

Inspirational and Christian Literature

In addition to reading your Bible, there are many other books that can be a great source of inspiration in your spiritual journey.

Christian Living invites us to look at others' lives and understand more about living out our faith.

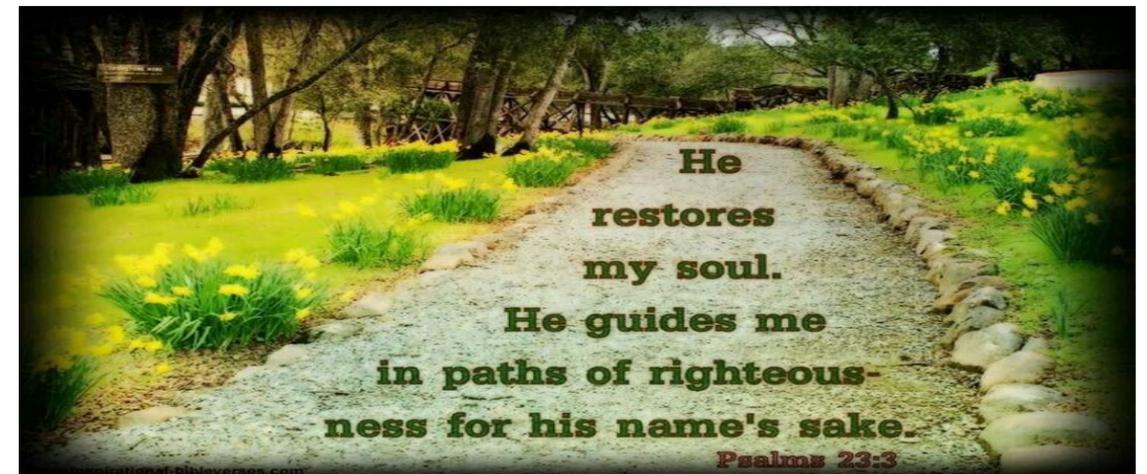
Spiritual Formation books show us how we can allow God to shape us and be more intentional about living out our faith.

Theology is the study of God. Typically these books are written by deep thinkers and scholars allowing us to understand more about God so that we can draw closer to God.

Christian Fiction is a wonderful way to escape into the world of another era or person. These author's interpret faith and the world of the church and the people that make up the church.

Inspirational Literature may not be overtly Christian but helps us change the direction we are going so that it leads us straight to God.

Social Justice is an important part of our faith life as United Methodists. It invites us to put ourselves in another person's place and see where we could change things to honor every person and welcome all with God's love.



Join us May 19—Aug 25 as we go on a journey of reading and inspiring our faith journey.

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I, I took the one less traveled by...and that has made all the difference." Robert Frost, one of my favorite poets, once wrote these lines. And they have influenced the way I think about life and faith. In many cases, the choices I make and the things that I say are on a path less traveled.

And so we come to summer! A wonderful season that invites the ideas of retreat and leisure, cookouts and family, sunshine and exotic locations. One of the things I love to do in the summer is read. It is a peaceful pass time that takes me away from daily concerns and worldly issues. Or it allows me to enter worlds that I barely know and excites my mind to ponder things that are amazing and interesting.

At Powell UMC our Summer Reading Program allows you to take the road less traveled and engage in reading for the sake of enjoyment, inspiration and knowledge. We encourage all of you to read things that are familiar and things that will stretch you. We have two tracks, one a Scriptural track and the other the Inspirational and Christian Literature track. You may do one or both. And we have fun prizes for you at the end.

Kim La Rue

Scripture Path

Inspirational journey, following where Jesus leads

This summer we're focusing on **The Gospel of John** and **The Psalms**. The Gospel of John has an amazing array of characters in some very different settings. It is in the Gospel of John that we find the "I am" sayings of Jesus.

As you read **The Gospel of John**, here are questions to consider:

1. Who are the characters in the passages you need?
2. What is Jesus teaching/telling them?
3. Where is the action taking place?
4. How do you relate to the characters?
5. What is Jesus teaching/telling you?

The Psalms is inspiring because it is real people having real and difficult conversations with God. Sometimes they are joyful and full of praise and sometimes they are difficult and full of lament. They run the gamut of human emotion.

We have prepared short videos on some of our staff members' favorite psalms. You may view these at powellumc.org, beginning June 3rd.

The Rewards of READING

Read the Gospel of John and the Psalms to earn a pen with stylus and notepad.

OR

Read a combination of 4 Inspirational or Christian books to earn a shopping tote.

OR

Read the Gospel of John and the Psalms + 4 Inspirational or Christian books and earn an

additional prize; metal water bottle.

To redeem your prizes, simply complete the enclosed Reading Log and drop it into the clear box in the Main Hall by August 25.

Staff Picks

Don't know where to start? Check out these staff picks.

Rev. Larry Brown

Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson

The Divine Dance by Richard Rohr

Why Religion: A Personal Story by Elaine Pagels

Rev. Katya Brodbeck

Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life by Tish Harrison Warren

Invitation to the Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation by M. Robert Mulholland, Jr. & Ruth Haley Barton

Rev. Dave Woodyard

Black Is The Body by Emily Bernard

Breakthrough by Joyce Smith

The Bible Tells Me So: Why Defending Scripture Has Made Us Unable to Read it by Peter Enns

Rev. Sandy Huber

The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row by Anthony Ray Hinton

Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey From Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim

by Sabeeha Rehman

Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic by Sam Quinones

Kim La Rue

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Making Sense of the Bible by Adam Hamilton

Sabbatical Journey by Henri Nouwen

Rebecca Brownlee

Eat This Book by Eugene Peterson

Counter Culture by David Platt

Don't Waste Your Life by David Piper

A Long Obedience in the Same Direction by Eugene Peterson

Hannah Ewald

Trauma and Recovery: The Aftermath of Violence-From Domestic

Abuse to Political Terror by Judith Herman

Enfleshing Freedom: Body, Race and Being by M. Shawn Copeland

Jesus Feminist by Sarah Bessey

Don Moore

Choose People by Robert Whitlow

The Persian Gamble by Joel C. Rosenberg

The Case for a Creator by Lee Strobel

Debbie Wenner

Women of God by James Patterson

First Phone Call From Heaven by Mitch Albom

Any book by Karen Kingsbury

Staci Hood

Lessons From a Third Grade Dropout by Rick Rigsby, Ph.D.

7 Lessons From Heaven:How Dying Taught Me to Live a Joy-filled Life by Mary C. Neal, M.D.

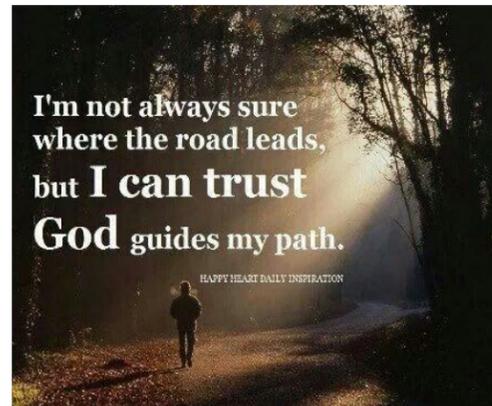
Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Caotic World by Max Lucado

Kris Shoaf

Troubled Minds by Amy Simpson

Grace for the Afflicted by Matthew S. Stanford

Blessed Are The Crazy by Sarah Griffith Lund



If you have questions regarding the picks, please feel free to contact the staff member.

Powell United Methodist Church

www.powellumc.org

614-847-3703



*Inspirational
Journey*

