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DePalma and Ringer's "Mapping Christian Rhetorics: Connecting Conversations, Charting New Territories" (Book Review)

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The protagonist is a young Irish woman who gets a job working in a British camp near Nottingham while searching for information about her father, who had died when she was a young girl. When she starts showing people a picture of him dressed as Robin Hood, her trailer and car begin to be vandalized. Eventually she discovers why a person feels threatened and learns the truth about her father. In the process she not only gains self-esteem, but also learns about forgiveness, with some romance thrown in.

Beth Moran lives near Nottingham, so she uses a lot of British terms. In spite of that, it is usually pretty easy to determine to what she is referring. I would recommend this book to anyone who wants some light reading with a good moral and romance thrown in. Unless an academic library has a Christian fiction section, *Making Marion* would probably be better for a church library.

**Mapping Christian Rhetorics:
Connecting Conversations, Charting New Territories,**

edited by Michael-John DePalma and Jeffrey M. Ringer. New York: Routledge,
2015. (Routledge Studies in Rhetoric and Communication; 21). 305 pp. \$140.00.
ISBN 9781138781412

Reviewed by Grace Veach, Dean of Library Services, Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL

DePalma and Ringer have edited a collection of articles that touch in different ways on the intersection of the field of rhetoric and composition with Christianity. They claim the metaphor of mapping as the overarching framework of the book; this allows them to identify three purposes: acknowledging “territory” that has not yet been sufficiently explored, connecting domains that are already firmly in the field, and charting new areas of inquiry (pp. 3–4). The editors refer to this framework in the introduction and return to it in the last article (a coauthored bibliographic essay that surveys the current status of the relationship between Christianity and rhetoric and composition), but the assembled selections do not really dwell on this mapping trope.

The book is comprised of five sections: Christianity and Rhetorical Theory, which contains three essays on thinking rhetorically as a Christian (or as Christians might); Christianity and Rhetorical Education, two essays on Christian students in writing classes; Christianity and Rhetorical Methodology, three essays exploring possible methodologies for studying Christian rhetorical concerns; Christianity and Civic Engagement, four essays on the operation of rhetoric in areas within or relating to Christianity; and a final section with two essays on (Re)Mapping Religious Rhetorics. As this enumeration indicates, the topics vary widely; rarely in the field

would a book contain both methodological explorations and theoretical articles, or essays on both freshman composition and historical analyses of denominational literature.

With such widely varying topics, very few people will read this book straight through, but it could be very helpful for someone wanting to refer to one or two of the articles. If your library collects books on faith integration, this one is an absolute must-purchase, since it really does cover nearly the complete scope of current faith integration efforts in the rhetoric and composition field. Amazon lists the price of *Mapping Christian Rhetorics* as \$140; for that kind of money, I expect a book to be edited much more carefully than this one was. I noticed at least two typos in just about every essay in the book. Nonetheless, this will be a purchase most college and university libraries will want to acquire.

Ministry with Prisoners and Families: The Way Forward,

by W. W. Goode, C. E. Lewis, and H. D. Trulear. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2011. 192 pp. \$17.99. ISBN 9780817016647

Reviewed by Lisa B. Hayes, Librarian, Indianan Wesleyan University

This book provides a practical and spiritual blueprint for beginning a prison outreach. It provides in clear layman's terms what incarceration means to both the prisoner and his or her family and provides a framework for ministering to prisoners and their families. While aimed at African-American churches, there is much to be gained in this book for all churches as well as for undergraduate criminal justice, sociology or social work students.

Each topic is dealt with frankly and is backed up with cited research. Mentoring and families received the most attention, but the book also looks at how local churches can be a force for prevention with troubled youth, understanding substance abuse, and how churches can interact with and support the prison chaplaincy. Finally, a chapter is devoted to helping the church reintegrate the prisoner upon release.

The suggestions in this book are practical, but are grounded in research and theory, and are aimed at providing hope and an introduction to Christ to the prison population and their families.