

Emmanuel's "Faithful Readers" book group meets approximately every three months for an hour and consists of, for now, a small group of book lovers who read all types of Christian literature.

So far we have read:



The Five People You Meet in Heaven, Mitch Albom
A Song I Knew by Heart, Bret Lott
The Shack, William P. Young
Have A Little Faith, Mitch Albom
The Bread of Angels, Stephanie Salana



Not only do we talk about the book, we have shown portions of the movie, played associated word games, have ready made questions, and break into pairs for discussion.

If you like to share your thoughts about books you read, have fun, and hear what others have to say, please join us on Saturdays, 10:00 – 11:00am.

Questions? Call the church office at 301 937-7114 or email:
eumcbeltsville@earthlink.net.

Our next meeting is Saturday, July 24th, 2010.

The following list gives suggestions for future reading which will be updated as we find books people are interested in.

The Taste of New Wine, Keith Miller

Miller's candid and honest life-changing message challenges indifference and creates an exciting sense of spiritual renewal and adventure. With a refreshing absence of religious jargon, he points the way out of the "me-centered" quagmire of recent years and offers a pattern of integrity and openness in our relations with God and one another.

One Simple Act, Discovering the Power of Generosity, Debbie Macomber

Macomber endeavors to inspire us to pursue the dreams God has placed in our hearts. Intentional acts of generosity can open our lives to the very best God has to offer. Macomber builds her book on the biblical story of Jesus' multiplication of five loaves and two fishes, a miracle recorded in all four gospels, using her storytelling prowess to retell the tale. She then takes readers on a journey through the true meaning of generosity (and it's not about cash): encouragement, good deeds, forgiveness and believing the best.

Knit Together, Debbie Macomber

The author's message that God made them for a purpose and that what God calls them to do He also equips them to do. Macomber tells listeners to follow their dreams and never give up. She relates three lies that hold us back: "It's who you know, I'm too old, and it's too hard." Chapters are named for the different facets of life each of us is created for: purpose, dreams, risks, gratitude, and worship. Scripture passages are combined with anecdotes to flesh out insights.

Between The Lines, Rick Hamlin

Sought after by every agent and actress in New York, handsome casting director James B. Lockhart Jr. is at the top of his craft. Red-haired beauty Elizabeth Ash lives in a third-floor apartment and earns her living as a flutist. Both have loved deeply...but things haven't turned out as they'd hoped. Then Elizabeth discovers a story scribbled in purple ink in the margins of some old novels at a nearby church thrift shop. It moves her like nothing else has...and makes her long for something more.

Jim has spent months mired in the past. Now he hopes to start a new chapter in his life...create a new beginning. But is that really possible after all this time? Or is it too late?

Ain't No Valley, Sharon Foster

Uniquely amazing, AIN'T NO VALLEY is much more than the story of two people searching for their path in life and eventually finding each other. Ms. Foster mixes the backdrop of guests preparing for a wedding that is to take place a few months down the road with six degrees of separation to show us the lives of the wedding participants. When the several subplots merged at the big event (the wedding), It was sad to see the journeys end.

When Lightning Strikes Twice, Marcie Alborghetti

Even more disturbing to those of us facing a repeated crisis is the initial impact it may have on our faith and relationship with God. When we find ourselves facing again the very thing that we've counted on God to prevent, we can feel betrayed. Shock, disbelief, rage, blame—all these feelings can come to bear on our life. These pages explore all of these feelings and examine how people in the grip of repeat tragedy experienced the event, faced their circumstances, learned to cope, and found their way to a stronger faith and deeper trust in God. Using life stories, biblical profiles, and illustrations from our culture, each chapter will define and describe a stage or emotion in the experience of a second tragedy. At the end of each chapter are a prayer conversation with God, questions for reflection, suggested Bible readings, and activities designed to assist in dealing with a return tragedy. This warm and welcoming book is a perfect companion for anyone experiencing that second strike of lightning.

Making Toast, Roger Rosenblatt When their daughter, Amy, died, Rosenblatt and his wife virtually moved in with their son-in-law and three grandchildren, all trying valiantly to cope with the death of a loving young woman and doctor felled by an asymptomatic heart condition. The Rosenblatts plunged themselves into the lives of Harris, six-year-old Jessica, four-year-old Sammy, and one-year-old James, shopping, cooking, shuttling, and tending to broken hearts, including their own. Sensitive without being sentimental, Rosenblatt eases any potential discomfort on the reader's part at this invitation to view one family's efforts to cope with loss.

Keeping Faith, Jodi Picoult When seven-year-old Faith White and her mother, Mariah, swing by the house on the way to ballet class, they find that Daddy is home and he's brought a playmate. This is not the first time he's been caught cheating. After the fuss and feathers have settled and Dad has moved out, Faith begins talking to an imaginary friend who, it seems, is God. And God is not male but female. Faith is able to effect miraculous cures and is also occasionally afflicted with stigmata. When the media gets wind of this, the circus begins. The local rabbi takes an interest (Faith and Mariah are technically Jewish), and the local Catholic priest pays several inquiring visits. There is also a gaggle of psychologists. Throw in a professional atheist for the romance angle and a vicious custody fight with an egomaniacal lawyer, and you have a riveting read. Picoult gets better and better with each book. If you can suspend disbelief on one or two points, this is an entrancing novel. Highly recommended.

Grace, Richard Paul Evans (this author has written numerous heartfelt stories with a global message of love and forgiveness)

It's Not About Me, Max Lucado

Six Hours One Friday, Max Lucado

Heaven If Real, Don Piper

90 Minutes in Heaven, Don Piper