



Indianapolis Center for Congregations

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Resources for: Architecture to Transcend

Our mission is to assist Greater Indianapolis Area congregations in finding and using the very best resources available to address the practical challenges they face. This resource list was developed to supplement the workshop entitled *Architecture to Transcend: Exploring Sacred Space Through Words*. This workshop was sponsored by the Center and led by Nan Phifer, author and director of the Oregon Writing Project. Phifer recommends the following resources.

Calder, J. Kent and Susan Neville (eds.). *Falling toward Grace: Images of Religion and Culture from the Heartland*. Indianapolis, IN: The Polis Center and Indiana University Press, 1998.

Sensitive essays, photographs, and poems lyrically show sacred spaces in the region of Indianapolis. This book reveals the underlying awe present in diverse religions, peoples, and places.

Chester, Laura. *Holy Personal: Looking for Small Private Places of Worship*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2000.

About individually created chapels, this book reveals our sense of intuitive, instinctual worship. It captures elemental, timeless forms of expression springing from human nature. Each chapel is a place to sit still, hear one's inner voice, and be at peace among primary art, materials, and colors.

Giles, Richard. *Re-Pitching the Tent: Re-Ordering Church Building for Worship and Mission*. Revised and expanded edition. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2004. Though this book arose from the consultations of an Anglican Priest with regard to the frustrations and opportunities presented by existing church buildings, it engages principles inherent in all houses of worship. Congregations considering remodeling or constructing new buildings will find this book exceptionally valuable.

Visit the Congregational Resource Guide website, www.congregationalresources.org, to find more resources on many other topics of interest to congregations.