2023-2024 WHPC Daytime Book Club
Meets 3rd Thursday of each month – in-person & Zoom
WHPC Parlor at 11:00 AM Fellowship, Noon – Book Discussion
Peggy Greenawalt, Librarian

September 21, 2023
Books, Reading, and Libraries, OH MY!
The Reading List by Sara Nisha Adams
Widower Mukesh lives a quiet life in the London Borough of Wembley after losing his beloved wife. He worries about his granddaughter, Priya, who hides in her room reading while he spends evenings watching nature shows. Aleisha is a teenager working at the local library for the summer when she discovers a crumpled-up piece of paper in the back of To Kill a Mockingbird. It’s a list of novels that she has never heard of, and she decides to read every book on the list. When Mukesh arrives at the library with his bookworm granddaughter, Aleisha passes along the reading list. The shared books create a connection between two lonely souls, as fiction helps them escape their grief and everyday troubles.

October 19, 2023
Celebrating World Octopus Day – Oct. 8th
Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt
Staying busy has helped Tova cope ever since her son disappeared decades ago. So when her husband dies, she takes a job at an aquarium, where she develops an unlikely friendship with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus, reluctantly residing at the aquarium. Ever the detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova’s son disappeared. And now Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it’s too late.

November 16, 2023
Happy Birthday author Charles Martin!
Reader’s Choice of a book by Charles Martin
Charles is a bestselling award-winning author of inspirational, fiction and non-fiction novels. He holds a strong Christian faith, which is often reflected in the themes and messages found in his novels, such as love, faith and redemption. He is 53 years old, and was born November 3, 1969. We will celebrate his success and his 54th birthday.
Awakening Books:
The Dead Don’t Dance, Maggie
Murphy Shepherd Books:
The Water Keeper, The Letter Keeper, The Record Keeper
Standalone Novels:
Wrapped in Rain, When Crickets Cry, Chasing Fireflies, Where the River Ends, The Mountain Between Us, Thunder and Rain, Unwritten, A Life Intercepted, Water from My Heart, Long Way Gone, Send Down the Rain
Non-Fiction Books:
River Road Memoir, What If It’s True?, They Turned the World Upside Down, Son of Man: Retelling the Stories of Jesus

December 21, 2023
Christmas Sacrifices, Love and Faith
Before I Called You Mine by Nicole Deese
After many failed matchmaking schemes, teacher Lauren Bailey’s one goal is to become a mother. Remaining single to meet the adoption agency’s requirements seems simple, until Joshua Avery appears. With an impossible decision looming, she will have to choose between two deep desires. This beautiful story of love, faith, and sacrifices will provide a special Christmas discussion of the book.

January 18, 2024
International Holocaust Remembrance Day - January 27th, 2024
All the Broken Places by John Boyne
Follow up to Boy With The Striped Pajamas, but it can be read as a stand-alone.
Post WWII….Ninety-one-year-old Gretel Fernsby has lived in the same mansion block in London for decades. She lives a quiet life, despite her disturbing, dark past. She doesn’t talk about her escape from Nazi Germany at age 12. She doesn’t talk about the grim post-war years in France with her mother, and she doesn’t talk about her father, who was the commandant of one of the Reich’s extermination camps. Then, a new family moves into the apartment below her. Gretel begins a friendship with the little boy, Henry, though his presence brings back memories she would rather forget. One night, she witnesses a violent argument between Henry’s mother and father, one that threatens Gretel’s hard-won, self-contained existence.
Black History Month

Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and an advocate for equality

March 21, 2024

Women's History Month

Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel by Bonnie Garmus HF

April 18, 2024

U.S. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month

Funny Farm: My Unexpected Life with 600 Rescue Animals by Laurie Zaleski NF

May 16, 2024

Horses and the Kentucky Derby

Horse by Geraldine Brooks HF

June 20, 2024

For Better or For Worse…Celebrating Weddings

The Wedding Veil by Kristy Woodson Harvey HF

July 18, 2024

Discussing the Crisis and Prevention of Suicide

Awful Beautiful Life: When God Shows Up in the Midst of Tragedy by Becky Powell, Katherine Reay NF Memoir

August 15, 2024

National Book Lover’s Day - August 9*

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict HF

The remarkable story of Belle da Costa Greene, J. P. Morgan's personal librarian, who became powerful women in New York despite the secret she kept in order to make her dreams come true. In her twenties, Belle is hired by J. P. Morgan to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built Morgan Library. Belle becomes a fixture on the NYC society scene and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world. But Belle has a secret, one she must protect at all costs. She is the daughter of Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and an advocate for equality.