A vision for a better future... What beautiful place do you dream of? Fording streams, discovering the beauty of the desert, climbing mountains or crossing the ocean, or something else? Why is it pleasant or peaceful for you?

This has been a season of uncertainty, discomfort and distress. We have been isolated, sick or inconvenienced. And we are not sure what to do with all of it. And it appears this state of being may not be over yet. When we can't go to those beautiful places that we long for, we need another alternative.

Our Summer Reading Program at PUMC has its origin in continuous learning and faith development. That's great, but this summer we also need encouragement and inspiration. We need to believe that God is with us and there is hope afoot in the world.

Summer 2020 is "Books, movies, stories and more." We want to dive into stories of overcoming and thriving, of struggle and not giving up, of uncertainty and faith. But we live in a time when books are not our only resource! There are many mediums that can give us hope and encouragement. This year we've added movies, TV series, podcasts and music. We are not without resources.

So, join in! We are on the move to places we have not imagined but they are places of hope.

We have prepared short videos of our staff members talking about their favorites, www/powellumc.org.

Send us a short video of you talking about your favorite from the summer!

Register now at powellumc.org.

## **Scripture Stories Pathway**

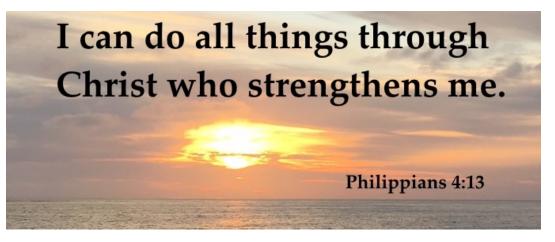
These Scriptures have "inspiring story" in common: **Old Testament** Ruth. Esther & Jonah **New Testament** 

Acts Pick the Old Testament stories (Ruth, Esther, Jonah) or the New Testament Stories in Acts. Answer these questions with journal writings, photo log or drawings: What stuck out to you? What made you think differently? What did you love? What did you hate or make you feel uncomfortable? Where do you see God? How does this book relate to our world today? Where did you see bravery? What inspired you? How do you relate to the characters?

## **Books, Movies & More Pathway**

Read, watch, listen to four inspirational items (books, movies, TV series, podcasts, music). Ponder these things and journal, draw or photograph your responses:

> What was your overall impression? Why did it inspire you? Did you notice God in it? What did you love about it? What did you hate or made you uncomfortable? How do you relate to the characters or persons?



Pathway #1 The Rewards of reading Scripture **Read all of the Old Testament stories OR read New Testament Acts to earn** a coupon for Equal Exchange. Send an email to stacihood@powellumc.org with your completed list and date of completion.

Pathway #3 The Rewards of completing both pathways Read the Old or New Testament AND complete 4 inspirational items and earn a Local Roots gift card. Send an email to stacihood@powellumc.org with your completed list and date of completion.



Pathway #2

The Rewards of Books, Movies & More **Complete 4 inspirational items to** earn an Amazon gift card. Send an email to stacihood@powellumc.org with your completed list and date of completion.

## **Staff Picks**

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

Rev. Larry Brown Book: Jane Hawk series, The Silent Corner, The Whispering Room, The Crooked Staircase, The Forbidden **Door, The Night Window** by Dean Koontz Movies: 1917 and Aeronauts Podcasts: This American Life Rev. Katya Brodbeck Book: The Grace of Dogs: A Boy, A Black Lab, and a Father's Search for the Canine Soul by Andrew Root Book: Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again by Rachel Held Evans Podcasts: "This Sounds Fun with Annie F Downs," "Typology," "The Robcast." Rev. Dave Woodyard Book: Holy Love by Steve Harper Book: Unlearning God by Philip Gulley Book: Sacred Ground: pluralism, prejudice, and the promise of America by Eboo Patel Movie: Concussion Rev. Sandy Huber Book: Why Religion? A Personal Story by Elaine Pagels Book: A Good Provider is One Who Leaves: Our Family and Migration in the 21st Century by Jadon De Parle Book: The Hundred Story Home: A Memoir of Finding Faith in Ourselves and Something Bigger by Kathy Izard Movies: A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood and The Farewell Kim La Rue Book: My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George Book: All Things Bright and Beautiful by James Herriott Book: She Offered Them Christ by Paul Chilcote Movies: The Hundred Foot Journey and Aladdin-Live Action **Rebecca Brownlee** Book: Praying Through the Names of Jesus by Tony Evans Book: When Your World Falls Apart, Seeing Past the Pain of the Present by Dr. David Jeremiah Book: Simple Jesus by N.T. Wright Book: The Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan Music: I LOVE all Christian music Podcasts: Ask NT Wright Anything, Truth for Life with Alistair Begg, Oasis-A Community Seeking God's Peace with Pastor Jared Priest Hannah Ewald Another day another Book: Wearing GOD by Lauren F. Winner Music: Pieces by Bethel Music Movie: Frozen 2 Staci H Movies: Remember the Titans and Miracle blessing Music: **Dear Me** by Nichole Nordeman (great Youtube video) Patty Moore Book: **Oogy** by Larry Levin Book: Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli QUOTEDIARY. ME Music: *Rainbow* by Kacey Musgraves Don Moore

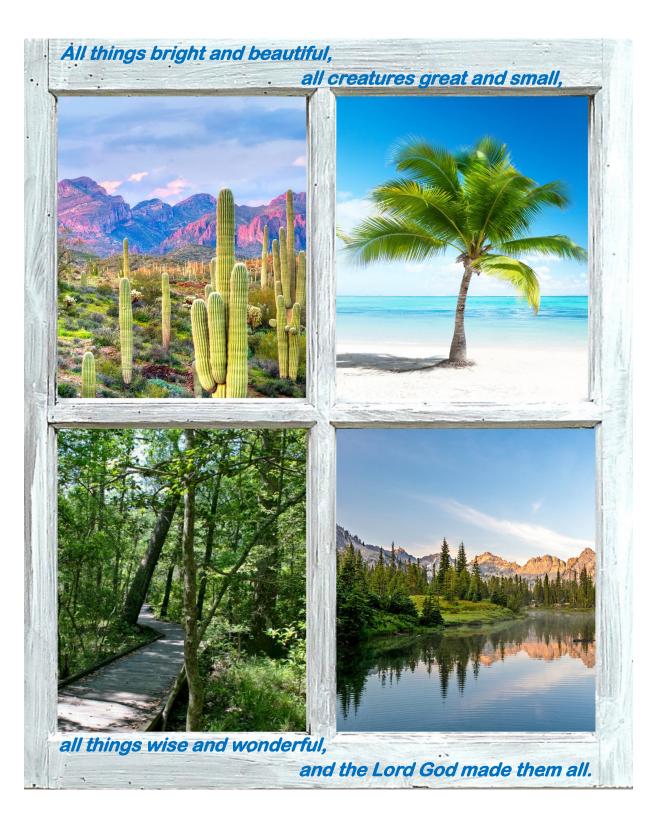
Books: The Chosen People and a sequel Promise Land both by Robert Whitlow Books: The Persina Gamble and The Jerusalem Assasin by Joel C. Rosenburg

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









## **Summer 2020 Books, Movies, Stories** & More