

Grace Lutheran Church Globaliers -- Books for 2022-- 2023

Our group meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. in the Fireside Room at Grace Lutheran Church. Everyone is welcome, including those who are not members of Grace. Please read the assigned book prior to the meeting! Following are the agreed upon books. Changes may be made if leader(s) need to be absent on the scheduled date.

Sept. 6 The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story. Ed. Nikkole Hannah-Jones. C 2021.

A collection of histories, memoirs, poems, and essays, this project began as a complete special edition of *The New York Times Magazine* on August 18, 2019, the 400th anniversary of the landing of the first slave ship in America (which, incidentally, was one year before the Pilgrims landed). Authors of chapters are highly decorated scholars and artists, and *The 1619 Project* itself won a Pulitzer Prize. The authors show how slavery and racism have been woven together with other developments over the course of our nation's history. Subsequently the book has elicited an enormous amount of emotional and political reaction, especially from the right. SHARON ROSENKOETTER will initiate the discussion, but group members have each been assigned a section to facilitate; half of the sections will be considered on Oct. 4. See the attached list.

Oct. 4 The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story. Ed. Nikkole Hannah-Jones. C 2021.

Ch. 9-18, which were not discussed in September will be considered this month. See the attached list for assignments.

Nov. 8 (Election Day) The Broken Circle. Enjeela Ahmadi Miller. C 2019. 256p Cv Library

PLEASE BE ATTENTIVE; THERE ARE SEVERAL BOOKS WITH THIS SAME TITLE.

Before the Soviet invasion of 1980, Enjeela Ahmadi remembers her home in Kabul, Afghanistan, as peaceful and prosperous. After her mother leaves for medical treatment in India, political unrest and civil war intensifies. Enjeela and three of her seven siblings are sent with a guide to Pakistan where her father catches up with the children and travels with them across India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal to India, a 5 year journey. The strength of the family and their spiritual background give them hope and determination. ARDIS KOESTER will lead.

Dec. 6 North to Paradise: A Memoir. Ousman Umar, Trans. by Kevin Gerry Dunn. C 2019. 140 p. Cv Library

Born in a village in Ghana, Ousman leaves his village at age 12 on a 5-year journey north through the Sahara, along the Mediterranean Sea and across to Spain. He encounters violence, exploitation, racism and also friendship, generosity, and hope. He has now founded an NGO to prevent migration by providing education for children of Ghana in their home country. JAYA CONSER LAPHAM will lead.

Jan. 3 So You Want To Talk about Race. Ijeoma Oluo C 2019., Seal Press. 250 pp.

Frank Davis says that this group will enjoy talking about this one! MARY ANN MATZKE will lead.

Feb. 7 A Hope More Powerful than the Sea. Melissa Fleming. C 2018, Flatiron Books. 263 pp.

This is the story of a young girl living in the Syrian town where the civil war began. She fled with her family to Egypt, where she met her fiancé. Under the latest administration, Syrians were discriminated against. Together, the young woman and her beloved fiancé attempted numerous times to flee across the sea to Europe. This is a story of bravery and courage. The author (not the subject of the book) is high in the work of the UN High Commission on Refugees, and she brings worldwide perspectives to our era, when there are more refugees than at any time since WW II. MARGIE NAIRN will lead.

March 7 The Lost Chapters. Leslie Schwartz. C 2018, Blue Rider Press. 247 pp.

After hard-won sobriety, successful author Leslie Schwartz relapsed into alcoholism and addiction. She was sentenced to serve time in the hellacious LA County Jail. In addition to the author's mortification, this experience was horrendous for her husband, daughter, friends, and colleagues, and she would have sunk under the shame of it but for the stories she read and heard from fellow inmates. These stories led to a triumphant personal and literary journey. CAROL KAMKE will lead.

April 4 Sipping from the Nile: My Exodus from Egypt. Jean Naggar. C 2008. 371p

A memoir of an Egyptian Jewish woman and her family and their challenges of change from a well-to-do banking family through the days of WWII and, the nationalization of the Suez Canal to life in European boarding schools and resettlement in Europe and the U.S.A. CAROL ERICKSON will lead.

May 2 On Juneteenth. Annette Gordon-Reed. C 2021. 137p. Cv Library.

The history of the significance of the date to both the state of Texas and to one extended family in recounting the hardships through slavery, Reconstruction, Jim Crow laws to current times. MARILYNN WORKS will lead.

June 6 After the Last Border: Two Families and the Story of Refuge in America. Jessica Goudeau. C 2020. 308p, Cv Library

The author follows two immigrant women and their families, one from Myanmar via a refugee camp in Thailand and the other a Muslim from Syria. In addition to following the challenges of adapting to life in a new country, the author includes how America's ever-changing policies add to the challenges of both the migrants and those who try to help them. JUAN GUZMAN will lead.

Sept. 5 Secrets of the Sprakkar: Iceland's Extra-ordinary Women. Elizabeth Reed. C 2022 Cv Library

The first lady of Iceland highlights the accomplishments of women and the movement toward gender equity in her country. SHARON ROSENKOETTER will lead.