

Advent Studies at Practical Resources for Churches

Resources starting with “C” are located in our Commack office; resources starting with “R” are located in our Patchogue office. You may pick up any of these resources at either of our two offices, but please give us advance notice so we can make sure we have them available for you.

Non-video Studies

Advent in Narnia: Reflections for the Season (Westminster John Knox Press, 2015)
#C3738

- This book includes 28 devotions with scripture and excerpts from *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* along with questions for reflections. There are four sessions for small group discussion as well as information on creating a Narnia Night for families.

All I Want for Christmas (Abingdon, 2003) #R10063

- This four week study centers on the themes of hope, peace, joy, and a Savior. Each lesson includes a scripture reading, brief reflection, study/discussion questions, a suggested Christmas carol for the week, and a brief prayer.

Book of Faith Advent Reflections: I Wonder as I Wander (Augsburg, 2010) #R22351

- This study includes daily readings as well as weekly Bible studies on the themes of hope, love, joy, and peace. Intergenerational activities are also included.

Book of Faith Advent Reflections: Making All Things New (Augsburg, 2011) #C3538,
#R22767

- This study includes daily readings as well as weekly Bible studies on the theme of renewal. Intergenerational activities are also included.

Book of Faith Advent Reflections: While We Wait (Augsburg, 2009) #R22051

- Daily Biblical reflections, journaling, activities, and prayer are included in this study, as well as weekly Bible studies.

Book of Faith Advent Reflections: You Shall Have a Song (Augsburg, 2012) #C1075,
#R23109

- Daily Biblical reflections, journaling, activities, and prayer are included in this study, as well as weekly Bible studies.

Carols of Christmas (Augsburg, 2002) #R23382

- This five session study by Ruth Buenting focuses on five carols: “Once in Royal David’s City,” “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” “Joy to the World,” “Good

Christian Friends, Rejoice” and “Silent Night.” The study includes backgrounds on the hymns, the biblical passages the hymns are based on, and questions to allow further reflection.

Christmas: Festival of Incarnation (Fortress Press, 2010) #R23353/R23364

- This book tells the history of Christmas, from its origins in the biblical texts to the figure of Santa Claus to the commercial spree of today – a pilgrimage through lived religion as it appears in folkways, music, art, and literature. Two study guides to the book are available.

Christmas from the Back Side (Abingdon, 2003) #R9943

- This seven chapter book by J. Ellsworth Kalas opens up new possibilities of insight in the biblical Christmas story of Jesus’ birth by entering the Gospel scriptures through the “Back Side” --- through a unique starting point, a creative retelling, a new “lens,” or the eyes of a minor or unsympathetic character. A study guide is included.

Christmas Gifts That Won't Break (Abingdon, 2010) #R23120

- This four session study looks at Christmas gifts that cannot be lost, that never go out of style, and that are independent of the chances and changes of life. They are the gifts that have been graciously given by God. The study focuses on four of those gifts that also coincide with the four outer candles of the traditional Advent wreath: hope, love, joy, and peace.

Christmas: Light Splits the Night (Faith Alive, 2011) #R22820

- This study is designed for 4-5 sessions and focuses on how each Christmas season with all its fanfare gives us an opening to remember the strange and wonderful time when light split the night and God became one of us.

The Christmas People (Abingdon, 1998) #C3540, #R7289

- In this four week Advent study, J. Ellsworth Kalas takes us into the familiar world of Christmas as we know it in order to remind us that it is for such a world as this that our Lord was born. Each lesson includes a scripture reading, brief reflection, study/discussion questions, and a focus for the coming week.

Come Home for Christmas (Abingdon, 1999) #R8495

- This study by James A. Harnish invites participants to follow the path that leads to the manger of Bethlehem and find their way home to the love of God. Each lesson includes a central Scripture reading, reflection, discussion questions, Christmas carol, and daily scripture readings for the coming week.

Illuminating Advent (Congregational Ministries, 2013) #C1060

- This six-session study looks at Advent through four themes connected with Advent wreaths: hope, peace, joy, and love. It also includes sessions on Christmas and Epiphany.

Let Us Go Over to Bethlehem (Abingdon, 2001) #R9093

- This four week study by James W. Moore invites us to get away from business as usual and journey to find the good news of God's ultimate victory in the faith, promise, peace, and *Christ* of Christmas. Each lesson includes a scripture reading, brief reflection, study/discussion questions, a prayer, and a focus for the coming week.

The Light of the Star (Abingdon), 2003) #R10062

- Author Stan Purdum leads the reader in discovering the unique emphases of Advent as he looks at the texts designated by the RCL for this special season. The five sessions includes scripture readings and commentary as well as discussion questions.

The Light Will Shine - A Study for Advent (The Kerygma Program, 1999)

#C1061/C1062, #R8427/R8428

- This study is designed for 4 or 5 sessions and will help participants to discover new light in traditional texts and seasonal themes. Sessions explore: Keeping Watch (Gospel apocalypse), John the Baptist's Call, Prophecy Fulfilled, and Birth and Epiphany stories - includes a leader guide and participant book.

Mary Had a Baby (Abingdon, 2003) #R10361

- This four week study by Cheryl Kirk-Duggan is based on four African American spirituals. Each session includes the historical background of the spiritual, a devotional, and activities to help participants prepare for the coming season of Christmas.

Meet the Son of God (Abingdon, 1998) #C1077

- This study by James Harnish is based on the Revised Common Lectionary.

The Miracle of Christmas (Abingdon, 2006) #R20976

- This four week study by James W. Moore explores the true miracle of Christmas with sessions on the miracles of good news, hospitality, giving, and Christmas. Each lesson includes a scripture reading, brief reflection, study/discussion questions, a prayer, and a focus for the coming week.

No Small Wonder: Stories from the Nativity (Faith and Life Press, 1998) C1076

- This study looks deeper into the nativity stories to discover the radical nature of God's coming to earth in Jesus.

Prepare Him Room (Abingdon Press, 2000) #R8003

- 48 page Advent study.

Rejoicing in Hope (Abingdon, 2007) #C3541, #R21019

- James A. Harnish looks at the Christmas story through the experience of four characters from the Gospel of Luke, each of whom finds joy in hope. Characters discussed are Elizabeth and Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and Simeon. This four-week study provides one lesson for each week of Advent. Each lesson includes a Scripture, a brief reflection, discussion/reflection questions, a brief prayer, and a focus for the coming week.

The Scriptures Sing of Christmas (Abingdon, 2004) #R20974

- J. Ellsworth Kalas examines songs of praise found in the scriptures of Christmas, as well as the lyric quality of the scriptures found at the beginning of the Gospel of John. This four-week study provides scripture, reflections, study/discussion questions, prayer, and a focus for the coming week.

Signs along the Way (Creative Communications, 2004) #R19475/R10476

- This study by John Gugel is for use with the Series A lectionary readings for Advent. Each week's text is divided into three or four parts with warm up questions. The full text is printed next, following by a section that examines the text more closely and asks profound questions. The sessions conclude with a mission challenge, prayer concerns, and hymn stanzas. The study includes a leader's guide and participant booklet.

Simply Wait, Cultivating Stillness in the Season of Advent (The Upper Room, 2007) #R20973

- This study focuses on four words: anticipation, hope, patience, and obedience. There are daily meditations on scripture. It is appropriate for individual or group study.

Someone to Believe In: An Advent Course Based On "Miracle on 34th Street" (Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd., 2015), #R23879/#R24194

- This is a four week study based on the classic movie.

Sparks of Advent Light (Benetvision, 2008) #R22050

- This Joan Chittister study has six sessions on each of the four weeks of Advent, the O Antiphons, and Christmas week. Includes readings, scripture, and questions for reflection.

Unplug the Christmas Machine: A Complete Guide to Putting Love and Joy back into Christmas (William Morrow and Company, Inc., 1991), #C1073/C1074, #R21384

- There are also instructions for a workshop (#R21382) which goes along with this study about how to have a stress-free, joyful holiday season.

What Can We Learn from the Christ Child? (Abingdon, 1997) #R6843

- In this four week study, James W. Moore explores the Christmas story through the characters of Mary, Joseph, the Innkeeper, and the Christ Child. Each lesson includes a scripture reading, brief reflection, study/discussion questions, and a focus for the coming week.

What Do You Want for Christmas? (Abingdon, 2008) #R21596

- In this four week study, author James W. Moore invites you to explore the question “What do I want for Christmas?” Does your heart long for the gifts the Christ child brings – the type of gifts money can’t buy?

Where Heaven Touches Earth (Abingdon, 2005) #R20975

- Rob Weber’s study has four sessions; each one focuses on a portion of the Christmas story scripture from Luke 2:8-14 and includes questions for reflection or discussion, a brief prayer, and a focus for the coming week.

The Women of Christmas (WaterBook Press, 2013) #R23370

- This book by Liz Curtis Higgs includes eight chapters about three women whose hearts belong to God: Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna. There is a study guide in the book for each of the chapters.

Won’t You Let Him In? (Abingdon, 2002) #R9476

- Each lesson in this four week study by James W. Moore includes a scripture reading, brief reflection, study/discussion questions, a prayer, and a focus for the coming week. It asks participants to let Christ into their hearts, celebrations, gift-giving, and Christmas.

Video Studies

An Advent and Christmas Journey (St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2005)

#R21990/R21991

- Popular speaker and professor Father Michael Himes provides an in-depth look at the spirituality and theology of the season of Advent and Christmas. Five programs focus on: Hope in the Darkness; The Second Coming; the Threat of Grace; the prophets and John, Mary and Joseph; and Christmas as God's eternal Gift. A leader's guide is provided.
- Hope in the Darkness (21 minutes) We are creatures of time and God is timeless. We look for the timeless one, God, to speak to us. We are constantly restless and nothing on this earth ultimately satisfies us. We wait, and hope, for God. Advent is only one month of the year but as Christians we are always in Advent. Father Himes uses quotes from the great poet W.H. Auden and his favorite theologian St. Augustine of Hippo to delve into the deep issues of what it means to be a human being and what it means to live in time, time that is constantly "slipping away."
- The Second Coming is NOW (26 minutes) Himes talks about the second coming of Christ—a major theme in Advent and a topic of much discussion in American culture. Himes tells us that the coming of the Kingdom of God is not predictable but takes us by surprise. The Kingdom is constantly, relentlessly coming upon us in ordinary ways.
- Threatened by Grace (24 minutes) Himes explores what the Last Judgment might mean. He does this by looking at what the "world" means in the Scriptures. Sometimes the world is seen as "good" but in other passages is seen as the enemy of God. Himes invites us to live in this tension and see the world as in transition. The Last Judgment will not mean the annihilation of the world but its transformation.
- Prophets: John, Mary, Joseph (29 minutes) Prophets live in expectation of something new. That is why they play such a prominent role in Advent. Something new is about to happen—the Savior will be born and that will change everything. With humor and wisdom, Himes looks at Old Testament prophets like Isaiah and three of the key New Testament figures of Advent—John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph—and shows how they inspire and challenge us today.
- The Eternal Giving of God (25 minutes) How can we say anything new about Christmas? Himes offers a Christmas banquet of provocative insights into the feast day. He looks at the early church controversies concerning the divinity and humanity of Christ. He connects Christmas and Easter: God gives life where life could not possibly exist—in a virgin womb and an empty tomb. Christmas is a season of generosity. Himes asks us not to reject the secularization of Christmas but to reinterpret it. Finally Himes talks about what Christmas tells us about the Trinity.

Advent Conspiracy (Zondervan, 2009) #C1690/C3708, #R23050/R21962/R21963

- This four-session DVD study invites us to worship Christ more meaningfully this Christmas by giving relationally to family, friends, and those most in need. Join pastors Rick McKinley (Imago Dei Community) and Chris Seay (Ecclesia) as we learn how to restore the scandal of Christmas by substituting compassion for consumption.
- Are you fed up with how consumerism has stolen the soul of Christmas? This year, take a stand! Join the growing groundswell of Christ-followers who are choosing to make Christmas what it should be – a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth, not a retail circus.
- In four compelling sessions, *Advent Conspiracy* invites individuals, families, groups, and entire churches to substitute compassion for consumerism by practicing four simple but powerful, countercultural concepts:
- Worship Fully – because Christmas begins and ends with Jesus! Spend Less – and free your resources for things that truly matter. Give More – of your presence: your hands, your words, your time, your heart. Love All – the poor, the forgotten, the marginalized, the sick, in ways that make a difference.
- *Advent Conspiracy* DVD session titles:
Session 1: Worship Fully
Session 2: Spend Less
Session 3: Give More
Session 4: Love All
Designed for use with the *Advent Conspiracy* book and DVD Study Guide.

Bethlehem Year Zero (Vision Video, 2000) #C1691, #R22052/R8667

- The birth of Jesus and surrounding events as TV news would cover it today. A mad tyrant Herod, a turbulent and restless people under Roman occupation, mass executions – all are under the shadow of the greatest astronomical event in 800 years, at a time when astrology was the cutting edge of political science. Here is the program that sheds new light on the events and circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus. This is no nativity-play treatment of Christ's birth, but an attempt to set it in the real political and social context of the time. The program is presented in a news format as if the events surround Christ's birth were happening now. The incidents are reported by on-the-scene correspondents and political analysts, just as television presents world news today. The reporters discuss the threat of Herod's succession and the danger to him if he fails to control this province. The report on the tax census discloses the fiscal oppression of the people. Also documented is the instability caused by putting a whole country on the move at a time when gatherings of more than three people could be seen as subversive. Six 15 minute segments/color.
- The PRC consultants have written a study guide for this video.

The Census and the Star (Vision Video, 2008) #R22005

- Explore the mysterious circumstances of Christ's birth in this captivating look at the first Christmas. The census has long confounded historians seeking to reconcile the Bible with recorded history. The mysteries continue when a star appears to announce the birth of the King of the Jews. Foreign Magi, or Wise Men, saw the star and followed it to Jerusalem and Bethlehem seeking Jesus. What did the star look like, and when did it appear? To better understand Christmas, explore the star as the Magi did. Approx. 30 minutes.
- DVD Special Features:
 - Glossary of Names and Terms, on-screen and in PDF
 - Study Materials, on-screen and in PDF
 - Chronology Information in PDF
 - Additional Interviews
 - Stellarium: Free planetarium software (for Windows, Mac, and Linux)

A Christmas Carol Bible Study Kit (Entertainment Ministries, 2006)

#R20990/R22529/R20941

- Around the world, two Christmas stories are most beloved. The first is the sacred birth of Christ. And the second is Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Bring both to home or church with A Christmas Carol Bible Study. This study reaches adults, youth, nonchurch members – even world-weary souls of longtime believers. With practical applications for daily living, this DVD-based Bible study features the classic black-and-white film A Christmas Carol and relevant Scriptures to use on the teachings of Jesus. Follow Scrooge on the journey of a fallen man to redemption in these four studies: Scrooge: Selfishness; Marley and the Ghost of Christmas Past: Regret; Ghost of Christmas Present: Repentance; Ghost of Christmas Future: Salvation. The leader's pack includes a DVD and leader's guide.

The Christmas Experience: Small Group Study (City on a Hill, 2012)

#R23638/R23639/R23640/R23641

- This six part DVD study is led by Kyle Idleman and examines the important truths discovered in the first Christmas. The study focuses on the discovery that God always keeps His promises and that we can trust God's timing.

Christmas: The Real Story (Crossways International, 2009) #R22354/R22355/R22356

- In this study Dr. Harry Wendt of Crossways International revisits what the Bible actually tells us about that first Christmas and how the Nativity story fits into the greater context of the Bible's complete storyline. The Bible tells a very adult story of Jesus' birth. Social outcasts and Gentiles were honored witnesses; a powerful king became fearful and murderous. This course explores these issues, and reexamines traditional Western assumptions about the first Christmas in the

context of Middle Eastern customs and culture. Includes leader's guide, participant book and DVD.

A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus (Ecufilm, 2005)

#C1064/C1065/C1066/C1067/C1068/C1069, #R20453

- Why was the town of Bethlehem so hardhearted that no private home would take them in if there was no room in the inn? If the Holy Family was in a dirty stable, why didn't the shepherds move them at once to their own homes? In these four half-hour lectures, Dr. Kenneth E. Bailey answers these and many other questions regarding the Christmas story, providing fresh understandings of the well-known Biblical stories of Christmas in a way that everyone can follow. Dr. Kenneth E. Bailey is a Presbyterian minister who spent 40 years living and teaching in seminaries and institutes in Egypt, Lebanon, Jerusalem and Cyprus. The DVD runs for a total of 120 minutes (four 30 minute lectures).
- Lecture 1: Where was the Manger and What was the Inn?
- Lecture 2: Three Surprises - His Ancestors, Joseph and Herod
- Lecture 3: Salvation and the Wise Men
- Lecture 4: Herod's Atrocities and Simeon's Welcome

A Different Kind of Christmas (Abingdon, 2012) #R23138/R23139/R23087

- This five session DVD study is based on the book, *A Different Kind of Christmas*, by Mike Slaughter. It is a practical and inspiring study that will empower your family and your church to reclaim the broader missional meaning of Jesus' birth and experience a Christmas season with more peace and joy than any toy or gadget could ever bring. It includes a Leader Guide with five session plans,
- The sessions include
 1. Expect a Miracle
 2. Giving Up on Perfect
 3. Scandalous Love
 4. Jesus' Wish List
 5. By a Different Road

Down to Earth: The Hopes & Fears of All the Years Are Met in Thee Tonight

(Abingdon, 2016) #R24386/R24387/R24388

- Nothing in all the vast, created universe could prepare us for God coming down as a helpless infant, or for Jesus the son of God intentionally positioning himself as a mere servant, identifying with the lowest of lows. It's enough to confound the mind, to make the heart contrite. This four week DVD study includes including session plans and discussion questions, as well as multiple format options.

Finding Bethlehem in the Midst of Bedlam (Abingdon, 2015) #R24021/R24022/R24024

- When did Christmas get so chaotic? How about on the very night Jesus was born? We tend to picture softly lowing cows and a warm, cozy stable when we sing Christmas carols, but it couldn't have been very lyrical. Soldiers marched in the street. People were pushing and shoving. You couldn't find an empty room and food may have been scarce as well. In short, Bethlehem was the picture of bedlam. But in the midst of confusion and turmoil, God broke through and Jesus was born.
- The reintroduction of this five-chapter Advent study by James W. Moore, which includes a new Leader Guide, large print edition, and DVD, explores how God can still be heard over our human noise. Each chapter includes questions for reflection and discussion, a brief prayer, a focus for the week, and six daily Bible readings for personal devotional time.

The Greatest Gift; Unwrapping the Full Love Story of Christmas (Tyndale, 2014)

#C3045

- Ann Voskamp celebrates the majesty of God's greatest gift to us--His son, Jesus Christ-- in this stunning four-week video curriculum. Ann draws viewers even deeper into Scripture as she explores and illuminates the magnificence of God's Word through the unfurling of the greatest love story ever told--God's ardent and relentless pursuit of us. Perfect for families and ideal for small groups, this study is a moment of calm amid the busy holiday season.

The Journey (Abingdon, 2011) #C1714,/C3135,/C3136, #R22804/R22805/R22806

- Take your group on a journey with Adam Hamilton as he travels on video from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ.
- This five-session DVD was filmed on location in the Holy Land. Each session contains 10-15 minute video vignettes of pastor and best-selling author Adam Hamilton retracing the actual path of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. Also includes a bonus segment on the Holy Land today.
- In addition, this comprehensive resource includes a 64-page Leader Guide containing everything needed to guide your group through the study. Inside you'll find session plans, discussion questions, as well as multiple format options and suggestions of ways to make the study a meaningful experience for any group.
- Sessions include:
 1. Mary of Nazareth
 2. Joseph of Bethlehem
 3. Mary's Visit to Elizabeth
 4. From Nazareth to Bethlehem
 5. The Manger
- Bonus: The Holy Land Today

Journey to Christmas (Tyndale, 2011) #R23336/R23337

- This four-session DVD study tells the story of five people---a messianic Jew, a First Nations woman, a poet, a Christian radio personality, and an agnostic lawyer---as they travel to the Holy Land and discover the true meaning of Christmas. There is also commentary from Bible experts, stunning photography, and an engaging reality-show format which bring to life the culture, places, and people surrounding the nativity.

The Nativity Story/Why the Nativity (New Line Home Video, 2007) #R20882/R20752

- In Nazareth, a town oppressed by the devastating taxation practices of King Herod, a teenage girl, Mary, is told by her parents that they have arranged for her to marry Joseph. Distraught by the idea of marrying a man she hardly knows, Mary takes refuge in a grove to collect her thoughts. There, she is visited by an angel, who tells her that she has been chosen by God to bear his son. Despite the public scorn from an unwed pregnancy, together, Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem for a census mandated by the King. It is here, with a great celestial event revealing his prophecy, in a history-defining event, that Jesus is born. 101 minutes.
- There are discussion guides available for this movie, as well as a book entitled *Why the Nativity?* which includes questions and answers based on the movie.

Not a Silent Night (Abingdon, 2014) #C3037/C3042/C3122

- This five session DVD study looks at Jesus birth, ministry, and death from Mary's point of view. Adam Hamilton helps you witness the life of Jesus from Mary's unique perspective, starting at the very end and traveling back in time to the very beginning – the night of Christ's birth.
- This DVD, meant for group use along with Adam Hamilton's book *Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem*, brings Hamilton and his dynamic teaching style into the group. The DVD presents five video sessions of about 10 minutes each, one for each book chapter. The videos are based on the book chapter topics:
 1. Beginning with the End
 2. The Piercing of Mary's Soul
 3. Amazed, Astounded, and Astonished
 4. Mary, Full of Grace
 5. It Was Not a Silent Night

The Purpose of Christmas with Rick Warren (Zondervan, 2008) #C1071/C1683/C1684, #R21613/R21614/R21615

- The Purpose of Christmas DVD Study for groups and families features three sessions taught by Rick Warren on why we celebrate Christmas and how it can change our lives forever. At the very first Christmas an angel announced three things. In those three statements, we find the three purposes of Christmas:

Christmas is a time for celebration, Christmas is a time for salvation, and Christmas is a time for reconciliation.

The Redemption of Scrooge (Abingdon, 2016) #24380/R24381/24382

- Is redemption possible for Ebenezer Scrooge? Pastor and author Matt Rawle believes so as he discovers the teachings of Jesus in the words of the Charles Dickens classic *A Christmas Carol*. This is a four session DVD study.

A Savior Is Born (Bluefish TV, 2009) #R22357/R22358/R22374/R22375

- It's one of the most familiar stories in human history: the birth of Jesus in a lowly manger in Bethlehem. A Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Yet, how can we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior in our frantic, consumer-driven society? How do we make sure the Christmas holiday remains a Holy Day?
- In each of these four sessions, you will experience cinematic short films that capture events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ. Then Pete Briscoe will open up scripture to bring us back to the roots and heart of our faith in Christ. These sessions can serve as an Advent for the Christmas season.

Session 1 - Hope

Session 2 - Peace

Session 3 - Love

Session 4 - Joy

Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas (Abingdon, 2015)

#R24019/R24025/R24027

- God sent Christ into the world as our Savior. That's what Christmas is all about. In turn, Christ sends us into the world. But do we really understand how, where, and why we are sent? This five-week DVD Advent study challenges us through story, art, and Bible study to discover what it means to be Christ's hands, feet, head, and heart and is appropriate for adults and youth.

Stories of Christmas: Behold this Child (Franciscan Communications) #R22807

- Four segments with Father Anthony Scannell, O.F.M. Cap., as host:
 - The Christmas Story: An Introduction (10 min.)
 - The Promise Fulfilled: The Annunciation Stories (11 min.)
 - And It Came to Pass: The Birth of the Messiah (10 min.)
 - What Child Is This? The Messiah Is Recognized (12 min.)

A Thrill of Hope (Church Publishing, 2011) #C1063/C2238, #R23839/R22819

- This 50-minute DVD-based study presents the familiar story of Christmas as told in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. Each scripture passage is illustrated and interpreted in the stunning artwork of John August Swanson along with

commentary by some of America's premier biblical scholars, names such as Dr. Thomas A. Long, Dr. Michael Joseph Brown, Dr. Carol A. Newsom and more.

- The study is divided into six one hour sessions with a 7-minute video for each chapter. Each video featuring a passage of a Scripture, commentary by the scholars, and a Swanson work of art based on that passage. Included are:
 - A Visit (Luke 1:26-38)
 - The Nativity (Luke 2:1-7)
 - The Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20)
 - Epiphany ((Matthew 2:1-12)
 - Presentation in the Temple (Luke 2:21-40)
 - Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)
- The discussion guide has suggested questions and beautiful full-color artwork.

Under Wraps: The Gift We Never Expected (Abingdon, 2015), #C3040/#C3043/#C3044)

- *Under Wraps* is an all-church Advent experience that explores the character of God described in the Old Testament and then revealed through Jesus Christ. The adult study book is the centerpiece of the program, serving as the adult small group resource and the source of content for worship planners and leaders. Each week centers on a key word that describes a characteristic of God that is evidenced in the Old Testament and then seen more clearly through Jesus: faithful, dangerous, expectant and jealous. Additional material on the theme of "Joy" is provided for an optional Christmas week focus.

The Wonder of Christmas: Once You Believe, Anything Is Possible (Abingdon, 2016)
R24383/R24384/R24385

- This year, rediscover the true wonder of Christmas by sharing the love of Christ with others. This four week DVD study looks to the Christmas story and the stories of real people today to offer inspiration and ideas for reflecting the light of Jesus at Christmas and throughout the year.

Revised 10/2016