



Sharing the Good News!

Penn Northeast Conference of the United Church of Christ

PNEC RESOURCE CENTER UPDATES

Nancy E. Azar, Associate Conference Minister

There are a number of *exciting changes* taking place in regard to the Resource Center. The center is in the midst of making a shift in its ministry and purpose. The goal is to have the Resource Center function more as a ministry tool rather than a library or archive facility. As Alan, Toby and I lead events of various kinds, the room is being used more as a workshop and teaching space. Therefore as time progresses the physical space will most likely be transformed into a more user-friendly setting by adding shelving and removing the book stacks and changing the furnishings. The possibility exists to add a permanent projector and drop down screen. These physical changes will incur no additional cost to the conference as there are designated monies available to be used for this type of project.

“House Cleaning” of the Resource Center has begun. All of the outdated AV items have been pulled from the shelves! These items were offered on a giveaway table at the Spring Annual meeting. Some of the items were taken by educators and local churches to supplement their own church libraries. The next phase of the cleanup is to tackle the books, periodicals and out of print curriculums. Another “give away” will be offered when that clean up is finished.

I am happy to share that due to the availability and publication of new curriculum resources we will be able to expand our display of

items to be previewed. The Resource Center provides a place for local church Christian education committees **to explore and learn how to use and implement curriculum resources**. There has been an increase in the number of requests for help in choosing appropriate curriculum materials. Praise God for that gift!

After extensive study we have discovered that the on-line resource search through the PNEC website is not as effective as we hoped it would be. Because of this resources will start to be classified by subjects and not by the Library of Congress number. This phase of the update will take some time as this requires several complicated steps to adjusting the data base. Fran Potters, our Resource Center Coordinator, has all the skills and expertise needed to make this happen! Fran will be looking to complete this project sometime in mid to late summer, perhaps continuing into the fall.

So...we ask your patience as we undergo some temporary inconveniences as we move to what we pray will prove to be long term improvements. As always we are here to assist you in enhancing and strengthening your ministries through the use of our PNEC Resource Center. Please call the PNEC office and let us know how we can be of help!

Grace and Peace,

Nancy

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