

OFF THE SHELF



Mission Statement: To energize church library ministry through education, resource sharing, spiritual encouragement and fellowship.

Spring 2023

TCACLA Spring Meeting
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
April 29, 2023
8:30-12:30

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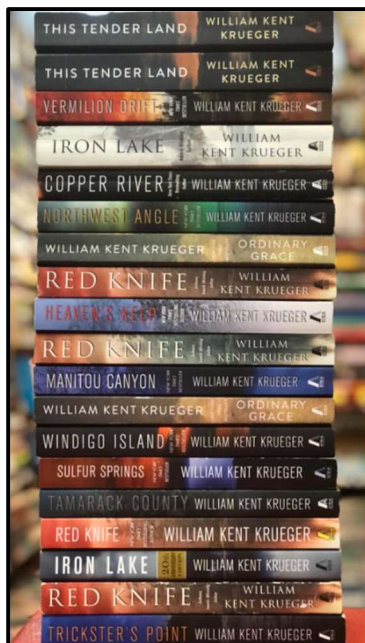
Our keynote speaker is best-selling author William Kent Krueger. He will be speaking about the transformative power of stories.

Some of us know him as the author of the 19 books in the Cork O'Connor mystery series which is set in northern MN. He's reached new readers with four standalone books. In one, *Ordinary Grace*, the author turned his attention to the biggest mystery of all: God.



His newest work, *The Levee*, is an original audio novella. Written during the pandemic, it was released earlier this year. It's 1927 and the most devastating flood in American history has swelled the Mississippi River to a width of eighty miles. In an attempt to save a family trapped by the rising water, four men in a tiny rowboat battle the treacherous flow: three are convicts, on loan from the local prison and pressed into service; the fourth, the leader of the team, is driven by his own hidden motives. It's a powerful, captivating story of a family, a storm, a complicated rescue, and the true cost of survival.

Note: While Mr. Krueger will not be selling books at this event, he has offered to autograph copies of his books that you bring to the meeting.



TREASURER'S REPORT

General Information

The **Twin Cities Area Church Library Association (TCACLA)** is a non-profit support organization serving church librarians. Membership is open to individuals and churches of all denominations that desire to network with others on church library development and enrichment.



TCACLA OFFICERS

Janet Howard, President
651-276-5918
Janethoward797@gmail.com

Emily Hoch, Vice President
612-508-4934
ejhoch@gmail.com

Wayne Albertson, Secretary
612-214-4521
wfalbertson@gmail.com

Roberta Shaw, Treasurer
651-206-6334
roberta.shaw@yahoo.com

ADVISORY BOARD

Laura Dirks, *Off the Shelf* Editor
612-378-3026
otseditor@gmail.com

Jeanne Schleh, Past President
612-729-6041
jerebob@aol.com

WEBSITE

www.tcacla.com

Members: 18 churches

01/01/2023	\$1,944.95	Beginning Balance	
	\$319.00	Fall Meeting Registration	
	-\$80.92	<i>Off the Shelf</i> Printing & Postage	
	-\$46.30	Meeting Expenses	
	-\$20.17	Website Expenses	
03/31/2023	\$2,116.56	Ending Balance	

Dear friends:

It's that time of the year when spring is calling us out from the winter blues. We've all had our share of winter this year.



We have our spring meeting to look forward to at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in St. Paul. A beautiful space for a community event. Our guest speaker is William Kent Krueger, a well-known local author. We will also enjoy a workshop and discussion on selecting new materials for your library.

There will be a short business meeting to elect Wayne Albertson as our new secretary and to vote on a few bylaw changes. These include giving the board the authority to make interim appointments to the board and to allow the board to determine the annual dues and membership renewal dates. A copy of the bylaws will be available at our meeting.

It will be a great time to network and greet old and new friends as well as share some of the joys and challenges of keeping and maintaining a church library.

We look forward to seeing all of you on April 29th.

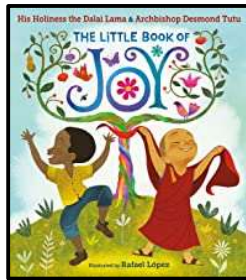
Janet Howard

WHAT CHURCHES ARE READING

Everyone is encouraged to contribute to this section. Please send book titles and authors to otseditor@gmail.com.

"Most of my stories contain a solid element of adventure, something that can be traced back to the influence of those great stories I fell in love with under the guidance of a librarian whose name I have forgotten but whose kind wisdom I have always treasured. God bless librarians everywhere." – William Kent Krueger

THE LITTLE BOOK OF JOY by Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu, Crown Books, 2022.



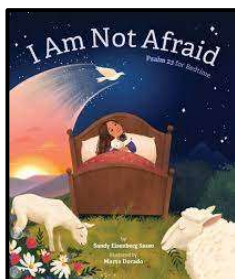
The two spiritual masters use stories about their own difficult and lonely childhoods to teach young people how to find joy even in hard times. Vibrantly brought to life by bestselling illustrator Rafael López, the book shows how every child has joy inside them, even when it sometimes hides, and how they can find it, keep it close, and grow it by sharing it with the world. "The pages glow...For children who find themselves in a puzzling and difficult world, this work can offer hope and guidance." - ***School Library Journal***. Ages 3-7.

ALL OUR GRIEFS TO BEAR: Responding with Resilience After Collective Trauma by Joni Sancken, Herald Press, 2022.



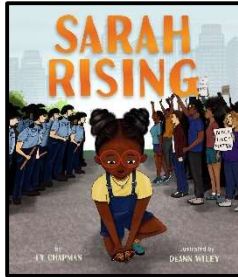
Church and the Christian community look a lot different than they did before the coronavirus pandemic, racial trauma, and economic uncertainty revealed difficult truths about the wounds we carry. Sancken builds on her own trauma-aware background and engages leading sociologists and mental health professionals to name some of the largest issues that congregations face as we process the cascading trauma of our time. Chapters focus on practices such as lament, storytelling, and blessing to help leaders and church members to nurture resilience and compassion.

I AM NOT AFRAID; Psalm 23 for Bedtime by Sandy Sasso, Beaming Books, 2023.



In this creative retelling of Psalm 23, a child imagines scary shadows chasing away her sleep and peace as she reaches out to God her Comforter. Gently and imaginatively written, this story about being afraid of the dark brings the psalmist's words into a new and relatable light for children. The book includes background information about Psalm 23 and encouragement and practical tips for coping with fear and scary times. Ages 4-7.

SARAH RISING by Ty Chapman, Beaming Books, 2022.



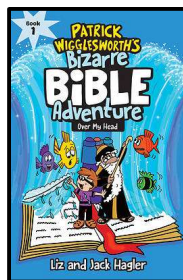
When Sarah’s dad brings her to a protest to speak out against police violence against Black people, she is confronted with the cruelty of those who are supposed to protect her and learns what it feels like to protect and to be protected. Inspired by the protests that happened after the police killing of George Floyd, *Sarah Rising* provides a child's-eye view of a protest and offers an opportunity for children to talk about why people take to the streets to protest racial injustice. Ages 5-8.

BEYOND WELCOME; Centering Immigrants in Our Christian Response to Immigration by Karen González, Brazos Press, 2022.



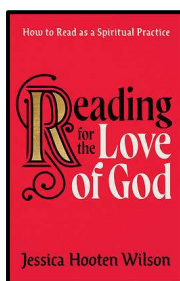
Many American Christians have good intentions, working hard to welcome immigrants with hospitality and solidarity. But how can we do that in a way that empowers our immigrant neighbors rather than pushes them to the fringes of white-dominant culture and keeps them as outsiders? A Guatemalan immigrant, González draws from the Bible and her own experiences to examine why the traditional approach to immigration ministries and activism is at best incomplete and at worst harmful.

OVER MY HEAD; Patrick Wigglesworth’s Bizarre Bible Adventure by Liz and Jack Hagler, Tyndale House, 2023.



Chapter book meets graphic novel. Readers follow 10-year-old Patrick as he draws comics about his weird life in which he gets yanked out of his room and into the Bible. There he meets a Bible character who acts as a tour guide. In the first installment in the series, Patrick is led by Moses from Genesis through Deuteronomy. In the second installment, *Tricky Times*, to be published later this year, Patrick is led from Joshua through Job. Not a Bible storybook but rather a creative, humorous kid adventure that also teaches preteens about the Bible. Ages 7-12.

READING FOR THE LOVE OF GOD; How to Read as a Spiritual Practice by Jessica Hooten Wilson, Brazos Press, 2023.



Wilson argues that the simple act of reading can help us learn to pray well, love our neighbor, be contemplative, practice humility, and disentangle ourselves from contemporary idols. Her book outlines several ways Christian thinkers—including Augustine, Julian of Norwich, Frederick Douglass, and Dorothy L. Sayers—approached the act of reading. It also includes suggested reading lists, guided practices to approaching texts, and tips for meditating on specific texts or Bible passages. By learning to read for the love of God, readers will discover not only a renewed love of reading but also a new, vital spiritual practice to deepen their walk with God.

MORE ABOUT THE APRIL 29 MEETING



SELECTING NEW MATERIALS FOR YOUR LIBRARY

How do you decide which materials to purchase for your library? Where do you purchase your books? And how do you navigate growing your library's collection with a limited budget? Come prepared to share the techniques applied at your library and ready to learn from your colleagues. Discussion will be facilitated by Emily Hoch.







BOOK SWAP + SUPPLIES After experiencing severe flood damage in the library due to a burst pipe, Faith Lutheran Church has decided to close its library and convert the space to a fellowship area. They are donating their supply of bookends, book pockets, library cards and label protectors to their fellow TCACLA members. These items will be available on the book swap table, along with the books you bring to share with others.



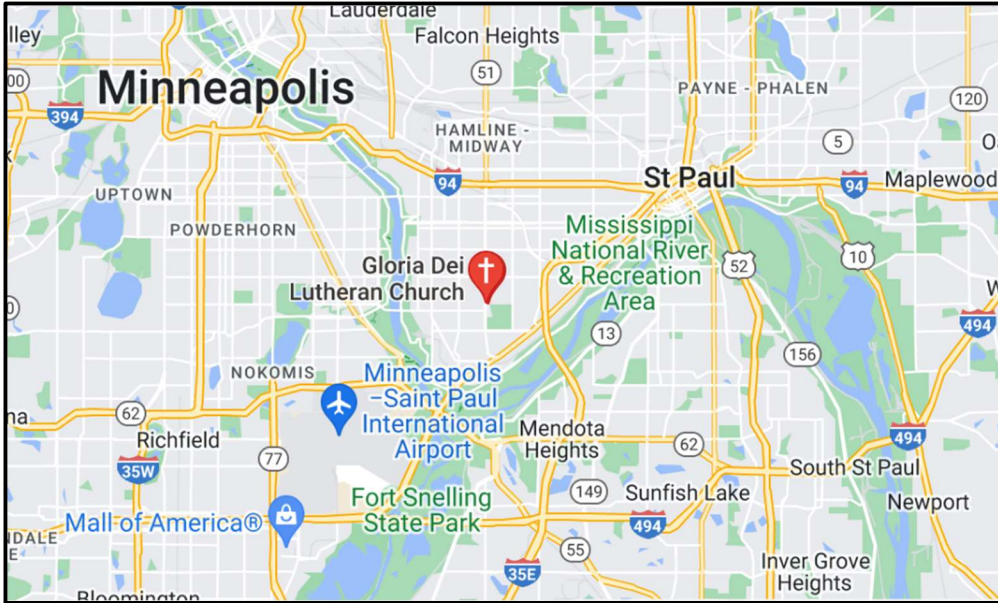
Mr. Krueger has requested that his honorarium be donated to the All Nations Indian Church, a congregation of the United Church of Christ. Per its website, the church “provides a Word and Sacrament ministry among a large community of Indian people in Minneapolis and networks with many organizations providing social service. The main outreach ministry of All Nations is to serve children and their families.” If you would like to add to the donation, there will be receptacle for your contribution near the library.



Meet Our New Secretary: Wayne Albertson is a retired United Methodist clergy from the West Ohio Annual Conference. He and his wife moved here in 2011 to be close to their family. He has enjoyed taking care of the library at the Richfield United Methodist Church and in finding that there is an association of other church librarians.

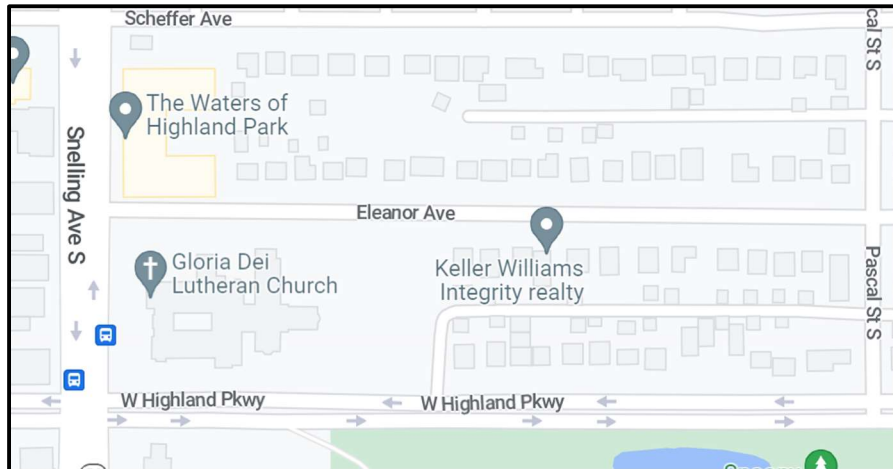
GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOW TO GET THERE



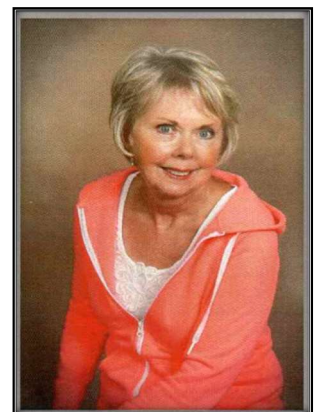
**700 SNELLING AVE S
ST PAUL**

Gloria Dei is framed by (north) Eleanor Ave, (south) Highland Parkway, and (west) Snelling Ave. The parking lot is behind the church. It's best to enter it via the driveway off Highland Parkway. The driveway entrance is right by an area on the parkway with a lot of yellow lines. It's OK to cross them. At the top of the drive, there is a drop off and pickup area in front of the church door.





Jan Bolstad, our historian in 2016-2022, passed away suddenly on February 25th after a brief illness. If you attended a TCACLA meeting during that time, Jan probably took your picture and you may have looked at some of the scrapbooks she maintained. Per Sally Onstad, "she was a wonderful friend and valued member of the (Prince of Peace Lutheran Church) Library Team."



**Twin Cities Area Church Library Association Meeting
Saturday, April 29, 2023**

The book swap and church library will be open all morning.

8:30	Registration
9:00	Welcome and Devotions
9:15	Business Meeting: Bylaws Amendments & Secretary Election
9:30	Workshop: Selecting New Materials for Your Library
10:15	Break; Library and Church Tours
10:30	William Kent Krueger Presentation
11:30	Break; Book Signings
11:45	Lunch

**TCACLA Spring Meeting
April 29, 2023
MEETING REGISTRATION FORM**

Please pre-register by April 25

Your church name: _____

Name(s) of person(s) attending: _____

Number of registrants: _____ x \$12 = \$ _____.

Make checks payable to TCACLA. Mail the completed form and check(s) to:

Roberta Shaw
940 Franklin Ter Apt 404
Minneapolis MN 55406-1136



**TCACLA Spring Meeting
April 29, 2023**

OFF THE SHELF

c/o Laura Dirks
333 8th St SE, Apt 206
Minneapolis, MN 55414-1246

One of the missions of TCACLA is to provide a forum for church librarians to exchange information with each other. In addition to our meetings and our newsletter, we do this via our Facebook page, Twin Cities Area Church Library Association, and our website at www.tcaccla.com.



Dulcie Campana is our social media administrator. She is always looking for input from you. If you have an upcoming book event at your church, have had a special promotion for your library, want to recommend a new book, or have any other news that would interest our members, please send the information to her at livingoutfaith@hotmail.com.