

OFF THE SHELF



Twin Cities Area Church Library Association

Mission Statement: To energize Church Library Ministry through education, resource sharing, spiritual encouragement and fellowship.

Summer 2014



TCACLA Fall Workshop
October 11, 2014

Calvary Lutheran Church
Golden Valley, MN

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Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 11. That is the date for our TCACLA Fall Workshop. Our featured speaker will be Katy Tessman Stanoch, with an inspirational message based on her book entitled "Our Mama Is a Beautiful Garden."

Back by popular demand is a workshop on Book Repair. A big "thanks" go to volunteer members who will present on the following topics: developing or revising your mission statement and determining policies, designing and making posters and other helps for getting people to use the library, and making and displaying creative miniature displays.

Plan to bring your gently used books for the book swap. In addition to the book swap Calvary is hosting a used book sale. A complete schedule for the day, along with registration form, will be included in the fall issue of Off the Shelf.



Twin Cities Area
Church Library Association

General Information

TCACLA is a non-profit support organization serving church librarians. Membership is open to individual and churches of all Christian denominations that desire to network with others on library development and enrichment.

TCACLA BOARD

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Hazelle Nyberg, Vice-President

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Chapter Website

<http://www.tcacla.com>

Treasurer's Report

Members: 33 churches

2/24/2014 \$1,124.23

\$24.00 2014 Membership Dues

\$399.00 Spring Meeting Registration

\$423.00 Total Income

-\$5.92 Office Supplies

-\$34.97 Spring Off The Shelf

-\$282.98 Spring Meeting Expenses

-\$323.86 Total Expenses

6/30/2014 \$1223.36

The previous membership number included some 2013 members who didn't renew for 2014. We had a net gain of 4: 8 new churches joined in 2014; 4 from 2013 did not renew.



OFF THE SHELF EDITOR

Sandra Johnson has resigned her position as the editor of Off the Shelf. The TCACLA board is grateful for all of the issues of Off the Shelf that she has written and mailed in the past few years, as well as all that she has done to expand our presence in social media.

For the rest of 2014, Off the Shelf will be a collaborative effort by all of the board members. Watch for an announcement about a new communications committee in 2015.



UPDATE ON 2015 OFFICER POSITIONS



Candidates for the Secretary's and Treasurer's Positions

A big “thank you” to Janet Brownell and Deanna Gordon who have volunteered to run for election to the open Secretary and Treasurer positions respectively. Their two-year terms will begin in January, 2015.

We appreciate your dedication to this organization and will value your time spent on these volunteer activities.

President's Position—Still Open



This position is still open. This position organizes the meetings and makes sure everything is running smoothly with program planning. It could be done by a team of 2 or 3 people sharing the responsibility. Call the current president, Dulcie Campana, for further information.

Vice President's Position—Still Open



If you are interested in becoming more active in TCACLA but are intimidated by the Vice President's role in program planning, the current board wants to reassure you that you wouldn't be doing this alone. It truly is a group effort. You'll have help from board members, current and former, as well as members of the library committee from the host church. There may even be another person on your church library committee who is willing to share the duties with you. Some churches have already been lined up to host meetings in 2015 and the board has a folder full of future program ideas. We just need you to lead us.

Call the current vice president, Hazelle Nyberg, for further information.



Get Going on Goodreads

By Kim Pleticha

Kim Pleticha presented this program at the April 2014 TCACLA MEETING. She is a former television news anchor and magazine owner who now works as the Director of Communications for Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater. She invites you to become her friend on Goodreads!

If there's one thing we bookworms love almost as much as a good book, it's a good book discussion. And now, thanks to Goodreads.com, we can have one anytime and anywhere we want.

Launched in 2007, Goodreads is what's known as a "social cataloguing" website. In other words, you can "catalogue" all of the books you have read, or want to read, and then socialize with people who like the same kinds of books.

Goodreads currently boasts 25-million members, 750-million books and 29-million member-written book reviews.

The free membership opens up a plethora of book-loving activities: the ability to write book reviews and share them with friends (and strangers, too, if you wish); a monthly email alerting you to books by your favorite authors (or genres); invitations to exclusive author discussions; and, of course, the capability to catalogue books on various "shelves" in your virtual library — you can list everything from books you've read, to books you want to read, to books you're not sure about because they've received questionable reviews. (Personally, I have my shelves divided into genres!) What's interesting about this is that Goodreads uses the information on your shelves to make recommendations about other books. According to the company, "Goodreads uses 20 billion data points to give suggestions tailored to your literary tastes." So, the more books you have on your shelves, the more (and better) recommendations you receive from Goodreads.

Last March, Amazon purchased Goodreads. So far, it seems a marriage made in heaven, in that it allows you to merge your Amazon books with your Goodreads account. If you have a smartphone, you can scan barcodes from books using the handy Goodreads app and automatically add the books to your shelves (or check Amazon for a price).





(Goodreads continued from page 4)

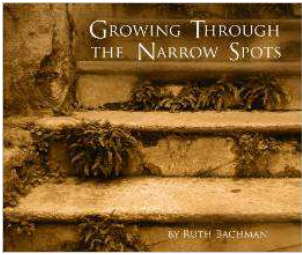
If you aren't already a Goodreads member, getting started is easy — although not necessarily “quick”, because you'll likely spend hours rating books! Here's a step-by-step guide:

1. Go to www.goodreads.com
2. In the upper right-hand corner of the screen, look for the **New here? Create a free account!** box.
3. Enter your name, email address, and a password.
4. The system will then ask you whether you want to receive book recommendations from your friends. If you do, click on one of the social media buttons (Gmail, Facebook, etc.) to give Goodreads access to your address book. If you do NOT want to share with your friends, click on “skip this step” on the right-hand side of the page.
5. After importing your friends (or skipping that step), Goodreads will ask you to list your favorite genres. Click ‘em all, if you want! The purpose is to give Goodreads as much information as possible to recommend books for you.
6. Now you're ready to rate books. Seriously, you could spend weeks (months, years!) doing this. You don't need to rate all of the books you've ever read the first time you log on! Instead, rate at least 20 (the minimum number for book recommendations) then come back later and rate more — really, you can always rate books on Goodreads.
7. After you've rated books, Goodreads will create a list of recommended titles for you. This list will grow as you rate more books in different genres. (As of June 30, 2014, I have rated 314 books — that's only the tip of my literary iceberg, but I have to rein myself in otherwise I'd spend all day on the site!)

I honestly cannot say enough good things about Goodreads — and neither can my 13-year-old daughter nor my 71-year-old mother, both of whom are just as enthusiastic about it as I am. The site offers an excellent, easy way to spread the love of books across miles and generations.

So what are you waiting for? Get going on Goodreads today!





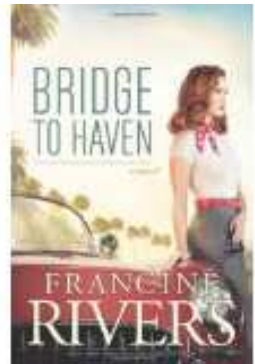
“Growing through the Narrow Spots” by Ruth Bachman

In 2003, Ruth Bachman, active Twin Cities resident, was told she had sarcoma. Soon she underwent chemotherapy and amputation of her left hand and forearm. Her book provides inspirational thoughts and encouragement for readers as they face their own challenges and “narrow spots” in life. It’s a small book, but can be a big help to readers on how to navigate changes with courage and resiliency. The book is enhanced by beautiful scenic photos.

Review by current Vice President, Hazelle Nyberg

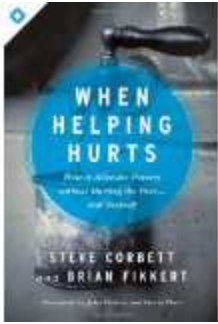
“Bridge to Haven” by Francine Rivers

A baby girl born under a bridge and left there by her mother is found by Pastor Ezekiel Freeman. When Zeke takes the baby home, he and his wife fall in love with Abra and watch her grow into an exotic beauty. Over the years, Abra burns every bridge she can to accomplish what she thought she wanted. Now all she wants is the courage to find her way back to Haven. Can she find grace and unconditional love in her journey back home from her adoptive parents and her dear friend, Joshua?



Review by current Secretary, Jane Scofield





“When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor.....and Yourself”

by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert

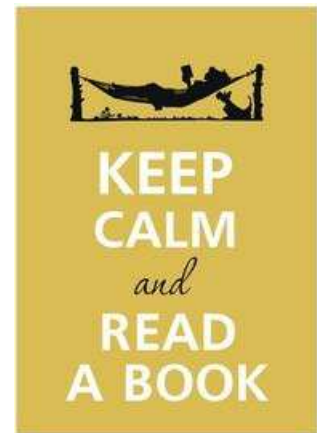
“When Helping Hurts” is a paradigm-forming contemporary classic on the subject of poverty alleviation and ministry to those in need.

Emphasizing the poverty of both heart and society, this book exposes the need that every person has and how it can be filled. The reader is brought to understand that poverty is much more than simply a lack of financial or material resources and that it takes much more than donations and handouts to solve the problem of poverty.

While this book exposes past and current development efforts that churches have engaged in which unintentionally undermine the people they're trying to help, its central point is to provide proven strategies that challenge Christians to help the poor empower themselves. Focusing on both North American and Majority World contexts, this book catalyzes the idea that sustainable change for people living in poverty comes not from the outside-in, but from the inside-out.

Review by current President, Dulcie Campana

TCACLA invites you to write a book review or just tell us about a summer book you've enjoyed. Just send the information to otseditor@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE!

**The fall TCACLA
meeting is**

October 11, 2014

**At Calvary Lutheran Church,
Golden Valley, MN**



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Your comments, articles, suggestions,
and ideas are always welcome. Please
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OFF THE SHELF

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