCC service in Chad, Africa. He is now pastor of First Mennonite Church in Reedley, CA.
- **A LIFE FOR CANBY--ELSIE EGLI CUTSFORTH** and **THE DECADES OF HISTORY** (the Canby story) are of historical significance and interesting reading.
- **THE RAPTURE EXPOSED - The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation** is by Barbara Rossing. Bill Moyers says "Barbara Rossing has done the Christian faith a great service by exposing one of its modern heresies." The author argues that Revelation offers a vision of God's healing love for the world as opposed to some of the views held in such books as the Left Behind series. This is a challenging read.

Book Review

BRAND JESUS: CHRISTIANITY IN A CONSUMERIST SOCIETY

by Tyler Wigg Stevenson

Based on the book of Romans, BRAND JESUS seeks to help contemporary Christians live faithfully in a society wrapped up in consumerism. The author reminds us of the real meaning of Mammon as used by Jesus; that Mammon is the name of a force in opposition to God. He says we speak of our love of God but live out our love of Mammon. Our sin as consumerists is essentially thanklessness to God which was also the sin of pagan Romans. Can we see ourselves in Romans 1 & 2? Would Paul address North American Christians with the same words?

In his review in the *Mennonite Weekly Review*, Ted Lewis says "Stevenson starts his discussion about the idolatrous ways of American society. At the heart of consumerism is our capacity to fashion our own identities, to create our own meaning. We choose our lifestyles, our clothing, even our cell phones, to reflect the person we want to be. We forget to recognize the real Creator in whose image we have already been created." And "the book has colorful examples of how Brand Jesus translates into the Christian market. Bibles for female teens are reformulated into magazines that mirror Seventeen. Clothing displays acronyms such as NOTW (Not Of This World), which function like a Nike swoosh. In short, Stevenson says, "Brand Jesus wants to add a tiny, harmless adjective--'Christian'--to whichever consumer identity you've already invested money in." He suggests that Mennonites might hear a hint in this book of how the early Anabaptists became nonconformists and reshaped church life around relationships of support. And asks "Isn't this where Paul pointed the Roman Christians of his day?"

This book may help you look at the world with different eyes as the author discusses the connection between biblical idolatry and aspects of modern life.



Library Summer Reading Club

COMING IN JULY AND AUGUST!
Calling all children from 3 years old through 6th grade!

It is time again to scoop up some good books for summer reading. Starting July 6 you can start adding up your hours of reading time and build your own big ice cream cone with a scoop for every hour you read or are read to. Did you ever see a 10 scoop cone? Well now's your chance--not real ice cream though, I'm sad to say.

If you really do put a small value upon yourself, rest assured that the world will not raise your price.

Anonymous
