



2023 UWF Reading Program Books

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Education for Mission

BEING SHEELA: THE LIFE JOURNEY OF AN IMMIGRATION LAWYER (822030) Author: Rao, Adithi. A young mother separated from her children for eight long years; a man facing deportation after being mistaken for a terrorist; a woman forced to endure domestic violence so she can retain her right to remain in her adopted country—these are just a few of the thousands immigration lawyer Sheela Murthy has helped in her long career as a philanthropist. From her birth in India through law school at Harvard and starting one of the world's most successful immigration law firms, Adithi Rao explores the journey of a woman driven to help others overcome injustice, dispossession, and legal tangles so they may live a life of dignity in an increasingly challenging world. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Education for Mission Age: Adult. 248 Pages.

HOW FAR DO YOU LOVE ME? (822033) Author: Delacre, Lulu. This full-color picture book by award-winning author-illustrator Lulu Delacre features a game that highlights the universal love between caregivers and children while taking readers on a journey across the seven continents of earth. Based on a bedtime game Delacre played with her young daughters, this book is an I love you book with a twist. With every expression of love, readers visit a different location around the world, each a beautifully illustrated scene of caregivers and children in a place of natural beauty. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Education for Mission - suitable for children Age: Preschool - Elementary. 31 Pages.

“I AM A MAN”: CHIEF STANDING BEAR’S JOURNEY FOR JUSTICE (822026) Author: Starita, Joe. In 1877, Chief Standing Bear’s Ponca Indian tribe was forcibly removed from their Nebraska homeland and marched to Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), in what became the tribe’s own Trail of Tears. “I Am a Man” chronicles what happened when Standing Bear set off on a 600-mile walk to return the body of his only son to their traditional burial ground. Along the way, it examines the complex relationship between the United States government and the small, peaceful tribe and the legal consequences of land swaps and broken treaties, while never losing sight of the heartbreaking journey the Ponca endured. It also explores fundamental issues of citizenship, constitutional protection, cultural identity, and democracy—issues that continue to resonate loudly today. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Education for Mission Age: Adult. 257 Pages.

SUSAN ANGELINE COLLINS: WITH A HALLELUJAH HEART (822021) Author: Van Buren, Janis Bennington. Years before Mary Jane McLeod Bethune started her school for girls in Florida, one Midwestern woman was steadily doing her part for girls in the northern Angolan high plateau. For more than three decades, African American missionary Susan Angeline Collins made a tremendous difference in the lives of countless African women and children, some orphaned and homeless and others escaping early marriage and subservience. Authored by retired professor Janis Bennington Van Buren, this book explores the remarkable service-oriented life of Collins from her 1851 birth in Illinois (near Edwardsville) until her 1940 death in Iowa. Collins overcame economic, education, gender, race, religious, and other obstacles surrounding Africa’s colonization to serve as a stalwart missionary, leader, teacher,

nurse, construction manager, and surrogate mother to “her girls.” Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program Bonus Book: Education for Mission Age: Adult. 382 Pages.

Leadership Development

CHANGE SINGS: A CHILDREN’S ANTHEM (822039) Author: Gorman, Amada. In this full-color picture book by presidential inaugural poet and activist Amanda Gorman, anything is possible when our voices join together. As a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes—big or small—in the world, in their communities, and, most importantly, in themselves. This book is a triumphant call to action for everyone to use their abilities to make a difference. Illustrated by Loren Long. LARGE PRINT. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Leadership Development - suitable for children Age: Preschool - Elementary. 30 Pages.

IDA B. THE QUEEN: THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF IDA B. WELLS (822034) Author: Duster, Michelle. Journalist. Suffragist. Antilynching crusader. In 1862, Ida B. Wells was born enslaved in Holly Springs, Mississippi. In 2020, she awarded a Pulitzer Prize. Ida B. the Queen tells the awe-inspiring story of a pioneering woman who was often overlooked and underestimated—a woman who refused to exit a train car meant for white passengers; a woman who brought to light the horrors of lynching in America; and a woman who cofounded the NAACP. Written by Wells’ great-granddaughter Michelle Duster, it is a unique visual celebration of Wells’ life, and of the Black experience. Includes illustrations, photos, and index. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Leadership Development Age: Adult. 168 Pages.

MIOSOTIS FLORES NEVER FORGETS (822029) Author: Burgos, Hilda Eunice. In this fictional chapter book for children in grades 4-6, Miosotis Flores is excited about three things: fostering rescue dogs, goofy horror movies, and her sister Amarilis’ upcoming wedding. But her papi wants her to care about school most, so they strike a deal—if Miosotis improves her grades in two classes, she can adopt a dog this summer. But when she notices her sister behaving strangely and discovers her secret (she is a victim of dating violence), she faces some difficult choices. What do you do if someone is in danger, but doesn’t want your help? What ultimately matters most—what Miosotis wants, or what’s right for the ones she loves? *2023 UWF Reading Program: Leadership Development - suitable for children Age: Upper elementary – Middle school. 269 Pages.

PIONEER BLACK CLERGYWOMEN: STORIES OF BLACK CLERGYWOMEN OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1974 - 2016 (821039) Author: Whitely-Fields, Josephine. Black clergywomen are pioneers of The United Methodist Church who continue to significantly contribute to making disciples and spreading the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Their stories are inspiring illustrations of the Holy Spirit at work in ordinary people who said yes to ordained ministry. They have endured many individual, institutional, and systemic acts of racism, sexism, and ageism while being subjected to economic discrimination. They often fight for equality of others in our society while being denied those same rights in the church. Their continuance exemplifies their commitment to be the embodiment of Christ-love to all people. In this book, women share their faith stories, path to ordination, ministry experiences in their appointments, and suggestions for annual conference leaders. STORIES: Bishop Linda Lee, Rev. Dr. Josephine Ann Whitely-Fields, Rev. Dr. Tara Renee Sutton, Bishop Tracy S. Malone, Rev. Cheryl Jefferson Bell, Bishop Sharma Denise Lewis, Rev. Edna Mae Morgan, Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Rev. Ella H. DeDeaux. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Leadership Development Age: Adult. 211 Pages.

Nurturing for Community

FIREKEEPER’S DAUGHTER (822032) Author: Boulley, Angeline. Angeline Boulley’s debut novel is a groundbreaking young adult thriller about a Native teen who must root out the corruption in her community. When family tragedy strikes, 18-year-old Daunis Fontaine puts her future on hold to look after her mother. The only bright

spot is meeting Jamie, the charming new recruit on her brother's hockey team. Yet even as Daunis falls for Jamie, she senses the dashing hockey star is hiding something. Everything comes to light when Daunis witnesses a shocking murder, thrusting her into an FBI investigation of a lethal new drug. Daunis agrees to go undercover, drawing on her knowledge of chemistry and Ojibwe traditional medicine to track down the source. But the search for truth is more complicated than Daunis imagined, exposing secrets and old scars. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Nurturing for Community - suitable for youth Age: High school - Adult. 494 Pages.

LAND IS NOT EMPTY: FOLLOWING JESUS IN DISMANTLING THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY (822023) Author: Augustine, Sarah. In this prophetic book, author Sarah Augustine, a Pueblo woman, reframes the colonization of North America as she investigates ways that the Doctrine of Discovery continues to devastate Indigenous cultures, and even the planet itself, as it justifies exploitation of both natural resources and people. This is a powerful call to reckon with the root causes of a legacy that continues to have devastating effects on Indigenous Peoples around the globe and a call to recognize how all of our lives and our choices are interwoven. *2023 UWF Reading Program Bonus Book: Nurturing for Community Age: Adult. 247 Pages.

NEVERTHELESS: AMERICAN METHODISTS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS (820179) Author: Dreff, Ashley Boggan. This book tells the story of American Methodist women's efforts fight for women's rights, beginning with the Women's Christian Temperance Union and ending with the #MeToo movement. Each chapter documents particular Methodist women and provides the reader with a basic historic context of the time or situation at hand as it shows how Methodist women engaged and fought for women's equality or women's rights in American society and American Methodism. Chapters: John Wesley and women in ministry; Methodist women and the eradication of social sin; Social holiness; Suffrage - Frances Willard, Anna Howard Shaw, Shaw and Willard; Racial equality - Thelma Stevens, Theresa Hoover, Methodist history, The Woman's Division; The Equal Rights Amendment - Churchwomen's Liberation, 1972 General Conference, Equal Rights Amendment; Reproductive Rights - abortion in the 19th century, abortion in the 20th century, The Clergy Consultation Service on Abortion, The United Methodist Church and abortion, abortion today in The United Methodist Church, abortion today in the United States; Sexual harassment - Why?, the stained-glass ceiling, data on the stained-glass ceiling; She continues to preach. Includes discussion questions and bibliography. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Nurturing for Community Age: Adult. 134 Pages.

PRODIGAL PROPHET: JONAH AND THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S MERCY (822024) Author: Keller, Timothy. The story of Jonah is one of the most well-known but most misunderstood parables in the Bible. In this book, pastor and author Timothy Keller reveals the hidden depths within the book of Jonah. He makes the case that Jonah was one of the worst prophets in the entire Bible. And yet there are unmistakably clear connections between Jonah, the prodigal son, and Jesus. Keller provides an answer to the extraordinary conclusion of this biblical parable—and shares the powerful Christian message at the heart of Jonah's story. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Nurturing for Community Age: Adult. 258 Pages.

Social Action

BRIGHT STAR (822038) Author: Morales, Yuyi. In this full-color picture book with a combination of powerful, spare language and sumptuous, complex imagery, New York Times bestselling author Yuyi Morales weaves the tale of a fawn making her way through the Sonoran Desert, a landscape that is dangerous, beautiful—and full of potential. A gentle voice urges her onward, to face her fears and challenge the obstacles that seek to hold her back. With a voice full of calm, contemplative wisdom, readers are invited to listen and observe, to accept themselves, and to dare to shout. LARGE PRINT. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Social Action - suitable for children Age: Preschool - Elementary. 32 Pages.

COUSINS (822027) Author: Kilby Baldwin, Betty and Kilby, Phoebe. Connected through slavery, a Black woman and a White woman discover their past - and each other. What happens when a White woman, Phoebe, contacts a Black woman, Betty, saying she suspects they are connected through slavery? Revealed to be cousins, they commit to a path of reconciliation. In alternating chapters, each tells her dramatic story, from Betty's experience as one of the

first Black children to attend her desegregated school to Phoebe's eventual question to Betty: "How do I begin to repair the harms?" Piercingly honest, the book includes a working reparations project that the women conceived together. Includes black and white photos. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Social Action Age: Adult. 242 Pages.

NIBI'S WATER SONG (822036) Author: Tenasco, Sunshine. This bright and vivacious full-color picture book from two Indigenous creators celebrates the energy, moxie, and determination of water activists of all ages. When Nibi, an Indigenous girl, turns the tap in her house, only mucky brown water comes out. That starts her on a search for clean water to drink. Though she must face polluted rivers, unfriendly neighbors, and discouragement, Nibi's joyful energy becomes a catalyst for change and action as her community rallies around her to make clean drinking water available for all. LARGE PRINT. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Social Action - suitable for children Age: Preschool - Elementary. 30 Pages.

WHAT CAN I DO?: THE PATH FROM CLIMATE DESPAIR TO ACTION (822028) Author: Fonda, Jane. In 2019, daunted by the looming disaster of climate change and inspired by Greta Thunberg, Naomi Klein, and student climate strikers, activist Jane Fonda asked herself one question: What can I do? She moved to Washington, D.C., and teamed up with Greenpeace, leading climate scientists, and community organizers not only to understand what's at stake, but to equip all of us with the education and tools we need to join her in protest. This book isn't a wish list but a to-do list, urging us to wake up and take action. Includes color photos and index. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Social Action Age: Adult. 352 Pages.

Spiritual Growth

BIG DEAL OF TAKING SMALL STEPS TO MOVE CLOSER TO GOD (822031) Author: McKenzie, Vashti Murphy. This book by Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, a bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, explores how to develop a stronger relationship with God and more effective spiritual lifestyle by taking small steps that lead to big changes. She prescribes small changes that lead to radical closeness to God, and the "big deal" result is a greater ability to biblically address life challenges. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Spiritual Growth Age: Adult. 264 Pages.

FREEDOM, WE SING (822037) Author: Leon, Amyra. As powerful as it is beautiful, this lyrical full-color picture book is designed to inspire and give hope to readers around the world. Molly Mendoza's immersive, lush illustrations invite kids to ponder singer-songwriter Amyra Leon's poem about what it means to be free. LARGE PRINT. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Spiritual Growth - suitable for children Age: Preschool - Elementary. 32 Pages.

ISAIAH AND THE WORRY PACK: LEARNING TO TRUST GOD WITH ALL OUR FEARS (822035) Author: Goring, Ruth. A full-color picture book. It's bedtime again, but Isaiah can't sleep. It seems he's got too many things on his mind—things he's worried about. So Mom helps Isaiah imagine what it would be like if each of his worries were a block that he could stash in his backpack. As Isaiah imagines hiking through the woods carrying his worry pack, he discovers the joy and relief of trusting Jesus with everything, especially those worries. This tender story written by poet, visual artist, and children's author Ruth Goring is paired with Pamela C. Rice's warm illustrations. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Spiritual Growth - suitable for children Age: Preschool - Elementary. 29 Pages.

UNTIL UNITY (822025) Author: Chan, Francis. If unity is so important to the heart of God, why is the church one of the most divided groups on earth? Francis Chan calls for believers and churches everywhere to align hearts with God and start taking seriously God's numerous commands to unify. While many believe doctrine is at the root of the problem, Chan argues that the real problem is the shallowness or non-existence of our love for each other—rooted in a shallowness in our understanding of the gospel. This is what desperately needs to change. Larger than average print. *2023 UWF Reading Program: Spiritual Growth Age: Adult. 220 Pages.