



Circuit Rider Books

*Fine Christian Reading in the Mainline Protestant Tradition.
Your Independent Religious serving the Pacific Northwest since 1982*

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Rev. Carolyn Hampton
*Executive Director
Dallas, Oregon*

April 29, 2010

An Open Letter to the Presbytery of the Cascades (PCUSA) and the Central Pacific Conference (UCC)

Dear Friends,

It is with great sadness that I report to you the actions of the Board of Directors of Circuit Rider Books at it's meeting on April 24, 2010:

With regret, on April 24, 2010 the Board of Directors of Circuit Rider Books voted to discontinue our current operations, effective July 1, 2010.

Specifically, Circuit Rider Books will discontinue current services, including: selling at events, consulting with individuals and churches about resources, providing fundraising lunches, and providing 'saddlebag' services to events and churches.

Circuit Rider Books will continue to take and place special orders through July 2010; these must be prepaid by check or credit card.

You will see some great deals on both our newest and older books at events in May and June as we shrink our inventory. We will begin liquidating inventory on July 1, and will continue with sales as long as our in-stock resources last. Watch our website for a list of titles still on hand at liquidation prices!

This action was not taken lightly, nor without great deliberation. It is taken in the light of the *daily* changes taking place in the book publishing and selling industry, particularly the growth of the e-book format and the placing of many titles in print-on-demand status. Continuing to do 'business as usual' is already producing steep declines in our service to you as more and more items require a 10-day trip from the Eastern U.S., at the same time as our costs for shipping those items to us and to you, and fuel for our truck and other supplies, increase. While we had outlined a plan for the future that took these changes into account [see the Western Initiative for Good Stewardship in Publishing & Distribution posted on our website], it was clear that we could not continue current operations and raise the mammoth amount of funds necessary to step into this new world in a timely manner -- which for us meant the new program funded and in place by January 2011.

Thank you for your support over the last 28 years ... during 17 of which I have been privileged to lead this wonderful organization. Personally, I will miss our friendships and conversations about ministry and Christian education, for they have led to my belief that Christianity in the mainline protestant tradition is a better answer to the problems of our world than other, more rigid and polarizing, expressions of our faith.

With our sincere best wishes for your ministries and witness,
Carolyn S. Hampton, Executive Director
and The Board of Directors of Circuit Rider Books

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A 501(c)3 non-profit organization, organized under the laws of the State of Oregon; also registered in Washington and Idaho