



2021 January 5

#16

LIVING

Although the calendar tells us Christmas is over, this poem reminds us that the “Mood of Christmas” is relevant every day of the year, and maybe particularly as we begin a new year needing joy, hope, courage, peace, grace and love:

I will light Candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.



From “The Mood of Christmas by Howard Thurman

LEARNING

Happy New Year?

We know that the Christmas season can be a challenging one for many of our students in any given year and, as you may have noticed, turning the calendar year over didn't magically transform everything back to “normal.” So, as you welcome students back to school, either virtually or in-person, it is important for you to find ways to check-in on how your students are doing. Take a look at the recommended links in the “Leading” section below (under Staff Check-In) and see if you can adapt them for your grade level.

#TakeMeBackTuesday

[Grade 10 - Social Studies: Globalization](#)

Unit Overview - Over 7 billion people. When we live in a global community with that kind of population, anxiety about how we'll all “get by” arises. How will we possibly have

enough? How will God provide? God in his wisdom did not create absolutely everything we want in such a way that it is available to us for the grabbing (this corresponds to the economic concept of scarcity - having seemingly unlimited human wants in a world of limited resources). Part of what he has entrusted to us in the job description of Earth Keepers is to manage what we've been given in careful and fair ways.

Covid-conscious FLEx idea - Read through an article about the inequity of vaccine distribution for Covid-19 (i.e., "[The World Faces Covid-19 'Vaccine Apartheid'](#)") and have students write letters to the major pharmaceutical companies or develop online petitions to advocate for the poorer countries that are not getting the same access as Canada to the vaccine.

Thank you - Erin Lampen, Liz Befus, Wes Boonstra, Rebecca Werkman, Danelle Kastelein

Here is a link to [the entire library of units](#) if you want to explore on your own and/or nominate a unit to be highlighted that's been a blessing to you by sending us an email with the name of the unit and grade.

Great Speaker Series

Want to hear Andy Crouch talk about technology? Or listen to Tara Westover, author of the memoir "Educated"? These speakers and more are part of [Calvin University's January Series](#) that is being offered virtually (and free) this year. Each person's presentation is available for viewing only on the day they speak live.

LEADING

Wilson Video

Rod's latest [video](#) on stewarding anger is a good one to watch and discuss with your staff, leadership team and board. Also, here's a [link](#) to the past videos in the series.

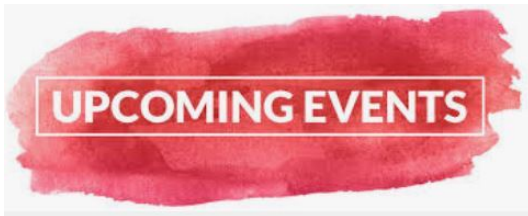
Staff Check-In

We have all become increasingly aware of the need to regularly "check-in" with our staff. If you want to get away from just asking "how are you doing?" here are some ideas:

- [Life Reflection](#) sheet that includes a spiritual component
- [A google form](#) you can adapt
- [A chart](#) to encourage self-reflection and conversation
- [Blob Tree](#): which blob are you today and why?
- [Mood Meter](#): gives lots of starting points for discussion

LOOKING FOR

A PCCE member is looking for a section of their resource that has gone missing and is hoping that someone can help them out. Please let us know if you have a copy of the "CSI World of Literature" Grade 6 resource (in particular, theme 5).



UPCOMING EVENTS

January 18	TfT 101 - Make-Up Time for Session 2
January 27	Podcast Conversation
February 2 & 4	TfT 101 - Session 3 - Throughlines
February 11-12	CSI Bible Symposium
February 19	Christian Deeper Learning Gathering
March 2 & 4	TfT 101 - Session 4 - FLEx
October 21-22	Teachers' Convention



Want to Join our PCCE Slack messaging platform?

Just click the link below.

https://join.slack.com/t/prairiecentre-j1s2789/shared_invite/zt-kna1ipl0-8UYbLoc7PGpva3lq6l9cXg