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Rosales' "Mathematizing: An Emergent Math Curriculum Approach for Young Children" (Book Review)

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A Little Book for New Theologians: Why and How to Study Theology,

by Kelly M. Kapic. Downer's Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012. 126 pp. \$8.00.

ISBN 9780830839759

Reviewed by Brad Doerksen, Library Director, Briarcrest College & Seminary, Caronport, SK

Kelly Kapic from Covenant College has written a handy little guidebook for students embarking on the journey of formal theological study. Written in the spirit of classics, such as Thielcke's *A Little Exercise for Young Theologians*, this brief guide seeks to set out not the substance of theology but the way its study should be approached and practiced. This "little book" is divided into two sections, the first sets out reasons why the study of theology is important and the second larger section outlines characteristics of the faithful theologian. There's nothing in this work that most evangelical Protestants will find controversial or problematic. Kapernic does well to move beyond just such topics as the relationship between faith and reason, prayer and study, and the humble posture of the theologian. He also engages such matters as the need for faithful theology to be rooted in the church and a faithfully practicing community that seeks justice for all and has a living faith. As such, the book is balanced and holistic in its approach and would make for a great assigned text for introductory theology courses at colleges and seminaries.

Throughout the book, numerous short quotations are inserted as text boxes. While these provide additional tidbits to support and enlighten the discussion, their insertion into the middle of paragraphs and even breaking sentences in half can interrupt the flow of the reader. Despite this potentially distracting feature, the work as a whole should make for a very helpful resource to both students beginning the formal study of theology as well as everyday Christians in the pew who wish to take the theological nature of Christian practice seriously.

**Mathematizing: An Emergent Math Curriculum Approach
for Young Children,**

by Allen C. Rosales. St. Paul, MN: Redleaf Press, 2015.

141 pp. \$29.95. ISBN 9781605543956

*Reviewed by Lori Thornton, Technical Services Librarian,
Carson-Newman University, Jefferson City, TN*

How does one teach mathematics to young children? Author Allen C. Rosales advocates teaching them through things in their own daily environments. It is not so much a matter of teaching them that $1+1=2$, but more of a conceptual approach.

They learn math vocabulary terms such as tall, short, long, wide, and narrow. They learn to make comparisons such as my father is taller than your father. He encourages teachers to find opportunities to include these concepts in everyday conversations with their students. He provides a list of vocabulary terms and concepts preschoolers and kindergarteners are capable of learning. He shows how geometric concepts such as round and straight may be used to help with drawing skills for the group. He provides examples of how teachers can frame meaningful questions to help students with many mathematical concepts. He also includes learning objectives throughout the book. The book is illustrated with classroom photographs of students engaged in mathematical pursuits. A number of charts and diagrams also convey the concepts explored throughout the book. Much of the content is similar to what is taught in Reggio-Inspired Mathematics published by the Richmond School District. It contains a glossary, a bibliography with items published through 2012, and an index. Rosales has been involved in early childhood education for over twenty years, winning many accolades over the years, and is an instructor at Roosevelt University in Chicago.

The book would serve well as a textbook or supplemental text in early childhood education courses. Parents planning to homeschool their children will also benefit from reading this book and learning how to include mathematical concepts in their everyday conversations with their young children.

The Mediation of the Spirit: Interventions in Practical Theology,

by Mark J. Cartledge. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2015.
174 pp. \$29.00. ISBN 9780802869555

Reviewed by Linda Poston, Dean of Library Services, Nyack College, Nyack, NY

In this well-documented, scholarly work, Mark Cartledge, professor of practical theology at Regent University School of Divinity, explores “the relationship of Scripture, experience, and the Holy Spirit by means of the central concept of mediation” (p. 165). The first two chapters provide an overview of three approaches to practical theology (formation, worship & ministry; liberation theology; and empirical theology) and address how Scripture is used in practical theology in an academic setting. Chapter 3 defines and discusses what is meant by mediation of the Holy Spirit. Cartledge continues in chapter 4 by presenting a model of religious experience and pneumatology from key passages in the book of Acts. Chapter 5 examines a study of a multiracial congregation in Durham, NC conducted by Mary McClintock Fulkerson (professor of theology at Duke University). The author demonstrates the interconnectedness of church practice, use of Biblical texts,