

## The ECC Reader Pandemic Issue (Spring/2020)

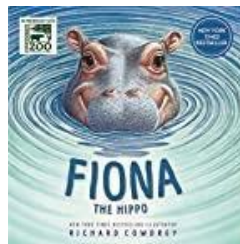
Greetings from the ECC library. These are difficult times for all of us at ECC and around the world. May we know God's peace which surpasses all understanding in the midst of the uncertainty. We appreciate all that the staff is doing to help us stay connected and continue to grow in our walk with God. Given the nature of this virus, the church has now decided for the safety of the staff and church members to close the library temporarily.

We hope you will take this time as an opportunity to read all those books on your shelf you always wanted to read! We also suggest you browse below for book recommendations from the ECC library staff and church members. Most of the books below are available through the Monroe County Public Library in either e-book or audiobook format.

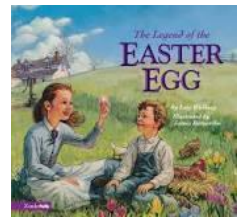
If you have a library card, download the Hoopla or Libby apps for a great selection of audio and e-books for the whole family. Here are some recommendations:

### KIDS' ZONE Preschool

*Fiona the Hippo* by Richard Cowdrey  
(Recommended for ages 2 and up)  
In this delightful story, inspired by the real adventure of a heroic hippo, born prematurely and not expected to live, join Fiona and her lovable animal friends at the zoo as she is introduced to the world. It's a whimsical and inspiring tale of perseverance and friendship. Note: There are lots of YouTube videos of Fiona to view after reading this book to your child.  
Available on Hoopla in both e-book and audiobook formats.

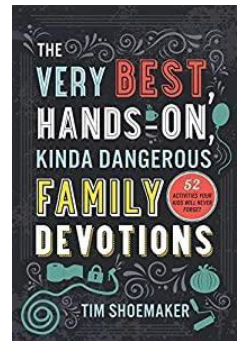


*The Legend of the Easter Egg* by Lori Walburg  
(Recommended for ages 4-8)  
This classic story of faith, love, and wonder is sure to be a treasured reminder of the miracle of Easter. This is a great way to prepare little ones for Easter.  
A read-along e-book is available on Hoopla.



### Elementary

*The Very Best, Hands-On, Kind-of-Dangerous Family Devotions* by Tim Shoemaker  
These hands-on, rather dangerous, totally unforgettable object lessons (there are nearly fifty of them) are not only more fun than other family devotions--they actually deliver the spiritual impact you desire for your kids. They'll even get through to dads and any "too-cool-for-this-stuff" teens not enthusiastic about a weekly family devotional time. So, put away the flannelgraph, get out the safety goggles, and start bringing the truths of Scripture to vivid life in your household.



*The Green Ember* by S.D. Smith  
(Recommended for grades 4-6)  
Heather and Picket are extraordinary rabbits with ordinary lives until calamitous events overtake them, spilling them into a cauldron of misadventures. They discover that their own story is bound up in the tumult threatening to overwhelm the wider world. This is the first of the 3 books in the series. *Ember Falls* (Book 2) and *Ember Rising* (Book 3) complete the series. All three are available on Hoopla.



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**Middle School/High School** ("YA" or Young Adult Books)

*The Knights of Arrethtrae* series by Chuck Black

Journey to Arrethtrae, where knights of noble heart live and die in loyal service to the King and the Prince.

These knights are mighty, for they serve a mighty King. There are six books in the series:

*Sir Kendrick and the Castle of Bel Leone* (Book 1), *Sir Bentley and Holbrook Court* (Book 2), *Sir Dalton and the Shadow Heart* (Book 3), *Lady Carliss and the Waters of Moorue* (Book 4), *Sir Quinlan and the Sword of Valor* (Book 5), and *Sir Rowen and the Camerian Conquest* (Book 6).

This whole series is available free on Hoopla Audiobooks.

*On the Edge of the Dark Sea of Darkness* by Andrew Peterson  
Full of characters rich in heart, smarts, and courage. *On the Edge of the Dark Sea of Darkness* is a suspenseful tale children of all ages will cherish, families can read aloud, and adult readers will enjoy for its many layers of meaning.

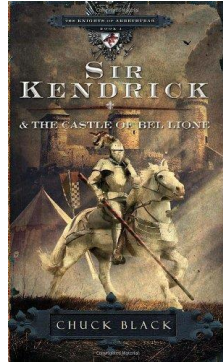
This is Book 1 of a four-book series called the Wingfeather Saga.

Book 2 - *North! Or Be Eaten*

Book 3 - *Monster in the Hollows*

Book 4: *The Warden & the Wolf King*.

The first three books are available free on Hoopla Audiobooks.



## ADULT RECOMMENDATIONS

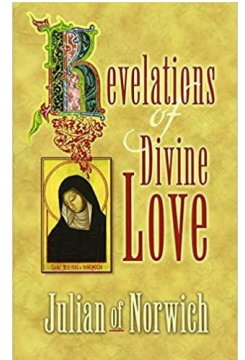
### Adult Non-Fiction

During the spring season, the ECC library is highlighting **Women in Church history**, women who have gone before us, godly women walking faithfully and courageously in difficult times, and this great cloud of witnesses who inspire us and encourage us. Here are some great biographies we encourage you to check out and read.

*Revelation of Divine Love* by Julian of Norwich

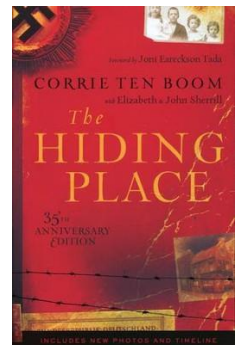
(Review by Amanda Morton)

In *Revelation of Divine Love*, Julian of Norwich shares a series of visions she had of the crucified Christ. She meditates on Jesus and his passion and how Christ saves us from our sin. I was encouraged by this book because it comes from the church in an earlier time (the fourteenth century). For me the message of the book was that all will be all right because of Jesus' glory and saving power in our lives. Since Jesus is King, we can trust him. A Christian classic everyone should read! Available on Hoopla in e-book format and audiobook format.



*The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom

It's World War II. Darkness has fallen over Europe. In her quiet watchmaking shop, Corrie and her family risk their lives to hide Jews, and others hunted by the Nazis, in a secret room, a "hiding place" that they built in the old building. One day, however, Corrie and her family



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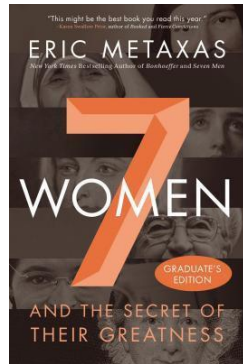
are betrayed. They're captured and sent to the notorious Nazi concentration camps to die. Yet even in that darkest of places, Corrie still fights. This is the true story of how faith, hope and love ultimately triumphed over unthinkable evil. Available on Hoopla in e-book format

*Seven Women and the Secret to Their Greatness* by Eric Metaxas  
In this highly anticipated follow-up to *Seven Men*, New York Times bestselling author Eric Metaxas gives us seven captivating portraits of some of history's greatest women, who changed the course of history by following God's call upon their lives. Available on Hoopla in e-book format

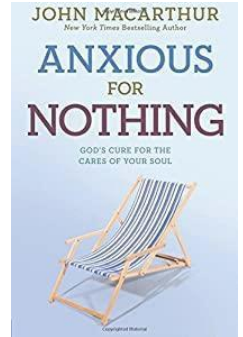
*Through Gates of Splendor* by Elizabeth Elliot  
*Through Gates of Splendor* is the true story of five young missionaries who were savagely killed while trying to establish communication with the Auca Indians of Ecuador. The story is told through the eyes of Elisabeth Elliot, the wife of one of the young men who was killed. Available on Hoopla on audiobooks

*Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith* by Michael Reeves  
(Review by Bud Vanest)  
Michael Reeves gives a very positive presentation of the Trinity as the core truth of Christianity. His presentation helps clarify our understanding of the Trinity and urges the reader to appreciate the eternal love existing between the Father, Son, and Holy

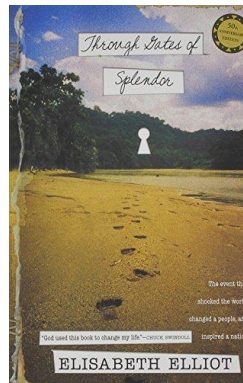
Spirit. It also highlights how the Father has expressed His love for us in creation, in salvation, and in our daily relationship with Him. Our life in Christ is rooted in the reality of the triune God. Available on Hoopla in e-book format



*Anxious for Nothing* by Max Lucado  
We all encounter anxiety, but we don't have to let worry and fear control our lives. *Anxious for Nothing*, from New York Times bestselling author Max Lucado, provides a roadmap for battling with and healing from anxiety. *Anxious for Nothing* invites readers to delve into Philippians 4:6-7—the most highlighted passage of the Bible.

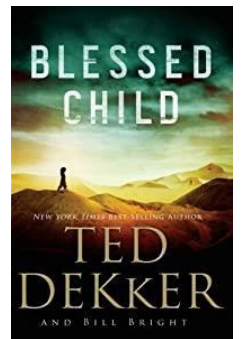


“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”  
Available on Hoopla in e-book format. (Also available on Hoopla in *Anxious for Nothing Study Guide*.)



### Adult Fiction

*Blessed Child* and *A Child Called Blessed* by Ted Dekker  
(Review by Patty Robertson)  
A couple of days ago I was reading A.W. Tozer and came across this sentence, “I believe that we ought to come back to the effort to walk and talk with God, to live in the presence of God.” This is the theme that Dekker explores in his novels

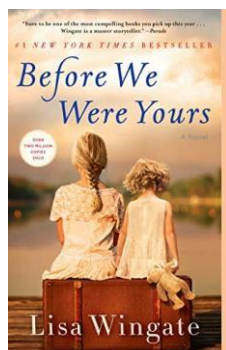
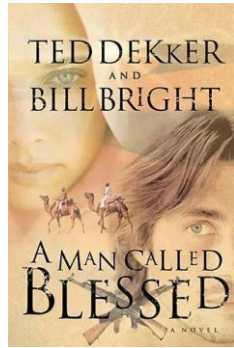


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*Blessed Child* and *A Man Called Blessed*. What if there was a person who walked closely with God? What would that life look like and how would people in a fallen world respond to that person? Ted Dekker crafts a good story that keeps my interest all the way through. In the books I've read so far, I've been fascinated by his use of imagery. I also recommend *The Martyr's Song*, also by Dekker (part of a four-book series which includes *The Martyr's Song*, *Heaven's Wager*, *When Heaven Weeps*, and *Thunder of Heaven*). In *The Martyr's Song*, two women are taken back to Bosnia in the WWII era, in which a small group of women and children must answer the question "What would you die for?" All the Dekker books listed here are available on Hoopla.

### Author Focus: Lisa Wingate

(Review by Gail O'Connor)  
I recently discovered Lisa Wingate's writing after picking up a copy of *Before We Were Yours* at an airport bookstore. This book was Publishers Weekly's #3 Longest-Running Bestseller of 2017. As I settled on the plane, I quickly became so absorbed in her book, I was shocked to see we were already on the ground at my destination. This gripping and engrossing novel based on tragic events in our nation's history will stay with you long after the last pages are read. You will want to share this story of Georgia Tann and the atrocities that occurred at her Tennessee Children's



Home Society. A follow-up book, co-authored with Judy Christie, *Before and After*, is on my to-read list. I have felt drawn to this gifted writer and have binged on Lisa Wingate. I especially enjoyed *The Prayer Box* (ECPA 2014 Christian Book Award Finalist, Christy Award Finalist, Christianity Today Book Award Finalist, MAGGIE Award Finalist!) and *The Story Keeper*, both from her Carolina Chronicles series.

### SIGN UP for GoodReads - ECC Bloomington Book Group

Do you want to know what other members of the congregation are reading? Do you want to share a book you have enjoyed? Join the ECC Book Group on [goodreads.com](https://www.goodreads.com). If you have already joined, we encourage you to check it regularly for updates.

Are you already a member of ECC Bloomington Book Group but have not gone to the page? In order to receive notifications of new activity, please do the following:

1. Click on the image at the top right-hand side on your GoodReads page.
2. Select My Settings.
3. Scroll down to Email Notifications and check or uncheck your preferences.
4. Don't forget to Save.

Let's all use some of our home time during the pandemic to make a regular habit of reading Scripture and reading a good book!

