

The Rare Bird

Church Library Association of British Columbia Newsletter



It's time! Time to renew

Your CLABC membership is about to run out, so it's time to renew!

- Get your *Rare Bird Newsletter* 4x a year, full of tips, ideas, education and inspiration.
- Up to date membership list with other librarians and contacts.
- Information about upcoming conferences, including the May CLABC Day of Workshops
- Local Chapter meetings in your area and elsewhere. Answers and help from other church librarians!
- Discounts on library supplies purchased through Bury Museum and Library Supplies (see website under membership)

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**Deadline for submissions to the next edition of *Rare Bird* is 12 Feb 2014**

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### Notes from the President

Greetings,

How time flies!! Only 6 weeks left of 2013 by which time I hope that many of us will have honored the theme “Each One Reach One”. If all of us were to do this we should have close to 50 new members. Wouldn't that be a cause for rejoicing?

I'll be celebrating Thanksgiving this year in the U.S. and one of the things on my list for which to give thanks is the invite I had from a friend to come to a CLABC conference many years ago. Her invitation resulted in my having a whole new perspective on Church Library ministry which made it more effective. Each year at Conference or through ideas shared in the rare bird we have been energized to do a better job. Forty years have flown by since my church library work began and I sometimes ponder on how many readers might have grown in faith or been blessed and comforted through the church library ministry.

In going through the CLABC binder and past issues of *Rare bird* recently I read the following: “The purpose of the first CLABC was to help us help each other in the operation of our church libraries and to encourage the establishment of new library ministries”.

Recently I attended the funeral of a 95 year old dear friend who had taught for years in India. The theme as we all remembered her was that she “gave of her best” as an ambassador of Christ's. That challenged me! We are loved in the family of the King of Kings who deserves only our best, especially when we remember what He has done for us.

CLABC needs an injection of new and committed members to carry the torch to the next generation and strengthen this ministry. So, in the weeks ahead pray and think of another whom you can invite and encourage to become part of CLABC and to know the honor of being the Lord's good and faithful servant.

~June Wynne, President

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Council will have four meetings in 2014, in January, June, September and November with two on the Mainland and two on the Island. If members have any concerns or ideas to share with Council, to please contact their Chapter Rep or e-mail Council directly at [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com)

CLABC Contacts

Council officers

Contact your
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[clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com)

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Chapter News and Notes

NORTH SHORE CHAPTER

The latest meeting was held on Tuesday October 1, 2013 at North Lonsdale United Church. We started by attending the Community Dinner which the church hosts every Tuesday evening from September - June. After dinner we talked about our libraries and books of interest. Donna brought a few books for us to look at to do with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission work done to bring awareness and healing to the Aboriginal residential school survivors. We then visited the church library. We looked at the expansion of the Fiction section and I mentioned two series of books - *The Chronicles of the Kings* (5 books) by Lynn Austin, and *The Zion Chronicles* (5 books) by Bodie & Brock Thoene that have been well received. We all enjoy seeing the libraries at other churches so it is really nice that we rotate where the Chapter meetings are held so we can do this.

VANCOUVER ISLAND NORTH CHAPTER

5 members gathered at St. George's United Church in Courtenay on Oct. 26/13 to discuss the future of CLABC in our changing times. Our next meeting will be in Nanaimo at Brechin United Church @ 10:30 am on March 29/13. What does the future hold for our CLABC? We need everyone's input. Contact Joan Palmer at [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com).

VICTORIA CHAPTER

The Victoria Chapter met Sat. Oct 5 at Duncan United Church. We looked at the issue of small turnouts for meetings, and at the need for replacing Louise as Chapter chair. We then took a look at the place of CD collections in the church library – working out the whys (and why nots), hows, and possible content. Book titles were shared, as well as the resources of the Chapter Library. We ended the meeting with enough time for members to enjoy the wonderful Saturday market. The date for the next meeting has not yet been set. Contact Louise Booth [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com).

RICHMOND INTEREST GROUP (not a chapter)

The Richmond area group (including members from Delta and Vancouver) met on Saturday November 2nd. We had an offer of books for church librarians which was shared with the Richmond group. We had a discussion about the Day of Workshops in Richmond in 2014. Please contact Kathy, Convenor for information via [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com).

***We asked, you answered:
CLABC's first survey***



This summer the CLABC Council undertook a survey to help us judge member satisfaction and plan better for the future. 8 questions were put on

Survey Monkey on the web, and all members were sent information on how to access it. Members without email were sent copies in the mail. We had responses from 30 of the 90 surveys sent out. Here's a summary of the results:

About 2/3 of respondents read every issue of the Rare Bird Newsletter, 1/3 browsed every issue. Over half use the website link to access it. Some read online, more download and print. About 1/4 receive it in the mail.

The CLABC website usage is split. Some of the respondents never use it, and the rest were split between regular use (more than 4 times a year) and occasional use.

Most respondents had attended a CLABC Conference within the last 2 years, and those who hadn't reported that it was due to conflicting schedules or travel problems. What they found valuable at Conferences, in descending order of ranking, were the keynote speaker, workshops, sharing time with others, book sellers, the book exchange, worship, having lunch included, and the Annual General Meeting.

Respondents asked that Council should prioritize its time and energy, also in descending order of preference, as maintaining and circulating the membership list, maintaining and building the website, and supporting leaders with organizing local fall and/or spring workshops to build up chapters.

Further down on the wish list were rejuvenating the newsletter, forming and supporting a conference planning committee every year, and lastly, forming and supporting a conference planning committee every two years.

When asked how they were willing and able to help move forward the cause of CLABC, members responded highest to helping plan for or conduct one local workshop in 2014. A

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smaller number were willing to do the same for a CLABC Conference in 2014. Not many respondents wanted to be on a conference planning committee for 2014.

As for Council, more were open to considering nomination for a Council position of President, Vice-Pres, Secretary, Treasurer, or Membership Chair, and only one was open to serving in an appointed Council position (Editor, Archivist, Promotions or Services Chair) All of these were already serving on Council.

Many promised to commit to praying faithfully for the work of CLABC and its membership, to helping form or continue to maintain a supportive local chapter, or to introducing CLABC to one other person. Some were interested in contributing writings, reviews, etc to the newsletter, and a few to providing input for maintaining our website and Facebook page.

Now that we have looked at the results, your Council has some ideas on how we should proceed in the year to come. If you didn't respond to the survey, do some thinking to the questions we asked, and let us know what you would be interested and able to do, at [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com).

Our thanks to Nanda Polman for creating the survey, and to Keren Ferguson for helping analyze this survey. The full results with statistics but minus the names of respondents will be posted on the website.

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***CLABC Day of workshops 2014***



Please plan to join us in Richmond, B.C. on Saturday, May 3rd, 2014 for a Day of Workshops. We're still consulting with several Church Boards

regarding a location. More information to come. Be sure to renew your membership now in order to receive the next newsletter with information about the CLABC Day. Please check our website in December for an update.



### Theme ideas for December

- Celebrate Jesus ( Wreath of books about Christ)
  - Christmas is – Jesus (Nativity)
  - Celebrate Christmas (Bells, Etc)
  - Jesus is the Reason (Nativity)
  - Unwrap an Exciting Time (Display gift boxes with titles on them)
  - Your Church Library Offers the Gift of Reading
  - Get All Wrapped up in a Good Book
  - This Angel is Bringing Good Reading
  - These Books are Real Bellringers.
  - Use pictures of bells on signs, or cutouts of bells with bows and holly. Make a garland of bells to put around display
- ~Betty Charnholm, Salem, OR

### Picture books for Christmas

Christmas tapestry, by Patricia Polacco.  
Philomel, 2002, HB, ISBN: 978-0399239557

When a bad leak ruins the sacristy wall in his father's church, Jonathan thinks his family's first Christmas Eve service in Detroit will be ruined, too. But then he and his father find a beautiful tapestry for sale in a secondhand shop. Just the thing to cover the damaged wall and give the church a festive look! But then, amazingly, an old Jewish woman who is visiting the church recognizes the beautiful cloth. It is her discovery that leads to a real miracle on Christmas Eve.

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This timely tale of love and generosity between people of different religious faiths is a wonderful showcase for Polacco's art. It features snowy holiday scenes and a colorful tapestry that is almost a character in itself.

The last straw, by Frederick H. Flury, illus Vlasta van Kampen. Charlesbridge Pub. 2009, pap. ISBN: 9780881063608

Voices roll across the desert sands to Hoshmakaka, a curmudgeonly old camel, whispering that he has been chosen for the great responsibility of carrying gifts to the new baby king. With reluctance, he accepts his task. Every day in the heat crossing the desert, his pack grows ever more burdensome as the crowds of people, anxious to welcome the new king, give him their gifts to carry. He is as strong as ten horses as he proudly tells the younger camels. But, oh, his gout! Oh, his sciatica! Nevertheless, he plods on until he reaches Bethlehem. In the end he realizes the great honor of his task and never again is there a burden too heavy for him to carry.

Listen, Said The Donkey: Tales Of The First Christmas, By Jean Little, illus. Werner Zimmerman. Scholastic, 2006, HC, ISBN: 9780439957823.

In a stable in Bethlehem, five animals -- a donkey, a camel, a cat, a sheep and a scared puppy, tell how they got there. When the soldiers of King Herod come seek Jesus, the puppy comes out of hiding just in time to prevent the stable-boy from telling them where they could find Mary and Joseph.

Pippin the Christmas Pig, by Jean Little, illus by Werner Zimmerman. North Winds Press, 2003. ISBN: 978-0779114207

Pippin the pig, whose ancestors weren't there at the first Christmas, doesn't know the most familiar of Christmas stories and keeps asking questions. The other animals ignore her. After all, she's only a pig, and their ancestors all had

important roles to play long ago. Pippin is so upset that she runs away into a snowstorm, but when she meets a woman with her young child, lost and needing help, she leads them to shelter. They all learn a lesson that it's more important what you do now than what your ancestors may have done. Zimmermann's warm illustrations capture the animals' emotions perfectly and make this a Christmas story to treasure forever.

*Room for a little one, a Christmas tale*, by Martin Waddell, illus. Jason Cockroft. Little Simon, 2008, Board, ISBN: 978-1416961772

In the stable next to an inn, Kind Ox is just settling in for the night when Old Dog comes into the stable. Kind Ox makes room for Old Dog, who in turn makes room for Stray Cat, who then makes room for Small Mouse, and each time, the larger animal says to the small, "There's always room for a little one here." Finally, Tired Donkey comes by, carrying Joseph and Mary, who asks "Where will my child be born?" Kind Ox replies, "There is always room for a little one here." And so, Jesus is born in the stable with the animals all around Him. The very short and simple text makes it perfect for young children.

*Saint Francis and the Nativity*, by Myrna Strasser, illus Fausto Bianchi. Zondervan, 2010, HC, ISBN: 9780310708902

Mario is a shepherd and loves animals, which builds a friendship with Brother Francis. One day, Brother Francis tells Mario about how Jesus was born. Wishing to tell others about the great deed of Jesus being born in a stable, Brother Francis and Mario recreate that night in a cave with live animals for others to come and see, creating one of the most beloved decorations of today. Beautiful illustrations glow almost like stained glass. An author's note in the front of the book gives historical background on The Nativity and its celebration. At the end of the book there are eight suggested activities for the reader and family on how to celebrate the Nativity.



## *Where have all the Archives gone?*



CLABC Archivist Marianne Lazaro and Ian Ferguson, husband of treasurer Keren, have been hard at work preparing our archives for transfer to the John Richard Allison Library at Regent College for storage.

Ian has scanned all CLABC Administrative Documents from 1970 to 2010, plus the CLABC Newsletter (*The Rare Bird*), Volumes 1 to 33, covering 1971 to 2005. The scans for both of these sets of documents fit onto one DVD, and they are easily accessible. Personal information, such as addresses and membership information has been redacted. Two copies will go to the Archives of J R Allison Library as per their request, one to the CLABC Archives, one to the Editor of the Rare Bird, and one to the President. Also scanned are the CLABC photo albums and over 16 years are completed. Captions have been included where possible.

Once everything is scanned, the originals will be transferred to the Allison Library Archives. The only thing that will not be sent to the Allison Library Archives will be the hard copy of membership lists, as they contain personal information, and we are required to protect privacy. The lists have been burned onto a separate DVD and marked as containing personal information and for the internal use of CLABC only.

This has been a huge job, and Marianne has stayed on to see it through even though her term as Archivist/Historian ended in May. And without the extensive assistance of Ian Ferguson, it would be nowhere near finished. Our profound thanks to both of you!



Books can be dangerous. The best ones should be labeled "This could change your life."

~Helen Exley

A truly good book teaches me better than to read it. I must soon lay it down, and commence living on its hint.... What I began by reading, I must finish by acting. ~Henry David Thoreau

## *Music in the library?*



Should a church library include a collection of CDs? If so, how do you decide what to put in the collection? How do you process and store them?

Librarians are divided on the advisability of including CDs in the collection. More and more people are downloading music, and often CDs just sit there. Shelf space is precious, and so is our time. If the library is open access all the time, losses could be high. On the other hand, if your congregation is largely older, perhaps they are not as likely to download off iTunes or elsewhere.

In order to establish a need, you should do a survey, for instance, a flyer in the Church bulletin, for several weeks. Ask if they would check out CD's and if so, what kinds of Christian music. Think of genres – gospel, Christmas, composers or singers whose music you sing in church, meditation, instrumental, local composers or singers (maybe even from your congregation). If you have a meditation group or a Healing Touch group at the church, be sure to survey them, as well as the Youth Group, the Sunday School teachers and Vacation Bible School leaders if your church has that program.

Ask for donations of CDs in good condition using the guidelines you have established from the survey. Budget some money to add new ones if you can. Some of the most popular ones in the collection at St. Aidan's United Church are instrumental and used for meditation. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

- “*By the hearth*” (2006), and “*Riverstone hearth*”(2011), both by Lanny Pollet and Denis Donnelley, playing flute, recorder, Irish harp and guitar. Both were published locally in Victoria, and are available from First Metropolitan United Church or Koinonia Books.
- *Canyon trilogy*, by Carlos Nakai playing the Native American Flute. Canyon Records, 1989.
- *Peaceful prayer*, by Maureen Briare on the Celtic harp. Oregon Catholic Press, 2008

- *Celtic Christmas*, by Ron Klusmeier on piano is a beautiful seasonal instrumental CD, Musikus, 2004, and so is his *Christmas Eve* (2009).

Keep your **processing** simple. Some churches group them by genre, for example, easy listening or instrumental, Christmas, etc. One librarian gave an example on LINC-List of call numbers such as

MUSIC  
CD  
Easy [short for easy listening/traditional]  
Xxx [Abbreviation for performer]

Do not write on the CDs with anything other than felt pens labeled “CD marker pen”. We add labels with our church name onto the CD, covered over with a thin label protector, but some sites say not to add anything as such labels will affect the playing. So far we've had no problems.

**Shelving and/or storage:** This can be an issue, especially if your library is in an open area. If it is, it might be a good idea to keep any audio-visual material – CDs and DVDs -- locked up when the library is not staffed. Regardless, you want a way for patrons to be able to browse the collection. One good suggestion came from a library in Ontario. Lee Valley Tools carries pullout trays for multi-media. It's easy to flip through what is on the trays, a boon for browsers. These are listed in their hardware catalogue (some sizes no longer available). The 02K0936 (c) holds up to 81 CDs or DVDs, and can be picked up and put in a locked cupboard for storage, or mounted on the included rails and attached to a counter or wide shelf.

Check for availability in their catalogue.



If you have any experiences to share, please send an email to [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com) with “music” in the subject field.



## **Recipe for a Happy New Year**

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing -- don't do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.  
~Anonymous

<http://www.appleseeds.org/new-year-quotes.htm>



### **The New Year is coming!**

With the new year comes the joy of annual reports,



budgets, and annual meetings. Check back to the 2012 November issue, p.3, for ideas on what information to include in your annual report, and what you need to think of to put in your budget. Can't find the issue? It's on the website in the newsletter archives. Print it out and use it as a reminder.

The new year is also a great time to promote your library. Here are some great poster and display ideas from CLABC member Betty Charnholm.

- *As the Year is New, So is the Life Jesus Gives You* (Display books on spiritual new life).
- *Resolved to Read More*
- *Start the Year Right - Read*
- *Make Time Worthwhile – Read*
- *It's a New Year – Make a Date to Read* (Large Calendar with days marked with a book title or book cover)

- Display new books, new bible study resources, or books to encourage exploration of new ideas.
- *Be Resolved – Read one New Book Each Month*
- *Read Out the Old and Read in the New* (Display older books beside your latest acquisitions.)
- *Ring in the New Year with ...* (insert word you want, reading, bible study, joy, etc. Use a large paper bell tilted on its side as a bulletin board object. Display books to fit the subject.)
- *Time to Check out your Library* (Large Clock)
- *The New Year - An unspoiled page in your book of time. READ*

## **Winter at the Library**

- *Get Cozy with a book* (Window panes with ice)
- *God Makes Us Like Snowflakes – No Two are Alike* (display Gifts of the Spirit books)
- *Great Books for Winter Reading*
- *Chase the Chills Away – Read*
- *Read the Winter Away* (Snowflakes and winter reading list)
- *Curl up with a good book* (comfy chair)
- *Chill Out and Read*
- *Frosty Winter Weather and Good Books Go Together. Visit Your Church Library.*
- *Slide into Your Church Library for Some Good Winter Reading* (sled picture)
- *Rx for Flu : 1. Rest 2. Read 3. Recover.*  
~ Betty Charnholm

## **February is Library Lovers Month**

- Trace your hands as if they were holding a book. (make several copies) Decorate with rings, nail polish, etc. Cut out and wrap them around books in a display case -- book hugs to you!
- Find a heart-shaped candy tin or box at a thrift store for a prop to use with a display.
- Post inserts in the bulletin “Love your Library” with pointers under the titles *Read, Donate, Share, Volunteer.*

Check out these links:

- <http://www.librarysupport.net/librarylovers/>
- <http://tinyurl.com/m55hhc6> (Groton Pub. Lib)
- <http://classiclit.about.com/b/2012/02/01/library-month.htm>

~ Margaret Conn CLABC

## You asked...

### About automation...

We received several queries recently about setting up a simple automated catalogue. Here are places to look for help:

- Email us at [clabc.c\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.c(at)gmail.com) and put automation in the subject field. Tell us more about your library, your budget, and what you want the automation to be able to do. Catalogue of items only? Circulation too? Web access? We'll get back to you personally.
- Check out our listserv – see our website at [clabc.ca](http://clabc.ca), Information links, and scroll down to “Church Library Automation”. You don't need to be a member to read the entries, but if you want to ask a question, you'll need a Yahoo account – free, give minimal information.
- Check out our Rare Bird archives (free for members) on our website for an excellent article by Gene Cahill in the Nov 2011 issue, page 8.
- Check out Libraries in Churches LinCList at <http://libraries-in-churches.blogspot.ca> (link on our website Info Links page) and search their email discussion list for automation.
- CSLA has a guidebook “*Selecting a New Library Cataloging and Circulation Computer System*”, 2012.

### When's the next Conference?

The next Conference will be a cross between a mini-Conference and a Day of Workshops, providing we get a location. Target date is May 3. Check the website for updates.

Join us on Facebook. Share ideas, resources, and links. Ask questions. Take a look at the album of member's displays that we have started and add yours to it. If you have difficulty posting, just send an email to us at [clabc.ca\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.ca(at)gmail.com) and we will post it for you. We hope that this will be another way for us to connect with one another.



We're looking for help with our **Website**.

We have a webmaster who publishes our content, but we want people who can help create the content. Here are some ideas your Council has come up with:

- Information on our Chapters – history, what we do, who to contact, how to set one up, and more.
- History of CLABC
- Resource Links – creating and keeping them up to date

You may have some other ideas – we'd welcome you and your ideas. Contact us at [clabc.c\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:clabc.c(at)gmail.com) with “Website” in the subject field.

It's another way to “Each one reach one”  
~ through the internet!

*The Rare Bird* (ISSN: 0380-2566) is published four times a year as a source of practical help in material selection, operation and promotion for church libraries. It is also a forum for exchange of news and ideas among Council, chapters, and individual members of CLABC.

Many thanks to Nov 2013 contributors: Betty Charnholm, Marg Conn, and the rest of the CLABC Council.

The CLABC Newsletter supports the moral and legal right of authors, artists and creators to benefit from their work by making all reasonable efforts to abide by copyright law, and encourages others to do so.

For information about the Newsletter, contact Editor **Louise Booth** at 250-472-3546 or [staidans.library\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:staidans.library(at)gmail.com)

***Deadline for submissions to the next edition of The Rare Bird is 12 Feb 2014***

*Read a good book lately? Send a review to the Editor. Have a question? A good tip that worked for you? Send it in!*



## Check your Calendar

### Conferences

#### Church Library Association of Ontario

[www.claa.ca](http://www.claa.ca)

Spring 2014 Conference

Sat May 3, 2014, 9am to 3pm

Ferndale Bible Church, Peterborough, Ontario

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Evangelical Church Library

Association

<http://eclalibraries.org>

not listed yet

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#### Catholic Library Association

<http://www.cathla.org/conventions>

April 22-24, 2014

Pittsburg, PA

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Church and Synagogue Library

Association

<http://cslainfo.org>

July 30 - Aug 1, 2014, Portland, OR

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For more, check out

<http://churchlibrarians.ning.com/events>

Or 'Google' church library conference 2013

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December promotions:

December is "Read a New Book Month"

1 Dec ~ Advent starts this year. Set out Advent Books and Christmas Books

5 Dec ~ Birthday of William Barclay, theologian and writer

13 Dec ~ Santa Lucia Day in Scandinavia. Display books about how Christmas and events during Advent are celebrated around the world

18 Dec ~ Charles Wesley, writer of "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" and many other hymns, was born. Display hymnals and music.

24 Dec ~ "Silent Night" first performed in 1818 at the St. Nicholas parish church in Oberndorf.

- Promote books as Christmas gifts. Display ideas or make up bookmarks with suggestions for children, teens and adults.

- Put up a gift tree in the library with suggestions for gift giving to the library in honour of or in memory of someone.
- Write up book ideas for inclusion in the announcements or on the church website.

January promotions

National Thank you month A good time to thank your volunteers and to thank the congregation for using the library.

1 Jan ~ New Years Day. Put out devotional books. Put out "Read the Bible in a Year" pamphlets. Giveaways – small calendars or tea bags.

13 Jan ~ birthday of George Fox, founder of Quaker movement

15 Jan ~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr born

24 Jan ~ Henri J.M. Nouwen born – Christian writer, theologian and pastor

30 Jan ~ Mohanadas K. Gandhi died. His nonviolent methods of resisting oppression and overcoming injustice have inspired many, including Martin Luther King Jr. Feature books on changing the world his way.

February promotions

"Library Lovers Month" ~ Lots of resources and ideas on page 8

4 Feb ~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer born – pastor, theologian and member of the German resistance movement.

9-15 February ~ Random acts of kindness week

10 February ~ Family Day in BC

14 February ~ "Your Church Library has Stacks and Stacks of Love for You"

March promotions

- Return the borrowed books week (first full week of March)
- 5 March ~ Ash Wednesday/ First day of Lent
- 7 March ~ World Day of Prayer (first Friday in March)
- 20 March ~ First day of Spring
- 24 March ~ Archbishop Oscar Romero assassinated, a great defender of the poor and seeker of justice.

