

BOOK DESCRIPTIONS--2007

Jan 6-7, 2007

- In *The Audacity of Hope*, Barack Obama describes his thoughts on reclaiming the American dream in his call for a different brand of politics. (973 Oba)
- Eknath Easwaran elaborates his suggestions for creating calm in difficult times in *Strength in the Storm*. These have been useful to many people over the years. (158 Eas)
- *To Be of Use: the Seven Seeds of Meaningful Work* is Dave Smith's work. Here he shows "how business can be a force for progressive change, that business driven by simple core values...can help make the world a better place." (650.1 Smi)

Jan 13-14, 2007

- *A Testament of Hope: Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, edited by James M. Washington (323.1 Kin)
- *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, edited by Clayborne Carson (323 Kin)
- *I Have a Dream: Martin Luther King and the Future of Multicultural America*, by James Echols (303 Ech)
- *I Have a Dream: Writings and Speeches That Changed the World*, edited by James M. Washington (323 Kin)
- *The Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, 2nd ed., selected and with an introduction by Coretta Scott King (323.4 Kin)
- *Toward a Theology of Radical Involvement: The Theological Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, by Luther D. Ivory (230 Ivo)

Jan 27-28, 2007

- "In deserts, that which seems eternal may change overnight, and that which is least expected is always a possibility." These are words to think about from *The Living Earth Book of Deserts*, by Susan Arritt: (508.32 Arr)
- Damon Galgut's *The Good Doctor*, a novel set in post apartheid South Africa, is an excellent but unsettling story told with a minimum of words. (823.91 Gal)
- According to one review Rosemary Radford Ruether "has constructed a full-fledged feminist theology—the first within a Christian context" in *Sexism and God-Talk: Toward a Feminist Theology*. (230 Rue)
- *The Pleasures of Cross Stitch* provides helpful information for both novice and skilled needle workers. (746.44 Ple)

Feb 3-4, 2007

- *Legacy: Treasures of Black History* brings "500 years of the Black experience to life in a way that we have never seen before." The book uses the Moorland Spingarn's world class collection of historic documents. (973.04 Bat)

- In *Setting the Record Straight: American History in Black and White*, David Barton recounts in words and photographs highlights of African American political history. (305.89 Bar)
- Martin Luther King, Jr. describes two important topics, “What is Man?” and “The Dimensions of a Complete Life” in *The Measure of a Man*. (233 Kin)
- *Mexico* moves between the past and present from important events in Mexico’s history to the excitement of a bull fight. Hear the stirring saga of a man and nation searching for their identities. (813.54 Mic)

Feb 10-11, 2007

- *In My Place* is Charlayne Hunter-Gault’s “story of her childhood and her integration of the University of Georgia...told with more wry humor than bitterness.” (070.92 Hun)
- Guy Johnson, author of the novel *Standing at the Scratch Line*, created a “brutally honest depiction of the African-American experience” during the first half of the twentieth century. (813.54 Joh)
- *Miracle in Seville* is set in Spain at Eastertime, a season of splendid pageantry, exciting bullfights and miracles. An American journalist sent to cover the efforts of a rancher to revive his once proud line of bulls uncovers a story that shakes his hard-bitten pragmatism. (813.54 Mic)

Feb 17-18, 2007

- Emanuel Hertz compiled and edited *Lincoln Talks*, an oral biography that includes stories Lincoln told or that were told about him. Eye-opening and worth reading! (973.7 Her)
- “*Lincoln* is a masterwork of historical fiction, in which Gore Vidal combines a comprehensive knowledge of Civil War America with 20th-century literary technique, probing the minds and motives of the men surrounding Abraham Lincoln, including his personal secretary, scheming cabinet members, as well as his wife.” (813.54 Vid)
- *Homes of the Presidents*, by Bill Harris, contains beautiful color photographs and stories about homes associated with US presidents. (770.9 Har)
- Patricia Brady wrote *Martha Washington: An American Life* to tell the story of the wife of the first President of the United States. Large Print. (973.4 Bra)

Feb 24-25, 2007

- *Just Preaching: Prophetic Voices for Economic Justice* is a collection of sermons and essays on poverty and economic justice prepared by William Sloan Coffin, James Forbes, Barbara Brown Taylor and more than twenty others. Proceeds from this book benefit Family Promise. (262.8 Res)
- *Life Keys: Discovering Who You Are, Why You’re Here, What You Do Best* allows readers to discover their talents, spiritual gifts, passions, values, and personality. (248.4 Kis)
- Jodi Picoult’s novel, *Vanishing Acts*, is a compelling story of a woman haunted by a life she can’t completely recall in a story partly set in Phoenix. (813 Pic)

- Seven leading thinkers from African American and Hispanic communities discuss MLK's vision for America in *I Have a Dream: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Future of Multicultural America*. (303 Ech)

Mar 3-4, 2007

Three books by Megan McKenna:

- *Send My Roots Rain: A Spirituality of Justice and Mercy* is a contemplative work in which McKenna asks readers to “ponder great poetry and spiritual stories and illuminate them through a Christian lens,” a good choice for the Lenten season. (242.21 McK)
- *Blessings and Woes: The Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Plain in the Gospel of Luke* challenges readers to think about the beatitudes in ways different from the ordinary approaches. (241.5 McK)
- *On Your Mark: Reading Mark in the Shadow of the Cross* “provides a roadmap for Christian discipleship.” The author answers questions about what it meant to Jesus’ disciples. (226.3 McK)

Mar 17-18, 2007

- *Season of Ash and Fire* by Blair Gilmer Meeks contains prayers and liturgies for Lent and Easter helpful to worship planners. (264.22 Mee)
- *Lives of Jesus* explores Jesus’ roles as a Jewish priest, a political agitator, and a spiritual teacher. Three video tapes. (232.9 Liv)
- *Perspectives* is a collection of Hugh Downs’ essays on education and the arts, human nature, future tech, and other topics. (081.20 Dow)
- Nicholas Evans’ novel, *The Loop*, is the classic story of (wo)man against nature. A female wolf biologist is sent to Montana to protect wolves from ranchers. (813 Eva)

Mar 24-25, 2007

- In *Faith Works* Jim Wallis describes lessons he’s learned as a social activist. You’ll be challenged by reading the introduction “The Difference that Faith Makes” through to the final chapter “Change the Wind.” (261.8 Wal)
- Jacques Barzun distilled 500 years of western cultural life in *From Dawn to Decadence*. (940.2 Bar)
- In *Mary Called Magdalene*, Margaret George recreates Mary Magdalene’s life story in a novel described as a “mesmerizing diary of a soul.” (813 Geo)
- In this autobiography, *The Good Times*, Russell Baker writes—magically--about his life as a writer. (070.92 Bak)

Mar 31-Apr 1, 2007

- Ann Weems’s words in *Kneeling in Jerusalem* provide powerful meditations for the Lenten season. (811.54 Wee)

- In *Our Hope for Years to Come: The Search for Spiritual Sanctuary*, Martin Marty and his son Micah Marty provide reflections and photographs to aid with this search. (234.34 Mar)
- *Frogs without Legs Can't Hear* by David W. Anderson and Paul Hill provides detailed help on how “to raise persons of faith in a world in need of God.” (253.22 And)
- Marek Halter’s novel, *Sarah*, tells the story of the woman who became Abraham’s wife. (843.91 Hal)

Apr 7-8, 2007

- “How do thoughts and feelings influence health? How is healing related to the mind?” See answers to these important questions in *Healing and the Mind* by Bill Moyers. (616 Moy)
- *Stranger at the Gate* is Mel White’s story of what it means to be gay and Christian in America. (261.8 Whi)
- *Digging to America* is Anne Tyler’s newest novel about what it is to be an American. Two families meet at the airport while waiting for their adopted daughters to arrive from Korea. (813 Tyl)
- “(T)o perceive both the theological quality of everyday practices and the practical importance of theology and doctrine for Christian living” are the main thrusts of *Practicing Theology: Beliefs and Practices in Christian Life*. (230.21 Vol)

Apr 14-15, 2007

- *Going Back to Bisbee*, by Richard Shelton, is the book selected for ONEBOOKAZ 2007, a program that encourages readers to read and discuss books that increase their knowledge and appreciation of Arizona's unique history and culture. Shelton describes life and landscape in a mountainous mining region in extreme southeastern Arizona. (979.1 She)
- In his book *Serious Play* Martin Kimeldorf discusses leisure in society and provides active assistance for those who would like better work-leisure balance. (306.4 Kim)
- Harold Kushner’s *Who Needs God* discusses answers to questions such as “Does God really make a difference?” and “Why is God so hard to find?” (296.7 Kus)

Apr 21-22, 2007

- Among other topics, *Living Simply with Children* by Marie Sherlock describes how to arrange more free time to spend with your children and why you don’t need a lot of stuff to have a lot of fun. (649.1 She)
- *The Smithsonian Institution* is a Gore Vidal novel in which the hero deals with some of the key events of our times. (813 Vid)
- W. Phillip Keller discusses 1 Corinthians 13 in detail in *A Layman Looks at the Love of God*—a good way to meditate on this chapter. (231.6 Kel)
- Harvey Mackay urges readers to “do what you love, love what you do, and deliver more than you promise” in *Beware the Naked Man Who Offers You His Shirt*. (650.1 Mac)

Apr 28-29, 2007

- *The Luminous Web* is a collection of essays on science and religion authored by Barbara Brown Taylor. Written for laypersons, Taylor “suggests ways we might close the gap between spirit and matter, between the secular and the sacred.” (261.5 Tay)
- Barack Obama’s memoir of his life prior to election to the US Senate is detailed in *Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*. (973.04 Oba)
- *Intimate Encounters: A Practical Guide to Discovering the Secrets of a Really Great Marriage* includes practical steps such as “forgive each other and move beyond your hurts” and “understand each other and how to meet one another’s needs.” (646.7 Fer)
- For pure fun, read the novel *Tears of the Giraffe*, by Alexander McCall Smith, which features the proprietor of the only ladies’ detective agency in Botswana engaged in another set of adventures. (823 McC)

May 5-6, 2007

- In *Praying Twice: The Music and Words of Congregational Song*, Brian Wren discusses topics as divergent as “why congregational song is indispensable” to “refrains, choruses, and other people’s songs” to “why do they keep changing the good old hymns?” (264.23 Wre)
- *Forever, Erma* is a collection of Erma Bombeck’s best-loved and most requested columns. (814.54 Bom)
- *The Book of Ruth* is Jane Hamilton’s novel about Ruth Grey’s family life in a small Illinois town. (813 Ham)
- Carl Hammerschlag, M.D. connects Native American healing concepts with western medicine in *The Theft of the Spirit: A Journey to Spiritual Healing*. For example, he “explains how he learned from Native Americans to make use of the energy source within ourselves for healing.” (615.8 Ham)

May 12-13, 2007

- In *Who’s Afraid of a Large Black Man?* Charles Barkley discusses issues such as race and power with several prominent Americans. (305.8 Bar)
- To write *Galileo’s Daughter*, Dava Sobel relied heavily on letters between Galileo and his daughter, a cloistered nun, to tell the story of the scientist that Einstein called “the father of modern physics.” (520.92 Sob)
- Sarah Ban Breathnach describes the journey toward individual authenticity in *Something More: Excavating Your Authentic Self*. (291.4 Ban)
- *The Namesake* is Jhumpa Lahir’s novel about the Ganguli family’s move from India to the United States with the “conflicting loyalties, comic detours, and wrenching love affairs” of their firstborn son Gogol. (813 Lah)

May 19-20, 2007

- In her book *Even the Stars Look Lonesome*, Maya Angelou talks about “things she cares about most,” sharing her wisdom on a variety of topics. (814.54 Ang)

- Thomas Keneally wrote *The Place Where Souls Are Born: A Journey into the American Southwest*. His perspective, as an Australian visitor to the US, makes for interesting reading. (978.20 Ken)
- Bart Ehrman writes about Jesus “as an apocalyptic prophet—a man convinced that the world would end dramatically within the lifetime of his apostles and that a new kingdom would be created on earth.” (232.9 Ehr)
- *Everything to Gain: Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life*, by Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, describes their adjustments on returning home to Georgia following their years in the White House. (159.1 Car)

May 26-27, 2007

- In *The American Dream: Stories from the Heart of Our Nation* Dan Rather illustrates “that the basic American desire for ‘life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness’ is alive and well.” Large Print (973.92 Rat)
- Frances Moore Lappé and Paul Martin DuBois describe changes that Americans are making in tackling problems in communities throughout the USA in *The Quickening of America: Rebuilding Our Nation, Remaking Our Lives*. (323 Lap)
- *Through the Narrow Gate: A Memoir of Spiritual Discovery* is Karen Armstrong’s story of her life inside a Catholic convent. (271.9 Arm)
- *Certain Women*, by Madelaine L’Engle, is a novel about David Wheaton, an actor who obsesses about playing the role of King David. The book’s three subplots are “the Wheaton family saga, the story of King David, and the history of the play’s development.” (813 L’E)

Jun 2-3, 2007

- *Living the Heart of Christianity*, a companion book to Marcus Borg’s *The Heart of Christianity*, contains many exercises that can help you put your faith into action. (131 Bor)
- *Excess Baggage: Getting Out of Your Own Way*, by clinical psychologist Judith Sills, offers timely suggestions that can assist you in overcoming the blind spots that make life harder than it has to be. (158.1 Sil)
- *Miz Lil & The Chronicles of Grace* is a set of stories by Walter Wangerin, Jr. about his growing up years and his life as a pastor. (813 Wan)
- In *What Einstein Told His Cook* Robert L. Wolke explains kitchen science principles and provides nifty recipes. (641.5 Wol)

Jun 9-10, 2007

- *Blink: The Power of Thinking without Thinking*, by Malcolm Gladwell, provides fascinating accounts about choices that seem to be made in an instant. (153.4 Gla)
- In *Champions of the Poor: The Economic Consequences of Judeo-Christian Values* Barend de Vries “examines the economic roots of poverty, the actions that can be taken to eradicate it, and the ethical case for integrating the poor into the mainstream of society.” (261.8 De)

- *A Bend in the Road* is Nicholas Sparks' novel about a couple who meets and falls in love only to find that they are "bound together by a shocking secret." Large Print. (813 Spa).
- *Dalai Lama, My Son*, is Diki Tsering's story of her life as the mother of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. It's rich in historic and cultural details about the Tibetan people. (951.50 Tse)

Jun 16-17, 2007

- *Living the Labyrinth*, by Jill K. H. Geoffrion, describes 101 paths to a deeper connection with the sacred through walking a labyrinth. (248.4 Geo)
- In *How Do We Tell the Children?* Dan Schaefer and Christine Lyons offer a step-by-step guide for helping children two to teen cope when someone dies. (155.9 Sch)
- Set in Washington state, *Our Lady of the Forest* is David Guterson's novel about a teenage "girl who becomes an instrument of divine grace." (813 Gut)
- *Blue Highways*, by William Least Heat Moon, is a classic travel story about people along less well-traveled roads (on maps they were blue) throughout the United States. (917.3 Moo)

Jun 23-24, 2007

- In *Teaching a Stone to Talk: Expeditions and Encounters*, Annie Dillard offers mediations filled with rich descriptions of the natural world and the emotions engendered by careful attention to it. (508.19 Dil)
- *Surprised by Joy* is C. S. Lewis' story of his early life when he searched for joy and found it in Christianity. (248 Lew)
- Carolyn Hart's *Letter from Home*, a mystery set in 1944 Oklahoma, unfolds the life story of newspaper reporter G. G. Gilman. (813 Har)

Jun 30-Jul 1, 2007

- *Behold the Man: A Journey into History Seeking the Real Jesus* is a 43 minute DVD that discusses several important matters including whether Jesus really exists and His divinity. (232 Gre)
- *The Cancer Recovery Eating Plan*, by Daniel W. Nixon, describes what to eat after a cancer diagnosis, specific eating plans for each cancer type, and more than 100 delicious recipes. (616.99 Nix)
- In a novel set in a small Massachusetts town, Alice Hoffman's *Blue Diary* focuses on Ethan Ford who fails to show up for work because he's running from his past. Large Print. (813 Hof)
- In *What Am I Supposed to Do With My Life?* Douglas J. Brouwer "offers a personal, spiritual response to the vocational questions that people commonly ask." (248.4 Bro)

Jul 7-8, 2007

- *Small Is Beautiful: Economics as if People Mattered*, by E. F. Schumacher, "is a landmark set of essays on humanistic economics." First written in the '70s, Schumacher's

words are probably more important today than they were earlier. Contemporary thinkers have expanded on his ideas in this edition. (330.1 Sch)

- In *A Praying Congregation*, Jane E. Vennard “invites the reader to ‘stop trying to do prayer right and simply be in the presence of God.’” Vennard is a UCC pastor. (248.3 Ven)
- Khaled Hosseini’s novel, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, is a gritty story set in modern day Afghanistan. (813 Hos)
- Gioia Diliberto’s *A Useful Woman: The Early Life of Jane Addams* presents the very human side of one of America’s heroes, is “an interesting read” and is “thought-provoking on a number of levels.” (361.92 Dil)

Jul 14-15, 2007

- *Small Is Beautiful: Economics as if People Mattered* by E. F. Schumacher, “is a landmark set of essays on humanistic economics.” First written in the ‘70s, Schumacher’s words are probably more important today than they were earlier. Contemporary thinkers have expanded on his ideas in this edition. (330.1 Sch)
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Jul 21-22, 2007

- In his novel *A Lesson Before Dying*, Ernest J. Gaines describes the bond that forms between a teacher and a man sentenced to death. (813 Gai)
- *Mixed Blessings* is a collection of sermons from Barbara Brown Taylor, a down-to-earth preacher and storyteller. (252.03 Tay)
- Bob Woodward named his biography of Alan Greenspan, *Maestro: Greenspan’s Fed and the American Boom* because he was once a musician, and also was “exquisitely attuned to every instrument in the political and economic orchestra” in his role as Federal Reserve chairman. (332.1 Woo)
- In *Sketching School* author Judy Martin provides instruction about getting started, learning from sketching, themes, and applied sketching. (741.2 Mar)

Jul 28-29, 2007

- *Zipporah, Wife of Moses* is Marek Halter’s fictionalized story about a little known woman of the Old Testament. (843.91 Hal)
- Ann Atwood created a photo essay using the words of Albert Schweitzer in *For All That Lives*. The words offer a solution to one of the world’s problems—the alienation of people from themselves and their natural environment. (591.96 Atw)

- *The Handy History Answer Book* offers answers on a wide range of topics from government, law, and politics to medicine and disease to culture and recreation. (909.21 Fer)
- In *What Happens When We Pray for Our Families*, Evelyn Christenson teaches “how to hang on in faith when other family members hurt..., how to pray to restore family relationships when problems and misunderstandings arise,” and other difficulties. (249.20 Chr)

Aug 4-5, 2007

- In *The Disappearance of God*, Richard Elliott Friedman describes three mysteries about the presence/absence of God. The first takes place two thousand years before the second and third and all three involve literature, history, religion, science, and philosophy. (231.20 Fri)
- Want good news about Washington, DC? *Millie’s Book*, as dictated to Barbara Bush, has beautiful photographs and narratives about life in the White House. (973.92 Bus)
- Frances Weaver describes a celebration of life’s potential for those over 55 in *The Girls with the Grandmother Faces*. (305.26 Wea)
- Fannie Flagg’s novel, *Standing in the Rainbow*, set in small town mid-America has a cast of beloved characters you’ll enjoy meeting. (813 Fla)

Aug 11-12, 2007

- *Reflections on Psalm 23 for People with Cancer* by Ken Curtis contains meditations that “provide a combination of candid personal experience of what it means to battle cancer and some of the spiritual resources available from this time-honored Psalm.” DVD. (220.6 Cur)
- *The Wind Won’t Know Me* retells the story of the U.S. Government’s mishandling of a land dispute among Navajo-Hopi Indians. “It is as well a plea for profoundly needed change.” (979.1 Ben)
- *Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover’s Soul* provides stories about pets as teachers, healers, heroes, and friends. (818.54 Can)
- *The Historian* is Elizabeth Kostova’s “story of a young woman plunged into a labyrinth where the secrets of her family’s past connect to an inconceivable evil: the dark fifteenth-century reign of Vlad the Impaler and a time-defying pact that may have kept his awful work alive though the ages.” (813 Kos)

Aug 18-19, 2007

- In *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, Robert Fulghum reminds us to “share everything, play fair, don’t hit people, put things back where you found them” plus several more words of wisdom. (814.54 Ful)
- Desmond Tutu shares the spiritual message that guided him through his struggles and those of his people as they worked for human rights in South Africa in *God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time*. (231.7 Tut)

- John C. Van Dyke recalls “his youth on the Western frontier” in *The Open Spaces*. He worries that “...industrialization replaces the wild of nature with the wild of civilized society.” (978.02 Van)
- In *Sacred Cows Make Gourmet Burgers*, William M. Easum describes “ministry anytime, anywhere, by anybody.” It’s all about permission-giving. (253.20 Eas)

Aug 25-26, 2007

- Bill Bryson tells about out-of-the-ordinary events in his Australian travels: “A-bombs go off unnoticed, prime ministers disappear into the surf, and cheery citizens coexist with the world’s deadliest creatures” in his book *In a Sunburned Country*. Large Print. (919.4 Bry)
- Would you believe that at least 27 stories about women exist in the Old Testament? See for yourself in *The Storyteller’s Companion to the Bible*. (220.9 Wil)
- Bob Keeshan (aka Captain Kangaroo) “tells yesterday’s children how to nurture their own” in *Growing Up Happy*. (649.1 Kee)
- William Styron recalls three tales from his youth in *A Tidewater Morning*. (813 Sty)

Sep 1-2, 2007

- Bart Ehrman writes about Jesus “as an apocalyptic prophet—a man convinced that the world would end dramatically within the lifetime of his apostles and that a new kingdom would be created on earth” in his book, *Jesus: Apocalyptic Prophet of the New Millennium*. (232.9 Ehr)
- Set in early twentieth-century London, Tracy Chevalier’s novel *Falling Angels* pictures “family life that exposes the prejudices and flaws of a changing time.” (813 Che)
- *Too Funny to be President* by Morris K. Udall, though a bit dated, continues to evoke chuckles with its humorous stories. (973.52 Uda)
- *The West of the Imagination* relates “the lives of the artists of the American West, the social and cultural climate during which they worked, and their individual thoughts and feelings.” (700 Goe)

Sep 8-9, 2007

- What’s your religious literacy IQ? Find out the answer to this question as well as proposals for increasing such literacy in Stephen Prothero’s *Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know and Doesn’t*. (200.71 Pro)
- Elie Wiesel recounts his life, including his happy young childhood, his years at Auschwitz and Buchenwald, and his life in France after World War II in *All Rivers Run to the Sea: Memoirs*. (813 Wie)
- *Watercolor and Collage Workshop* by Gerald Brommer is “designed to teach you how to make better paintings by mastering collage techniques.” (702.8 Bro)
- Richard Carlson provides advice about handling life’s difficult issues, including illness, death, injury, aging, alcoholism, divorce, and financial pressures in *What About the Big Stuff? Finding Strength and Moving Forward When the Stakes Are High*. (155.9 Car)

Sep 15-16, 2007

- Robert Massie's account of *The Romanovs: The Final Chapter* answers questions about skeletons taken from a Siberian grave and thought to be the remains of the last tsar and his family. It's "riveting...unfolds like a detective story." (947.08 Mas)
- *Growing an Engaged Church* by Albert Winseman describes "how to stop 'doing church' and start being the church again." (254 Win)
- Would you like a good mystery? Try *Night Train to Memphis* by Elizabeth Peters. Set in Egypt, the heroine must put aside personal concerns to concentrate on crime fighting. (813 Pet)
- According to some individuals, Frank McCourt's *Teacher Man* should be required reading for everyone. McCourt describes his thirty year teaching career prior to his becoming a prize winning author. (371.1 McC)

Sep 22-23, 2007

- In her book *Send My Roots Rain*, Megan McKenna offers thoughtful reflections on some of the beatitudes on pages 290-307. (242.21 McK)
- Tom Peters could have an important message for you in *The Pursuit of WOW! Every Person's Guide to Topsy-Turvy Times*. (658.4 Pet)
- In *The Story of My Life*, young Afghani-American Farah Ahmedi tells her inspiring story of overcoming obstacles to live her dreams. (305.23 Ahm)
- *Our Lady of the Forest* is David Guterson's novel about "what happens when a fifteen-year-old girl becomes an instrument of divine grace." (813 Gut)

Sep 29-30, 2007

- Sherwood Wirt writes helpful commentary on each of the beatitudes in *The Cross on the Mountain*. (226.2 Wir)
- *Choosing Simplicity: Real People Finding Peace and Fulfillment in a Complex World* is helpful to people who seek "meaningful and fulfilling alternatives to mainstream goals." (646.7 Pie)
- "Let the Word Go Forth" is a collection of speeches, statements, and writings of John F. Kennedy 1947 to 1963. Among the reasons for reading this book is the knowledge it provides about the world during the years of Kennedy's public service. (973.92 Ken)
- *The Rising Sun: A Novel* by Douglas Galbraith, tells a little known story of the attempt by Scotland to begin a colony in Panama in 1698. (823 Gal)

Oct 6-7, 2007

- Megan McKenna tells stories and provides thought-provoking meditations on the beatitudes and Luke's Sermon on the Plain in *Blessings and Woes*. (242.5 McK)
- *Mountains Beyond Mountains* is Tracy Kidder's book about the quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a man who would cure the world. (610.92 Kid)
- *Firestorm*, a suspense novel by Iris Johansen, features Kerry Murphy an arson specialist caught in a terrible predicament. Large Print. (813 Joh)

- If you'd like help in growing, collecting, and using natural dyes, *Colors from Nature* by Bobbi A. McRae could be very helpful. (667.26 McR)

Oct 13-14, 2007

- Although all *The Cotton Patch Version of Matthew and John* is very readable, you may want to give special attention to the beatitudes in Chapter 5 of Clarence Jordan's book. (227 Jor)
- In *Enough*, Bill McKibben discusses "an array of technologies that could change our relationships, not just with the rest of nature but with ourselves." He "argues that we cannot grow forever in reach and power—that we must at last learn how to say 'Enough.'" (303.49 McK)
- Mark Spragg's novel *An Unfinished Life* set in Wyoming, tells the story of fractured families. It is at once an "elegantly written and paced tale of love and loss, the bonds of grief and blood, and the complex turnings of the human heart." (813 Spr)
- Norman Cousins' classic about health and healing, *Anatomy of an Illness as Perceived by the Patient*, continues to be a great read, especially for those diagnosed with crippling diseases. (362.1 Cou)

Oct 20-21, 2007

- In *The Secret of Happiness* Billy Graham "illustrates the power and timelessness of the truth of the Beatitudes to satisfy mankind's deep-rooted craving for happiness and fulfillment." (226.93 Gra)
- *Healthwise Handbook* in this 15th edition offers information on more than 200 health problems. Its purpose is to help individuals do a good job of managing health concerns. (616.02 Hea)
- *The Cathedral Builders* by Jean Gimpel discusses the mechanics as well as the politics involved in building hundreds of churches and cathedrals during the Middle Ages. Numerous photographs aid the discussion. (726.6 Gim)
- *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple* is an anthology of stories and poems to be savored by both young and old to show us "unique ways of challenging the years' passing." (810.8 Mar)

Oct 27-28, 2007

The Christian Century, a biweekly magazine, is now available for reading in the library. Stop by, sit awhile and enjoy this publication whose motto is "thinking critically, living faithfully." Martin Marty, Barbara Brown Taylor, William Willimon and Walter Brueggemann are frequent contributors. Each issue contains news, short reports, think pieces, and book and movie reviews of interest to members and friends of mainline churches.

Should you find a book title of interest for the library collection, please give this information to the library staff. If you also leave your name, we'll notify you when the book arrives.

Nov 3-4, 2007

- In *The Language of God*, Francis S. Collins, a leading DNA scientist, shows “that faith in God and faith in science can coexist within a person and be harmonious.” (215.22 Col)
- *A Change of Heart* describes the true story of Claire Sylvia’s life following a heart-and-lung transplant after which she manifested a new personality. (362.1 Syl)
- *Vatican* is filled with beautiful color photographs and descriptions of art work found inside and near the Vatican. (726 Pap)
- Ian McEwan’s novel, *Atonement*, set in England in World War II times is a powerful story that involves love and war, childhood and class, and guilt and forgiveness. (823 McE)

Nov 10-11, 2007

- *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy* explores the profoundly countercultural practice of forgiveness shown by the Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania community after the horrific killing of ten school girls in October 2006. (364.15 Kra)
- In *An Hour Before Daylight* Jimmy Carter remembers his boyhood in rural Georgia. (973.92 Car)
- *How to Read the Bible* provides “a gentle yet thorough guide through the monuments of history and religion” and was written for anyone who wants to read and study the Bible but doesn’t know how to go about it. (220.6 Cha)
- *Old Soldiers Sometimes Lie*, a fictitious work, exposes a scandal that corrupts modern Japanese and American politics. Author Richard Hoyt asks, what happened to Hirohito’s gold? (813 Hoy)

Nov 17-18, 2007

- *To Be of Use: the Seven Seeds of Meaningful Work* is Dave Smith’s work. Here he shows “how business can be a force for progressive change, that business driven by simple core values...can help make the world a better place.” (650.1 Smi)
- *The God of Intimacy and Action*, by Tony Campolo and Mary Albert Darling, shows how “contemplative spiritual practices can lead to greater intimacy with God and fuel passion for reaching out to others.” (248.2 Cam)
- Ann Packer’s novel, *The Dive from Clausen’s Pier* seeks answers to hard questions about people we love and what we’re willing to do for them in their hour of need. (813 Pac)

Nov 24-25, 2007

- *Then Sings My Soul*, by Robert J. Morgan, contains 150 of the world’s greatest hymn stories. Hymns range from “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” to “His Name is Wonderful.” Enjoy! (264.23 Mor)
- *The Origins of Creativity* contains essays on “the creative experience in art and science; the biological basis of imagination, emotion and reason; creative powers and the environment; and the mind’s perception of patterns.” Authors are all well respected in their areas of expertise. (153.3 Pfe)

- Should you be interested in birds, the book *Attracting Birds to Southern Gardens* may be helpful. The authors include specific suggestions about landscaping and plants accompanied by many color photos. (639.9 Pop)
- Set in Washington state, *Our Lady of the Forest* is David Guterson's novel about a teenage "girl who becomes an instrument of divine grace." (813 Gut)

Dec 1-2, 2007

- *Keepin' It Real* contains "sassy and sensitive" letters from Leslie, a thirteen year old, who pours out her heart to God on a wide range of topics important to young teenagers. (248.8 Hum)
- Tom Peters provides an "every person's guide to topsy-turvy times in *The Pursuit of Wow!*" (658.4 Pet)
- *The Last Promise*, a novel by Richard Paul Evans, is "a passionate, bittersweet tale about the fantastic joy and great sorrow life can throw our way." (813 Eva)
- In *A Hidden Wholeness*, Parker J. Palmer describes relationships among four themes that Palmer has worked on for forty years: "the shape of an integral life, the meaning of community, teaching and learning for transformation, and nonviolent social change." (248.4 Pal)

Dec 8-9, 2007

- Charles Kimball describes five warning signs of corruption in religion as well as how authentic faith can prevent evil in *When Religion Becomes Evil*. (291.2 Kim)
- Help for parents is available on a wide range of topics such as problem solving and crises in *How to Survive Your Adolescent's Adolescence*. (649 Kol)
- In her novel *Solar Storms* author "Linda Hogan tells the story of five generations of Native American women in the harsh landscape of the Boundary Waters between Canada and Minnesota." (813 Hog)

Dec 15-16, 2007

- In *Hearing God*, Dallas Willard describes what it means to develop a conversational relationship with God. Of special help are the topics for reflection at the ends of chapters. (231.7 Wil)
- Dave and Kathy Babbitt offer practical ways to deal with today's demands, pressures and indecisions in *Downscaling: Simplify and Enrich Your Lifestyle*. (179.9 Bab)
- *The Opposite of Fate: A Book of Musings* is Amy Tan's explanation of alternative ways to make sense of her world. (813 Tan)
- Thinking of taking up oil painting? Olle Nordmark's *Complete Course in Oil Painting* "provides step-by-step guidance" that may be just the thing that can help. (750 Nor)

Dec 22-23, 2007

- In *The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach about Jesus' Birth*, Marcus Borg and John Crossan help readers to understand what the stories mean in the context of the first century and the 21st century. (232.92 Bor)
- *Christmas in Song* contains the music and words to many familiar carols, plus some less familiar ones. (246 Pre)
- *Christmas Stories for the Heart* has short pieces by many authors who reflect on Christmas topics. (242.33 Gra)
- *Kneeling in Bethlehem*, by Ann Weems, furnishes valuable insights about Christmas, all wonderfully worded as poetry. (811.54 Wee)

Dec 29-30, 2007

- *Christ in the Carols* consists of devotionals based on familiar carols that allow readers to rediscover the meanings of these well-loved words! (242.33 Lan)
- “Christmas is most irregular” and “Christmas is not a stopping place” are chapter titles that preview the content of *A Sprig of Holly* by Halford Luccock. (242.33 Luc)
- Paul Maier describes the *First Christmas: The True and Unfamiliar Story* in words and photographs made in the Holy Lands. (232.92 Mai)
- Among the sections of Howard Thurman’s unusual book, *The Mood of Christmas*, are “the perspective of history in which Jesus released a precious ingredient into the psychic stream of the human race” and “meditative writings depicting the range of moods” related to the season. (242.33 Thu)