



SMALL GROUP STUDIES

The Chosen: Season 1 - Starting the week of September 8.

The Chosen, a dramatic video miniseries based on the Gospels; Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. At times drawing directly from the Gospels themselves while at others imagining “what might have happened” or “what could have been going on” in the lives of those who became Jesus’ first disciples, the series seeks to unify the way the individual Gospels tell their particular “takes” on the story. Drawing from both direct biblical context, historical background, and the creative imagination of the creators, *The Chosen* is a great way “to see” the Word—both what the Gospels themselves “say,” as well as sparking viewers’ imaginations to “see” Jesus, the Word made flesh. Each episode runs anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. PLUS, each week we’ll have some time for discussion and study of the Bible itself, so this could be a little longer than “the usual” hour study.



Schedule:

- Week of Sep 8: Episode 1 - “I Have Called You By Name”
- Week of Sep 15: Episode 2 - “Shabbat”
- Week of Sep 22: Episode 3 - “Jesus Loves the Little Children”
- Week of Sep 29: Episode 4 - “The Rock on Which It is Built”
- Week of Oct 6: Episode 5 - “The Wedding Gift”
- Week of Oct 13: Episode 6 - “Indescribable Compassion”
- Week of Oct 20: Episode 7 - “Invitations”
- Week of Oc. 27: Episode 8 - “I Am He”

Classes will be offered as follows :

- A - MONDAYS | 1 PM | LEGACY ROOM led by Pastor Sue Wallager
- B - TUESDAYS | 8:45 AM | LEGACY ROOM led by Pastor Mike Pancoast
- C - WEDNESDAYS | 10 AM | LEGACY ROOM led by Pastor Connie Tiede
- D - WEDNESDAYS | 6 PM | TBD led by Pastor Mike Pancoast

(This is a new time slot.)

We will continue with Season 2 after the new year. Stay tuned for details!

Study guides can be ordered at the Welcome Desk for \$15.

Sign up for a class at the Welcome Desk—this is helpful for us in ordering supplies!

WELCOME

We invite you to come experience God’s love at Zion Lutheran Church.

CONTACT US

1601 4th Avenue
Anoka MN 55303
763.421.4656
www.zionanoka.org

OFFICE HOURS

M–TH: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
FRI: 9:00 AM - NOON
SUN: 8:00 AM - NOON

Small Group Studies - cont'd



Zion Career REBOOST - WED | SEP 11, 25, OCT. 9, 6 | 7:30 PM | LEGACY ROOM

Is a job change in your future, either by choice or not? Have you or someone you know found yourselves having to reimagine your job or career due to a lay off, a company downsize, or just because it's time for change? As a welcoming faith community committed to growth, care, and service, Zion is offering a series of 3 short career "reboost" seminars intended to help with crafting a resume; brushing up on interview skills; and other questions you might have. Led by Zion member Dave Recker (Captain, US Navy, retired), Dave has been coaching

hundreds of job seekers for 25 years! These seminars are open and available to any and all. For more information, please contact seminar leader Dave Recker (captaindr@comcast.net) or Pastor Mike Pancoast (mpancoast@zionanoka.org).



A Bible Study on Disability—a Social Concern for All of Us

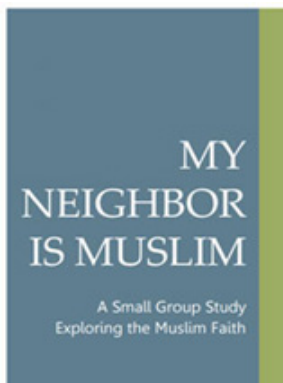
October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. So in four sessions this month, we will study disability and otherness in the Bible and how we might be able to advocate with persons with disabilities as valued and full participants in our society and, more importantly, in the Body of Christ. Led by Linda J. Peterson, M.A.T., former contract staff for

the Committee on Disability of the NCCC, USA, she writes: "It is well with my soul... I love this hymn. It speaks to a steadfast and all-encompassing love that God has for each of us. It also speaks to the deep faith and trust in God that the author of the hymn has, despite the deep pain and sorrow he experienced. As a young person growing up with a visible physical disability the world told me that I was not acceptable as I was. I was other. How could God love me? Am I worthy of God's love? In my journey of faith, I have grappled with images in the Bible of persons with disabilities. I am excited to share with you in a four-week Bible study what I have experienced in my faith journey and how the church has helped me to joyfully proclaim, "It is well with my soul!"

Schedule:

- THUR, OCT. 3 | 10 AM: Jacob—Does God see me as less than? Moses & Aaron—Ableism
- THUR, OCT. 10 | 10 AM: David & Mephibosheth—Inclusion
- THUR, OCT. 17 | 10 AM: The Man Born Blind—(mis)Perception
- THUR, OCT. 24 | 10 AM: The Boy Possessed by Spirits—why are we afraid of mental illness?

Small Group Studies - cont'd



My Neighbor is a Muslim

Originating from a request of ELCA pastors and congregations in the St. Cloud community who requested a resource that would provide accurate information about foundations of the Muslim faith, Lutheran Social Services of MN put together these materials in 2015 with the intention simply to open doors, minds, and hearts and help to dispel stereotypes and myths about Muslim neighbors just enough to start more conversations. "My Neighbor is Muslim" is a 6-week study and discussion guide designed to provide an introduction to Islam, promote cultural understanding and encourage interfaith dialogue. To create this resource, LSS-MN worked in partnership with Dr. Todd Green at Luther College, Imam Hassan Ali Mohamud with the Minnesota Da'wah Institute and Islamic Dawah Center in St. Paul and faculty of Luther Seminary in St. Paul. This resource was created primarily to help those who are not Muslim to develop a basic understanding of the Muslim faith, learn how we can be culturally sensitive and get to know our new neighbors in Minnesota who are Muslim. Minnesota is seeing some changing demographics due to an increase in recent arrivals of Muslim immigrants and refugees, and resources like these can help us build positive relations with people who come from different faith traditions and increase our understanding of cultural differences.

Schedule:

- Week of Nov 3: Intro ("An Everyday Resource" & "A Vocabulary Resource") & the 5 Pillars of Islam
- Week of Nov. 10: Islam & Jesus: What Does the Qur'an Say about Jesus?
- Week of Nov. 17: Islam & Jews/Christians: What Does the Qur'an Say about Jews & Christians?
- Week of Nov. 24: Islam & Charity: What is the Islamic Understanding of Charity?
- Week of Dec. 1: Islam & Violence: What Does Islam Teach about Violence?
- Week of Dec. 8: Islam & Finance: What is Islamic Finance?

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Hardcopy study guides are free at the Welcome Desk.
Or, a downloadable PDF is available.
Sign up at the Welcome Desk.



PREVIEWS FOR WINTER/SPRING 2025

- *Beginning the Week of January 5—"The Chosen," Season 2*
- *Beginning the week after Easter, April 20—
"Roots of Our Faith: a FIVE Session Course of Lutheran Teaching."*

September 15: Family Promise

One of Zion's expressed values is that of SERVICE: we strive to be a WELCOMING faith community. Growing. Caring. SERVING. One of the ways we live that out is through our connection to Family Promise in Anoka County (FPAC). Beginning in 2009 with a group of Anoka County residents, congregation leaders, laypeople, and other caring people who saw a need in our community, FPAC presents a model in which community needs invite a community response. The name refers to the promise, in the sense of commitment, made by our community to families in need. Join us to learn about how FPAC is doing that; how Zion responds; and how YOU might be a part of Christ's call to our congregation and its commitment to serve. Join Adam Monaghan, FPAC's Director of Engagement and Operations and Zion member Pat Stearns to learn more about Family Promise and how our congregation can continue to support the Anoka community.

Family Promise in Anoka County moved into the new Family Service Center at 363 Coon Rapids Blvd at the end of 2023. This location is more accessibly located for the families served, volunteers, and community partners. Family Promise is moving forward with plans to build a Guest House that will provide eight units of housing for families in the Shelter Program. Plans have been submitted to the city of Coon Rapids with the hope that the site plan will be approved by early fall and ground breaking will take place Spring of 2025. While grant funding over the last two years totaling \$4.6 million has made this project possible, at least \$400,000 will need to be raised over the next year as part of targeted campaign to complete this project without debt. Follow Family Promise on Facebook @FamilyPromiseinAnoka to stay informed about the latest volunteer opportunities and news about this exciting season ahead.

September 22: Zion Choir's Italy Trip

This past summer, our Director of Music & Worship Jonathan Campbell led a choir tour of Italy. The choir and other community members not only toured cultural sites throughout Italy, but also sang at some of the most important, beautiful, and historically important churches in the world, including Saint Mark's in Venice, San Vitale in Ravenna, St. Clare's Chapel in Assisi, and St. Peter's in the Vatican. Join Jonathan and other participants in this journey as they share their experiences.

September 29: Security Team Updates

We want people not only to come and to feel welcome at Zion but also to feel safe. Last year, our Security Team provided some changes and updates on our security protocols and procedures and have continued to work on and refine those protocols and procedures, as well as updating our building and our training. Come learn how we can continue to work on keeping each other safe and learn what we are doing here at Zion. For those who attended last year, much will be a review. If you did not attend last year, we invite you to come and learn.

October 6: Stewardship Breakfast

You are invited to a catered Stewardship Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall as we share our gratitude for your faithful giving and our hopes for the new budget year.

October 13: Discovering Your Calling for a Purposeful Retirement

Thinking of retiring? Already retired? This session will include a tool to identify your gifts/callings that can continue to do good in the world around you. God has given us each our own unique set of gifts in order that we participate in the world in a way that is rich and fulfilling, not just for us, but for the common good. Fredrick Buechner says, "God calls us to the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep

hunger meet." The session will also include health benefits of purposeful living, and additional resources to pursue after the session. Maximum of 30 participants—please sign-up at the Welcome Desk.

October 20: To Move or Not to Move and Other Crucial Questions

Should we stay in our current home or should we move? This question is one people often wonder about when nearing retirement age. Many assume they have to move out of the family home because that's just what people do. In this Forum. Our presenter, Lisa Graham, (MA, LSW, from Pathfinder Care Management in Minneapolis), will talk about 4 key areas to explore before making a move: Financial/Legal, Values, Preferences, and Healthcare. She will guide us through questions to consider that reveal when moving is a wise decision, types of professionals who can assist people with the decision, and kinds of residential options that exist in our area. This Forum will be helpful for anyone age 50 and older currently contemplating whether to move or adult children whose parents are doing so, or anyone doing long term planning.

October 27: A Marty Party!

Join us for a Marty Party! Come meet Martin Luther and find out why he is so important to Christians! Activities include: GAMES (A Diet of Worms, and Pin the Theses on the Door); CRAFTS (Luther Roses, tattoos, coloring, Martin Luther punch outs); A TODDLER "Here I Stand" OBSTACLE COURSE. Fun for all ages!!

November 3: Katie Luther: Woman of the Reformation

Join our Middle and High School Youth Ministries Director Katie Weiland as she leads us on a captivating journey into the life of Katarina von Bora, affectionately known as Katie Luther. Drawing from Katie's recent trip to Germany as part of her seminary coursework at Luther Seminary—Katie WEILAND's trip... Katie Luther was already in Germany—we will discuss the remarkable story of the former nun who became the wife of Martin Luther and had a profound impact on the Reformation movement. With her courageous escape from the convent to her pivotal role in shaping Luther's household and theology, Katie Luther's legacy is a testament to resilience and faith. We hope you will explore her inspiring journey with us.

November 10: Foundation Sunday

Today we will celebrate Foundation Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. The Zion Foundation was established in 1987 with the primary goal of expanding the mission of the congregation by providing a place for members and friends of Zion to leave a legacy gift that will continue to make a difference beyond their lifetime. The Foundation's investment funds are held in trust and only the interest income is distributed in grants. These grants are awarded in four mission areas: • Youth Development and Educational Ministry; • National and Global Missions; • Local Causes or Community Service; and • Lutheran Legacy (seminary students; Zion's JOYA music series; National Lutheran Choir; adult education guest speakers; etc.) On Foundation Sunday, we will lift up the many ministries the Zion Foundation has helped in the past year so we can learn how we can impact our church and community.

November 17: Tech Help Day—Avoiding Online Scams

This month's Tech Help Day features a refresher on scams to help prepare people to stay away from scams during the holidays. We will also provide simple tech help for things related to your mobile phones, tablets, and laptops. These will have to be simple solutions to questions like how to access a certain app, or logging into certain accounts. We won't be able to provide support for device repair, or virus/malware removal. So, please bring your devices and questions with you to Tech Help Days on November 17!

November 24: Zion Addiction Awareness Ministry (ZAAM)

The Zion Addiction Awareness Ministry is a new ministry starting at Zion. This ministry offers faith-based, confidential, non-judgmental, care and hope to those seeking information and direction about drugs, alcohol, and mental health issues affecting self, family members, and our surrounding community. This forum will offer an opportunity to learn more about how addiction affects all of us from someone who has the experience and an opportunity to ask questions and share.

December 1: NO FORUM or SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 8: Night in Bethlehem

Experience Jesus' birth at an exciting, interactive family event! Pet real nativity animals as you arrive! Get counted for the census. Help out village craftspeople like the potter, weaver and carpenter. Sample the foods of David's city. Meet the shepherds and sing with angels. Stop for a family photo. And lastly, find the stable and visit Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus!

December 15: Rev. Dr. Rolf Jacobson, Luther Seminary Dean of the Faculty, Professor of Old Testament and The Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology, and Ministry

Rolf Jacobson, Professor of Old Testament and the Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology, and Ministry, joined the Luther Seminary faculty in 2003. Prior to that, he served on the faculty of Augsburg University and as Associate Pastor of Como Park Lutheran Church (St. Paul, Minnesota). Known for his humor and faithful biblical interpretation, Jacobson is an in-demand preacher and teacher. He enjoys collaborating with other teachers and pastors. His collaborative projects include *The Book of Psalms* (NICOT; with Beth Tanner and Nancy deClaissé-Walford), *Invitation to the Psalms* (with Karl Jacobson), *Crazy Talk: A Not-So-Stuffey Dictionary of Theological Terms* (with five fellow Luther Seminary graduates), and *Crazy Book: A Not-So-Stuffey Dictionary of Biblical Terms* (with Hans Wiersma and Karl Jacobson), our summer study book. He is also the author of *The Homebrewed Christianity Guide to the Old Testament: Israel's In-Your-Face, Holy God*. His scholarly interests include the Psalms, prophets, biblical theology, biblical narrative, and preaching the Old Testament. His voice can be heard on two weekly preaching podcasts, "Sermon Brainwave" and "The Narrative Lectionary," as well as singing the high lonesome with a Lutheran bluegrass band, "The Fleshpots of Egypt." A survivor childhood cancer, he is a double, above-the-knee amputee, who generally wears a bicycle and a smile. He lives in St. Paul, Minnesota, with his beloved wife Amy, their children Ingrid and Gunnar, and a cat who thinks he is a dog. He is a loyal friend, lifelong sufferer of Minnesota sports, and committed board-game geek. Come join Rolf to hear about what's the latest at Luther Seminary.

December 22: NO FORUM or SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 29: NO FORUM or SUNDAY SCHOOL

January 5: NO FORUM or SUNDAY SCHOOL

Support Groups

Divorce Care Group - Mondays | 7:00-8:30 PM | Legacy Room

Facilitated by Sandy Wallace. Contact Sandy for more information at sandylwallace@yahoo.com.

Grief Support Group -

Tuesdays | 6:30-8 PM | Legacy Room | September, November, March & April

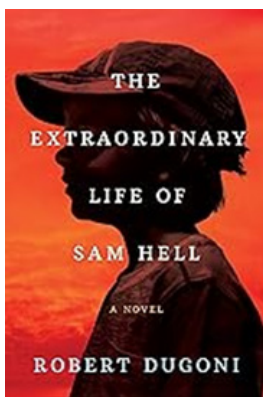
Tuesdays | 11 AM-12:30 PM | Legacy Room | January (*Note: No meeting Jan 1*)

This weekly support group offers help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. Meetings are open to anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one, or knows someone who has. Facilitated by Pr Sue Wallager. For more info contact Pr Sue at swallager@zionanoka.org.

Zion Pages Book Group

4th Monday; 6:30 PM
Library

Monday, September 23, 2024 - The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell: A Novel
by Robert Dugoni



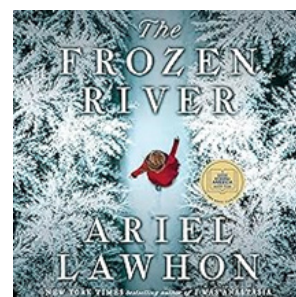
Sam Hill always saw the world through different eyes. Born with red pupils, he was called “Devil Boy” or Sam “Hell” by his classmates; “God’s will” is what his mother called his ocular albinism. Her words were of little comfort, but Sam persevered, buoyed by his mother’s devout faith, his father’s practical wisdom, and his two other misfit friends.

Sam believed it was God who sent Ernie Cantwell, the only African American kid in his class, to be the friend he so desperately needed. And that it was God’s idea for Mickie Kennedy to storm into Our Lady of Mercy like a tornado, uprooting every rule Sam had been taught about boys and girls.

Forty years later, Sam, a small-town eye doctor, is no longer certain anything was by design—especially not the tragedy that caused him to turn his back on his friends, his hometown, and the life he’d always known. Running from the pain, eyes closed, served little purpose. Now, as he looks back on his life, Sam embarks on a journey that will take him halfway around the world. This time, his eyes are wide open—bringing into clear view what changed him, defined him, and made him so afraid, until he can finally see what truly matters

Monday, October 28, 2024 - The Frozen River: A Novel by Ariel Lawhon

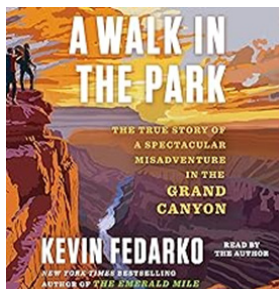
Maine, 1789: When the Kennebec River freezes, entombing a man in the ice, Martha Ballard is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. As a midwife and healer, she is privy to much of what goes on behind closed doors in Hallowell. Her diary is a record of every birth and death, crime and debacle that unfolds in the close-knit community. Months earlier, Martha documented the details of an alleged rape committed by two of the town’s most respected gentlemen—one of whom has now been found dead in the ice. But when a local physician undermines her conclusion, declaring the death to be an accident, Martha is forced to investigate the shocking murder on her own.



Over the course of one winter, as the trial nears, and whispers and prejudices mount, Martha doggedly pursues the truth. Her diary soon lands at the center of the scandal, implicating those she loves, and compelling Martha to decide where her own loyalties lie.

Monday, November 25, 2024 - A Walk in the Park: The True Story of a Spectacular Misadventure in the Grand Canyon

by Kevin Fedarko



A few years after quitting his job to follow an ill-advised dream of becoming a guide on the Colorado River, Kevin Fedarko was approached by his best friend, the National Geographic photographer Pete McBride, with a vision as bold as it was harebrained. Together, they would embark on an end-to-end traverse of the Grand Canyon, a journey that, McBride promised, would be “a walk in the park.” Against his better judgment, Fedarko agreed to the scheme, unaware that the small cluster of experts who had completed the crossing billed it as “the toughest hike in the world.”

The ensuing ordeal, which lasted more than a year, revealed a place that was deeper, richer, and far more complex than anything the two men had imagined—and came within a hair’s breadth of killing them both. They struggled to make their way through the all but impenetrable reaches of its truest wilderness, a vertical labyrinth of thousand-foot cliffs and crumbling ledges where water is measured out by the teaspoon and every step is fraught with peril—and where, even today, there is still no trail along the length of the country’s best-known and most iconic park.

Along the way, veteran long-distance hikers ushered them into secret pockets, invisible to the millions of tourists gathered on the rim, where only a handful of humans have ever laid eyes. Members of the canyon’s eleven Native American tribes brought them face-to-face with layers of history that forced them to reconsider myths at the center of our national parks—and exposed them to the impinging threats of commercial tourism. Even Fedarko’s dying father, who had first pointed him toward the canyon more than forty years earlier but had never set foot there himself, opened him to a new way of seeing the landscape. And always, there was the great gorge itself: austere and unforgiving but suffused with magic, drenched in wonder, and redeemed by its own transcendent beauty.

Monday, January 27, 2025 - West with Giraffes: A Novel

by Lynda Rutledge

An emotional, rousing novel inspired by the incredible true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America. “Few true friends have I known and two were giraffes...” Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away. But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave.

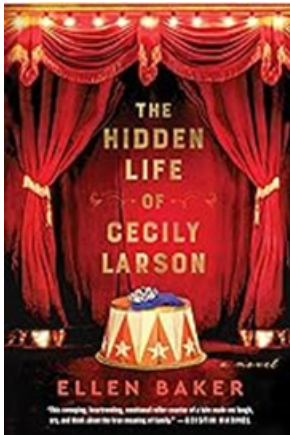
It’s 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic. What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California’s first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Behind the wheel is the young Dust Bowl rowdy Woodrow. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world’s first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the giraffes.

Part adventure, part historical saga, and part coming-of-age love story, *West with Giraffes* explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the kindness of strangers, the passing of time, and a story told before it’s too late.



Monday, February 24, 2025 - The Hidden Life of Cecily Larson: A Novel

by Ellen Baker



“A family secret, a DNA test, a journey as rich and colorful as the early-day circus itself. Through Cecily Larson’s hidden life, Ellen Baker tenderly examines personal determination, lost love, family ties, and our innate need to discover our own truth.” — Lisa Wingate, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Before We Were Yours* and *Before and After*

Orphan Train meets *Before We Were Yours* meets *Water for Elephants* in this compelling multigenerational novel of survival, love, and the families we make.

In 1924, four-year-old Cecily Larson’s mother reluctantly drops her off at an orphanage in Chicago, promising to be back once she’s made enough money to support both Cecily and herself. But she never returns, and shortly after high-spirited Cecily turns seven, she is sold to a traveling circus to perform as the “little sister” to glamorous bareback rider Isabelle DuMonde. With Isabelle and the rest of the circus, Cecily finally feels she’s found the family she craves. But as the years go by, the cracks in her little world begin to show. And when teenage Cecily meets and falls in love with a young roustabout named Lucky, she finds her life thrown onto an entirely unexpected—and dangerous—course.

In 2015, Cecily is now 94 and living a quiet life in Minnesota, with her daughter, granddaughter, and great-grandson. But when her family decides to surprise her with an at-home DNA test, the unexpected results not only bring to light the tragic love story that Cecily has kept hidden for decades but also throw into question everything about the family she’s raised and claimed as her own for nearly seventy years. Cecily and everyone in her life must now decide who they really are and what family—and forgiveness—really mean.

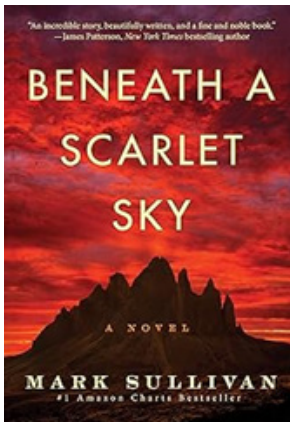
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Monday, March 24, 2025 - Has Anyone Seen My Toes? by Christopher Buckley

During the pandemic, an aging screenwriter is holed up in a coastal South Carolina town with his beloved second wife, Peaches. He’s been binge-eating for a year and developed a notable rapport with the local fast-food chain Hippo King. He struggles to work—on a ludicrous screenplay about a Nazi attempt to kidnap FDR and, naturally, an article for Etymology Today on English words of Carthaginian origin. He’s told Peaches so often about the origins of the world mayonnaise that she’s developed an aversion to using the condiment. He thinks he has Covid. His wife thinks he is losing his mind. In short, your typical pandemic worries. Things were going from bad to worse even before his doctor suggested a battery of brain tests. He knows what that means: dementia!

But even in these scary times, there are plenty of things to distract him. His iPhone is fat-shaming him. He’s been trying to read Proust and thinks the French novelist missed his true calling as a parfumeur. And he’s discovered nefarious Russian influence on the local coroner’s race. Why is Putin so keen to control who decides who died peacefully and who by foul play in Pimento County? Could it be the local military base?



Monday, April 28, 2025 - Beneath a Scarlet Sky: A Novel by Mark Sullivan

A book cover of a mountain description automatically generated Pino Lella wants nothing to do with the war or the Nazis. He's a normal Italian teenager—obsessed with music, food, and girls—but his days of innocence are numbered. When his family home in Milan is destroyed by Allied bombs, Pino joins an underground railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps, and falls for Anna, a beautiful widow six years his senior.

In an attempt to protect him, Pino's parents force him to enlist as a German soldier—a move they think will keep him out of combat. But after Pino is injured, he is recruited at the tender age of eighteen to become the personal driver for Adolf Hitler's left hand in Italy, General Hans Leyers, one of the Third Reich's most mysterious and powerful commanders.

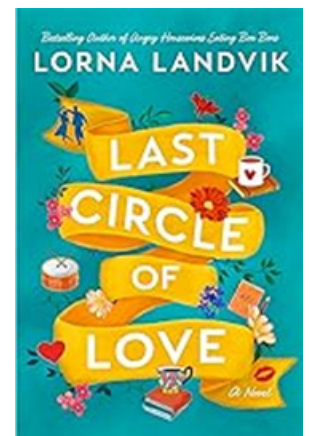
Now, with the opportunity to spy for the Allies inside the German High Command, Pino endures the horrors of the war and the Nazi occupation by fighting in secret, his courage bolstered by his love for Anna and for the life he dreams they will one day share.

Monday, May 19, 2025 - Last Circle of Love: A Novel
by Lorna Landvik (a Minnesota author)

Newly installed at All Souls Lutheran, Mallory "Pastor Pete" Peterson soon realizes that her church isn't merely going through turbulent waters, but is a sinking ship. With the help of five loyal members of the Naomi Circle, the young, bold minister brainstorms fundraising ideas. They all agree that the usual recipe book won't add much to the parish coffers, but maybe one with all the ingredients on how to heat up relationships rather than casseroles will.

Pastor Pete has her doubts about the project, but it turns out the group of post-menopausal women has a lot to say on the subject of romance. While Charlene, the youngest member at fifty-two, struggles with the assignment, baker-extraordinary Marlys, elegantly bohemian Bunny, I'm-always-right Velda, and ebullient Edie take up their contributions enthusiastically. After all, their book is really about cooking up love in all its forms.

But not everyone in the congregation is on board with this "scandalous" project. As the voices of opposition grow louder, Pastor Pete and these intrepid women will have to decide how hard they're willing to fight for this book and the powerful stories within—stories of discovery, softened hearts, and changed lives.



If you have questions or wish to participate contact Pr. Sue Wallager at swallager@zionanoka.org.



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