

Education for Mission through 2024

Highlighted Titles are Bonus & Count for 2 Books

2019 *** Youth

Ahimsa

Supriya Kellar

In 1942, after Mahatma Gandhi asks Indians to give one family member to the freedom movement, ten-year-old Anjali is devastated to think of her father risking his life for the freedom struggle. But it turns out he isn't the one joining. Anjali's mother is. And with this change comes many more adjustments designed to improve their country and use "*ahimsa*"—non-violent resistance—to stand up to the British government. First the family must trade in their fine foreign-made clothes for homespun cotton, so Anjali must give up her prettiest belongings. Then her mother decides to reach out to the Dalit community, the "untouchables" of society. Anjali is forced to get over her past prejudices as her family becomes increasingly involved in the movement. When Anjali's mother is jailed, Anjali must step out of her comfort zone to take over her mother's work, ensuring that her little part of the independence movement is completed.

2019

An Insider's Guide to Praying for the World

Dr. Brian Stiller

The world is getting smaller. Cutting ourselves off from Christians around the world is not an option. In many countries, the rise of persecution fuels concern over the safety and rights of believers, while other nations that used to be closed to the Gospel are seeing unprecedented numbers of conversions to Christianity. As global ambassador of the World Evangelical Alliance, what Dr. Brian Stiller experiences on the ground in these nations is often counter to our impressions. As he listens to people's ideas and observes their innovations, he invites you to see and hear what he does.

An Insider's Guide to Praying for the World includes country-specific insights calling us to a deeper understanding of the Christian church and witness. Each chapter also provides prayer challenges that come from believers in the country as well as maps and sample prayers. Nations from every continent are included.

Be inspired to learn about other lands--both familiar ones, such as China and Kenya, and ones you may know very little about, like Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. More importantly, take part in God's work by praying for the real needs of your brothers and sisters around the world.

2019

Make a Difference - Following Your Passion and Finding Your Place to Serve

James A. Harnish

Every day we see that things are not right in our world, and as followers of Jesus Christ, we have an impulse to do something about it. We long to connect our passions and gifts with the world's great needs, making a unique contribution for the healing of the world.

In *Make a Difference*, author James A. Harnish helps United Methodists answer the questions "How can I contribute to God's healing work in this world?" and "How can I find my place to serve and make a difference?" Drawing upon biblical wisdom and real stories of real people who have found their place to serve, he provides practical guidance to help every disciple make a difference as a participant in God's transformation of the world.

This six-week study is perfect for anyone desiring to engage service or mission as a vital part of discipleship, find a place to serve—in the church, the community, and/or the world engage in God's work in the world.

The study includes a book, leader guide, and DVD featuring six engaging and lively discussions with the author and several special guests highlighting opportunities and outcomes of making a difference in this world.

2019

One: Unity in a Divided World

Deidra Riggs

Jesus didn't say that the world would know we are his followers by our biting rhetoric, our political leanings, our charity work, or even by our knowledge of Scripture. He said the world would know us by our love for one another. Yet it's so easy to put others at arm's length, to lash out, to put up walls. Deidra Riggs wants us to put our focus on self-preservation aside and, like Jesus, make the first move toward reconciliation.

In *One*, Riggs shows readers that when Jesus offered himself up in our place, he was not only purchasing our salvation but also setting an example for us to follow. She helps readers understand that they are secure in God's inexhaustible love, making them free to love others lavishly--not just in what they do but in what they say, what they don't say, what they will endure, and what they will forgive.

Anyone who longs for unity in the church, in their family, and in their community will find in this book both inspiring examples of loving done well and encouragement to begin the often-unnoticed hard work of building bridges with those around them.

2019

The Mission-Minded Guide to Church and School Partnerships

Jake McGlothlin

Partnering your church family with a public school can be a rewarding experience, but it also presents some unique challenges.

The Mission-Minded Guide to Church and School Partnerships offers practical steps congregations can take to make a difference with the children in their community.

From basic organization, training, safety, and planning, leaders will learn how to share the vision and effectively recruit and train volunteers. Most importantly, leaders will discover how to begin a collaborative, trusting relationship with students, administrators, and teachers.

In addition, there are suggestions for sharing information about the partnership through communication tools like newsletters and special Sundays for welcoming the schools, teachers, principals, and more.

Inspire your church family to embrace the power they have to change lives and make a difference in their community.

2019

Threading My Prayer Rug

Sabeeha Rehman

Named on Booklist's Top Ten Religion and Spirituality Books of 2016, *Threading My Prayer Rug* is a richly textured reflection on what it is to be a Muslim in America. It is also the luminous story of many journeys: from Pakistan to the United States in an arranged marriage that becomes a love match lasting forty-five years; from secular Muslim in an Islamic society to devout Muslim in a society ignorant of Islam, and from liberal to conservative to American Muslim; from bride to mother; and from an immigrant intending to stay two years to an American citizen, business executive, grandmother, and tireless advocate for interfaith understanding.

Beginning with a sweetly funny, moving account of her arranged marriage, the author undercuts stereotypes and offers the refreshing view of an American life through Muslim eyes. Sabeeha was doing interfaith work for Imam Feisal A. Rauf, the driving force behind the Muslim community center near Ground Zero, when the backlash began. She recounts what that experience revealed about American society and in a new preface discusses Islam in America in the time of Trump.

2019

Unified We Are a Force: How Faith and Labor Can Overcome America's Inequalities

Joerg Rieger and Rosemarie Henkel-Rieger

The American dream of “pulling yourself up by your bootstraps” is no longer possible, if it ever was. Most of us live paycheck-to-paycheck, and inequality has become one of the greatest problems facing our country. Working people and people of faith have the power to change this—but only when we get unified!

In this practical and theological handbook for justice, renowned theologian Joerg Rieger and his wife, community and labor activist Rosemarie Henkel-Rieger, help the working majority (the 99% of us) understand what is happening and how we can make a difference. Discover how our faith is deeply connected with our work. Find out how to organize people and build power and what our different faith traditions can contribute. Learn from case studies where these principles have been used successfully—and how we can use them. Develop “deep solidarity” as a way to forge unity while employing our differences for the common good.

“This book is an invitation for us to listen, with God, to the cries of those who labor.” —Shane Claiborne, Author and Activist

“We are all trade unionists now. We are all civil rights activists now. ... *Unified We Are a Force* is the handbook for all of us who work and are people of faith or goodwill, who believe in a moral universe, to join hands and march together.” —Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, Author of *Forward Together*

2020

The Pilgrim Journey: A History of Pilgrimage in the Western World

James Harpur

Pilgrimage in the Western World is enjoying a growing popularity, perhaps more so now than at any time since the Middle Ages. *The Pilgrim Journey* tells the fascinating story of how pilgrimage was born and grew in antiquity, how it blossomed in the Middle Ages and faltered in subsequent centuries, only to re-emerge stronger than before in modern times. James Harpur describes the pilgrim routes and sacred destinations past and present, the men and women making the journey, the many challenges of travel, and the spiritual motivations and rewards. He also explores the traditional stages of pilgrimage, from preparation, departure, and the time on the road, to the arrival at the shrine and the return home. At the heart of pilgrimage is a spiritual longing that has existed from time immemorial. *The Pilgrim Journey* is both the colorful chronicle of numerous pilgrims of centuries past searching for heaven on earth, and an illuminating guide for today's spiritual traveler.

2020

When Others Shuddered: Eight Women Who Refused to Give Up

Jamie Janosz

When Others Shuddered: Eight Women Who Refused to Give Up is the story of eight women called to serve God and who, in doing so, changed the world. They lived at the turn of the century, rubbing shoulders with the well-known men of their time, like John Rockefeller, Marshall Field, and Dwight Lyman Moody.

These women--Fanny Crosby, Mary McLeod Bethune, Nettie McCormick, Sarah Dunn Clarke, Emma Dryer, Virginia Asher, Evangeline Booth, and Amanda Berry Smith--were unique. They were single and married, black and white, wealthy and poor, beautiful and plain, mothers and childless. Yet, each felt called to make a difference and to do something--to meet a pressing need in her world.

These women wanted to live lives less ordinary. Their stories inspire us to follow God's calling in our own lives. They teach us that each individual person can make a difference. These eight women will show you how God can use your life to change the world.

2021

A Road Called Down On Both Sides: Growing Up in Ethiopia and America

Caroline Kurtz

Caroline Kurtz grew up in the remote mountains of Maji, Ethiopia in the 1950s. Inside her mud adobe home with her missionary parents and three sisters, she enjoyed the American family life. Outside, her world was shaped by drums and the joy cry; Jeep and mule treks into the countryside; ostriches on the air strip; and the crackle of several Ethiopian languages she barely understood but longed to learn.

She felt she'd been exiled to a foreign country when she went to Illinois for college. She returned to Ethiopia to teach, only to discover how complex working in another culture and language really is. Life under a Communist dictatorship meant constant outages—water, electricity, sugar, even toilet paper. But she was willing to do anything, no matter how hard, to live in Ethiopia again. Yet the chaos only increased—guerillas marched down from the north, their t-shirts crisscrossed by Kalashnikov bandoliers. When peace returned, Caroline got the chance she'd longed for, to revisit that beloved childhood home in Maji. But maybe it would have been better just to treasure the memories.

Caroline Kurtz speaks Amharic fluently and spearheads development in Ethiopia's Maji District, introducing apples, solar energy, and women's cottage industries.

2021

Gum Moon: A Novel of San Francisco Chinatown

Jeffrey L Staley

Based upon events in the life of the author's wife's grandmother, Gum Moon (Cantonese for "Gold Door" or "Golden Gate") is the remarkable coming of age story of a Chinese-American girl, Mei Chun Lai, who is sold in 1898 at the age of three to a cruel brothel keeper. A sympathetic prostitute befriends Chun, but during a plague quarantine, Chun is thrust into a bewildering new world when she is rescued by a friend of Donaldina Cameron and placed in a Home for abused and trafficked girls.

The Home is destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, but Chun (aka "Maud") survives. In an attempt to raise funds to rebuild the Home, Maud and a group of seven other Chinese children embark on a cross-country singing tour. Performing for President Theodore Roosevelt is the highlight of the journey, but when the matron of the Home suffers a breakdown, thirteen-year-old Maud must find within herself the strength and resolve to lead the band of children home.

Gum Moon was a 2019 award winner (Honorable Mention) in Writer's Digest's 27th annual competition for self-published books (Literary/Mainstream).

2021

Leading While Muslim: The Experiences of American Muslim Principals After 9/11

Debbie Almontaser

This book examines the lived experiences of American Muslim principals who serve in public schools in a post-9/11 world to determine whether global events, political discourse, and the media coverage of Islam and Muslims have affected their leadership and spirituality. Such a study is intended to help readers to gain an understanding of the adversities that American Muslim principals have experienced post-9/11 and how to address these adversities, particularly through decisions about educational policy and district leadership.

2021

My Savior Is the Masses: Dancing Along the Path to Justice

Joy Prim

Follow the story of Global Ministries mission intern Joy Prim. Joy first served in Hong Kong, working with an NGO serving migrant women domestic helpers from around Southeast Asia, and then in California, serving with an NGO friend from her international placement. After finishing her official missionary assignment, she stayed on, working with the community to continue their collective organizing. Join her through her blog, which she initially began as a way to document her experiences as a missionary and has continued as she's followed Jesus to the community margins.

2021 ***Youth

The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan: Inventor, Entrepreneur, Hero

Joan DiCicco

Garrett Morgan, a prolific African American inventor and entrepreneur, must test his latest invention in a daring rescue after an explosion at the Cleveland Waterworks.

If a man puts something to block your way, the first time you go around it, the second time you go over it, and the third time you go through it.

Living by these words made inventor and entrepreneur Garrett Morgan unstoppable! Growing up in Claysville, Kentucky, the son of freed slaves, young and curious Garrett was eager for life beyond his family's farm. At age fourteen, he moved north to Cleveland, where his creative mind took flight amidst the city's booming clothing-manufacturing industry.

Using his ingenuity and tenacity, Garrett overcame racial barriers and forged a career as a successful businessman and inventor. But when a tunnel collapsed, trapping twenty men, the rescue would test both Garrett's invention -- and his courage.

Told in compelling prose by debut picture-book author Joan DiCicco and dynamic illustrations from artist Ebony Glenn, *The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan* is a powerful biography of an extraordinary man who dedicated his life to improving the lives of others.

2021

What About Our Money?

A Faith Response: United Methodist Women Mission Study

Susan K. Taylor

What About Our Money? explores how we relate to money within the context of our faith. Through this connection between our faith and our money, readers discover how to live closer to God and God's people, even in our North American culture that is so deeply defined by money. She explores the biblical foundation of abundance (sufficiency), which stands in opposition to the scarcity narrative our culture tells us from the time we are very young.

2022

Finding Jesus at the Border: Opening our Hearts to the Stories of our Immigrant Neighbors

Julia Lambert Fogg

As Christians, how should we respond to the current immigration crisis? In this accessibly written book, Julia Lambert Fogg, a pastor and New Testament scholar who is actively serving immigrant families in Southern California, interprets well-known biblical stories in a fresh way and shares recent stories of immigrants at the U.S.–Mexico border to put a human face on the immigration debate. She encourages readers to welcome Christ by embracing DREAMers, the undocumented, asylum seekers and immigrants, and advocate for immigrant justice in their communities.

2022

First & Only: A Black Woman's Guide to Thriving at Work and in Life

Jennifer R. Farmer

This is a guide that affirms every Black woman who has found herself closing the cover on other leadership books because they omit their true experiences and strengths. In these pages, trainer and activist Jennifer R. Farmer provides a roadmap to on-the-job success, challenging systemic racism, and seeking inner healing through the sustaining power of faith. She offers practical strategies for Black women to thrive in workplaces that can be ambivalent about their success, as well as tips and stories from psychologists, activists and organizational experts that equip Black women to lead others and heal past wounds.

2022

How to Be an Antiracist

Ibram X. Kendi

Some people will tell you that racism is all about hatred and ignorance. But in *How to Be an Antiracist*, Ibram X. Kendi explains that racism is ultimately structural. He draws from history, science, law and ethics to describe different manifestations of racism, and personalizes these discussions by weaving in stories of his own life. This book is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society.

2022

Metamorphosis: How to Transform Punishment in America

Robert A. Ferguson

The need for prison reform in America has reached the level of a consensus. We agree that many prison terms are too long, especially for nonviolent drug offenders; that long-term isolation is a bad idea; and that basic psychiatric and medical care in prisons is woefully inadequate. Bolstered by insights from hundreds of letters written by prisoners, scholar Robert A. Ferguson makes the case for an entirely new concept of prisons and their purpose that will provide better education for all involved, more imaginative and careful use of technology, and better accountability.

2022

Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God

Kaitlin B. Curtice

Native is about identity, soul-searching, and the never-ending journey of finding ourselves and finding God. As both a citizen of the Potawatomi Nation and a Christian, Kaitlin Curtice offers a unique perspective on these topics. In this book, she shows how reconnecting with her Potawatomi identity both informs and challenges her faith.

Curtice draws on her personal journey, poetry, imagery, and stories of the Potawatomi people to address themes at the forefront of today's discussions of faith and culture in a positive and constructive way. She encourages us to embrace our own origins and to share and listen to each other's stories so we can build a more inclusive and diverse future. Each of our stories matters for the church to be truly whole. As Curtice shares what it means to experience her faith through the lens of her indigenous heritage, she reveals that a vibrant spirituality has its origins in identity, belonging, and a sense of place.

2022 ***Youth

One Dress. One Year.: One Girl's Stand Against Human Trafficking

Bethany Winz and Susana Foth Aughtmon

When sixteen-year-old Bethany Winz learned about the millions of men, women and children around the world trapped in slavery, she wondered: How can anyone do that to another human being? And why aren't we doing something? Journey with her as she wears the same black dress every day for a year to focus attention on the lack of choices people in modern-day slavery face and raises money to help end human trafficking.

2022

Separated by the Border: A Birth Mother, a Foster Mother, and a Migrant Child's 3,000-Mile Journey

Gena Thomas

In 2017 five-year-old Julia traveled with her mother, Guadalupe, from Honduras to the United States. Her harrowing journey took her through Mexico in the cargo section of a tractor trailer. Then she was separated from her mother, who was held hostage by smugglers who exploited her physically and financially. At the United States border, Julia came through the processing center as an unaccompanied minor after being separated from her stepdad who was deported.

Gena Thomas tells the story of how Julia came to the United States, what she experienced in the system, and what it took to reunite her with her family. A Spanish-speaking former missionary, Gena became Julia's foster mother and witnessed firsthand the ways migrant children experience trauma. Weaving together the stories of birth mother and foster mother, this book shows the human face of the immigrant and refugee, the challenges of the immigration and foster care systems, and the tenacious power of motherly love.

2022

Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-Led Resistance to Corporate Globalization

Sharon Delgado

Humanity is at a crossroads, notes minister and activist Sharon Delgado. We can accept a global economic system that is designed for the enrichment of a wealthy and powerful few at the expense of the majority of human beings, communities, and the earth itself. Or we can embrace faith and common sense and join with others to develop viable alternatives to this “economic insanity” and work toward building a peaceful, just and sustainable world for all.

2022

Small Great Things

Jodi Picoult

Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with more than twenty years’ experience. During her shift, Ruth begins a routine checkup on a newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she’s been reassigned to another patient. The parents are white supremacists and don’t want Ruth, who is African American, to touch their child. The hospital complies with their request, but the next day, the baby goes into cardiac distress while Ruth is alone in the nursery. Does she obey orders, or does she intervene?

2022

The JOurneY Between Us: My Faith Walk: Overcoming Grief to Finding JOY in the Journey

Lisa McGrath

Author Lisa McGrath is passionate about her faith, and it has been her lifeline through all the trials and tragedies she and her family have endured.

The *JOurneY Between Us* tells the inspiring story of how Lisa’s faith guided her through several unthinkable events that shook her world to its core. That same faith allowed her to grow as she learned to trust God’s plan and perfect timing. In their darkest hours, she and her family turned to God, and that has made all the difference on their path together. Now she recalls the experiences of her life and reveals the ways that she has been blessed through friends and family with the support and strength she needed to persevere and find hope, peace, love, and especially joy in her journey.

2022

The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World

Melinda Gates

For the last twenty years, Melinda Gates has been on a mission to find solutions for people with the most urgent needs, wherever they live. Throughout this journey, one thing has become increasingly clear to her: If you want to lift a society up, you need to stop keeping women down.

In this moving and compelling book, Melinda shares lessons she's learned from the inspiring people she's met during her work and travels around the world. As she writes in the introduction, "That is why I had to write this book—to share the stories of people who have given focus and urgency to my life. I want all of us to see ways we can lift women up where we live."

Melinda's unforgettable narrative is backed by startling data as she presents the issues that most need our attention—from child marriage to lack of access to contraceptives to gender inequity in the workplace. And, for the first time, she writes about her personal life and the road to equality in her own marriage.

2023

Being Sheela: The Life Journey of an Immigration Lawyer

Adithi Rao

A young mother separated from her children for eight long years; a man facing deportation after being mistaken for a terrorist; a woman forced to endure domestic violence so she can retain her right to remain in her adopted country—these are just a few of the thousands immigration lawyer Sheela Murthy has helped in her long career as a philanthropist. From her birth in India through law school at Harvard and starting one of the world's most successful immigration law firms, Adithi Rao explores the journey of a woman driven to help others overcome injustice, dispossession, and legal tangles so they may live a life of dignity in an increasingly challenging world.

2023 ***Children

How Far Do You Love Me?

Lulu Delacre

This unique bedtime book by award-winning author-illustrator Lulu Delacre features a game that highlights the universal love between caregivers and children while taking readers on a journey across the seven continents of earth. Based on a bedtime game Delacre played with her

young daughters, is an I love you book with a twist. With every expression of love, readers visit a different location around the world, each a beautifully illustrated scene of caregivers and children in a place of natural beauty.

2023

"I Am a Man"- Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice

Joe Starita

In 1877, Chief Standing Bear's Ponca Indian tribe was forcibly removed from their Nebraska homeland and marched to Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), in what became the tribe's own Trail of Tears. *"I Am a Man"* chronicles what happened when Standing Bear set off on a 600-mile walk to return the body of his only son to their traditional burial ground. Along the way, it examines the complex relationship between the United States government and the small, peaceful tribe and the legal consequences of land swaps and broken treaties, while never losing sight of the heartbreaking journey the Ponca endured. It also explores fundamental issues of citizenship, constitutional protection, cultural identity, and democracy—issues that continue to resonate loudly today.

2023

Pachinko – Novel

Min Jin Lee

Among New York Times Top Ten Books of the Year and National Book Award finalist, this novel details the four generations of an immigrant family as they fight to control their destiny in 20th-century Japan. When teenaged Sunja discovers she is pregnant—and her lover is married—she accepts an offer of marriage from a gentle, sickly minister passing through Korea on his way to Japan. But her decision sets off a dramatic saga that echoes through the generations. From bustling street markets to the halls of Japan's finest universities to the pachinko parlors of the criminal underworld, Lee's complex and passionate characters survive and thrive against the indifferent arc of history.

2023

Phoebe: A Story – Novel

Paula Gooder

When the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Rome around 56 AD, he entrusted his letter to Phoebe, the deacon of the church at Cenchreae. But who was this remarkable woman? In her debut novel, biblical scholar Paula Gooder tells Phoebe's story—who she was, the life she lived,

and her first-century faith—and in doing so opens up Paul’s theology, giving a sense of the cultural and historical pressures that shaped Paul’s thinking, and the faith of the early church.

2023 ***Youth

Stamped (For Kids): Racism, Antiracism, and You

Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

Adapted from the award-winning, bestselling *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*, this book takes young readers on a journey from present to past and back again. Kids will discover where racist ideas came from, identify how they impact America today, and meet those who have fought racism with antiracism. Along the way, they’ll learn how to identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their own lives—and learn that talking about race is one of the most important things to learn how to do. Ibram X. Kendi’s research, Jason Reynolds’ and Sonja Cherry-Paul’s writing, and Rachelle Baker’s art come together in this vital read.

2023 ***Children

Super Cilantro Girl / La Superniña Del Cilantro

Juan Felipe Herrera and Illustrated by Honorio Robledo Tapia

Authored by former U.S. poet laureate Juan Felipe Herrera, this empowering story centers on a young girl who uses her superpowers to rescue her mamá from the United States-Mexico border. Young Esmeralda Sinfronteras eagerly waits for her mamá to come home from Mexico so the two of them can be together again. But when Esmeralda learns that that her mother is being kept at the United States-Mexico border, she decides to use her newfound powers to save Mamá herself. In a daring rescue, Esmeralda—now known as *Super Cilantro Girl*—finds her mother, evades the border patrol, and successfully reunites her family.

2023

Susan Angeline Collins: With A Hallelujah Heart

Janis Bennington Van Buren

Years before Mary Jane McLeod Bethune started her school for girls in Florida, one Midwestern woman was steadily doing her part for girls in the northern Angolan high plateau. For more than three decades, African American missionary Susan Angeline Collins made a tremendous difference in the lives of countless African women and children, some orphaned and homeless and others escaping early marriage and subservience. Authored by retired professor Janis Bennington Van Buren, this book explores the remarkable service-oriented life of Collins from her 1851 birth in Illinois until her 1940 death in Iowa. Collins overcame economic, education, gender, race, religious, and other obstacles surrounding Africa’s colonization to serve as a

stalwart missionary, leader, teacher, nurse, construction manager, and surrogate mother to “her girls.”

2023

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek - Novel

Kim Michele Richardson

Inspired by the true blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s, this best-selling historical novel follows packhorse librarian Cussy Mary Carter and her quest to bring books to Troublesome Creek. The last of her kind, her skin a shade of blue unlike most anyone else, Cussy has to confront prejudice as old as the Appalachians and suspicion as deep as the holler to bring the joy of books to the hill folks. *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* is a story of raw courage, fierce strength, and one woman’s belief that books can carry us anywhere—even back home.

2024 *** Upper Youth or Adult

Apple: Skin to the Core

Eric Gansworth

In many Native American communities, the term “apple” is a racial slur referring to a person who is “Red on the outside, White on the inside,” meaning one who looks like an Indigenous person but acts “White.” In this bittersweet but inspiring poetic memoir, the author reclaims the term, transforming the slur through the retelling of his own narrative. An Onondaga writer and visual artist raised in the Tuscarora Nation, Gansworth explores the terrible legacy of government boarding schools and addresses identity and belonging as he struggles with appropriation, language, family ties, friendship, feeling lost, and leaving home for college.

2024 *** Children

Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky

Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond

This riveting exploration of culture and history traces the journey of the color through time and across the globe. The color blue has been long sought-after, from the mass quantities of sapphire rocks ground by ancient Afghan painters, to the snails harvested in Eurasia for the tiny bits of blue contained in their bodies, to the indigo grown as a cash crop on the backs of African slaves. In this beautifully rendered children’s book, discover a history of the color as deep as the sea and as wide as the sky.

2024

Child, Church and Mission

Dan Brewster

Penned by longtime Compassion International child ministry expert Dan Brewster, this book addresses the topic of ministry to children in totality, ultimately focusing on the most critical issues and needs. It practically examines how to reach, equip, and empower children to maximize their transformational impact and mobilize them for continuing impact throughout the rest of their lives. As Brewster notes, God often accomplishes the work of the kingdom of God through the very special abilities of the children. The book is lauded as a resource for ministers, seminarians, teachers, and other child advocates.

2024

Days with E. Stanley Jones: Global Preacher, Social Justice Prophet

John Harnish

Dive into 30 short, inspiring true stories about the life of E. Stanley Jones (1884-1973), described as the “greatest missionary since Saint Paul” in his day. Twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his ministry work in India, Jones was an author, statesman, interfaith leader, and a spokesman for peace, racial inclusion, and social justice. His work brought him into close contact with Mahatma Gandhi and other Indian leaders, and his writings are said to have influenced Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s nonviolent approach to injustice. Here, Harnish illustrates the timeless, loving wisdom that Jones believed lay at the core of Christianity.

2024

Defiant: What the Women of Exodus Teach Us About Freedom

Kelly Nikondeha Eerdmans

The women of Exodus defied Pharaoh raised Moses, and plundered Egypt. They summoned courage, harnessed intelligence, and gathered resources to enact justice in many small ways and overturned an empire. Today, women find themselves in similar circumstances. *Defiant* reflects on the resistance literature of Exodus and what it has to offer women, as well as the deep work women do to create conditions for liberation in their church, community, and country. Nikondeha shares how what the women of Exodus accomplished under the oppression of Pharaoh might unlock for us as we imagine our mandate under modern systems of injustice.

2024 *** Children

El Ciclo Del Arroz, El Ciclo De La Vida: Un Cuento Sobre La Agricultura

Cycle of Rice, Cycle of Life: A Story of Sustainable Farming

Jan Reynolds

From award-winning author and National Geographic photographer Jan Reynolds comes the Spanish-language version of her remarkable and illustrative photography book, skillfully and beautifully detailing the ancient ritual of the cycle of water and the cycle of rice in Bali from temples to fields and from seeds to rice-bearing plants. Woven throughout is information on Balinese spiritual ritual practices and the dangers of overproduction into the explanation of this tiny but powerful grain. Readers come away with a poignant and critical message on responsible stewardship.

2024 *** Children

El Mangle: Sembrando Arboles Para Alimentar Familias

The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families

Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore

Now available in both English and Spanish, Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore's *The Mangrove Tree* uses powerful prose and pictures to capture this poignant look at an ecological innovation project in the village of Hargigo in the impoverished African nation of Eritrea. The book details Dr. Gordon Sato's idea to plant mangrove trees there, which grow easily in salt water, ultimately providing profound long-term benefits for the community. Also included are many photographs of Sato and the people of Hargigo, bringing their inspiring story into real-world perspective.

2024

How Beautiful We Were – Novel

Imbolo Mbue

What happens when the reckless drive for profit, coupled with the ghost of colonialism, comes up against one community's determination to hold on to its ancestral land? In *How Beautiful We Were*, a fearless young woman, Thula, from the small fictional African village of Kosawa, starts a revolution against an American oil company. In Kosawa, the people have been living in fear because of the environmental degradation there, from pipeline spills harming farmlands to children dying from drinking toxic water. Left with few choices, the people of Kosawa decide to fight back.

2024

I'm Black. I'm Christian. I'm Methodist.

Rudy Rasmus

In this book, edited by Dr. Rudy Rasmus, personal narratives from 10 men and women reveal the distinct struggles of being Black in the church, facing both historic and modern racism. While the essays each begin with the central identities of Black, Christian, and Methodist, they also represent different journeys of confronting centuries of White supremacy in religious and

secular institutions. Weaving together autobiography and spiritual formation, they represent a significant contribution to our theological understanding of racism.

2024

Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival, and Hope in an American City

Andrea Elliot

The winner of the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize and a finalist for the Bernstein Award, this book follows eight dramatic years in the life of Dasani, a precocious and imaginative girl living in a homeless shelter in Brooklyn. Elliott weaves the story of Dasani's childhood with the history of her ancestors, tracing their passage from slavery to the Great Migration north. As Dasani comes of age, New York City's homeless crisis has exploded, deepening the chasm between rich and poor. She must guide her siblings through a world riddled by hunger, violence, racism, drug addiction, and the threat of foster care.

2024

Let Your Light Shine: Mobilizing for Justice with Children and Youth

Reginald Blount and Virginia Lee

What can we do about the plethora of harsh situations children face today, such as broken immigration policies, hunger, school shootings, mass incarceration, human trafficking, and failing schools? Advocacy might well be the answer. This collection of writings on advocacy for children and theological education mobilizes readers by educating about the history and goals of the Children's Defense Fund, including the passion of founder Marian Wright Edelman. Child advocacy is also woven throughout the book with religious core values, illuminating the faith aspect of helping children have a voice. The book also covers the Freedom Schools movement of the 1960s, as well as the CDF's contemporary Freedom Schools.

2024 *** Children

Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey

Margriet Ruurs

This dual-language (English/Arabic) book shares the story of a young girl, Rama, who with her multigenerational family is forced to flee her once-peaceful village to escape the ravages of civil war. The book was inspired by the stone artwork of Syrian artist Nizar Ali Badr, discovered by chance by Canadian writer Margriet Ruurs, who has authored more than 40 children's books. The author was impressed with Badr's work and, using many of his already-created pieces, set out to create a story about the Syrian refugee crisis, allowing the human side of the situation to speak louder than the political.

2024

The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story

Nikole Hannah-Jones

The 1619 Project is an exploration of the meaning and overall impact of slavery on American life. Produced in August 2019, the 400-year anniversary of the arrival of the first enslaved people to Virginia, it retells United States history through essays, photos, and podcasts. Ultimately, the 1619 Project addresses the impact of slavery on the nation's foundational ideals, economy, health care system, racial segregation, music, and more, examining the systems of race and caste that still operate in America today.

2024 *** Children

The 1619 Project: Born on the Water

Nikole Hannah-Jones

Hannah-Jones collaborated with children's book author Renée Watson to produce this companion piece. A children's picture book written in verse, it serves to help young people understand the important concepts addressed in the original—notably, the impact of slavery on American's foundational principles. In the children's version, the book explores a perspective from a young Black girl tasked in school to draw a flag that represents her ancestral land. At first, she doesn't understand her family's past, but soon the girl talks with her grandmother and learns the truth about her lineage.

2024

The Book of Rosy: A Mother's Story of Separation at the Border

Rosayra Pablo Cruz and Julie

This wrenching story shares the plight of the many families separated at the United States and Mexico border. Here, Rosayra "Rosy" Pablo Cruz pens her agonizing tale of seeking asylum in the U.S. after fleeing her home country of Guatemala with her two young boys. After the brutal journey, they arrived at the Arizona border—only to be seized and forcibly separated under the Department of Homeland Security's new "zero tolerance" policy. She shares her painful but inspiring story about the cruelty of detention and the unbearable agony of being separated from her children in a strange land.

2024

The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A Border Story

Aaron Bobrow-Strain

This book tells the story of a Mexican teen mother, Aida, journeying through the U.S. immigration system and the obstacles she faces. Aida was born in Mexico in 1987. When Aida

was 8 years old, her mother took her and her siblings to live in Arizona, where she grew up undocumented. After her deportation, Aida found herself in a Mexican city marked by violence, in a country not hers, and separated from her son. To get back to the United States and reunite with her son, she embarked on a harrowing journey, enduring detention centers, immigration courts, and more.

2024

The House That Love Built: Why I Opened My Door to Immigrants and How We Found Hope Beyond a Broken System

Sarah Jackson

What does it mean to love our neighbor? That is the question at the heart of this story, authored by one woman who experienced transformation after she opened her home to immigrants. Once, Jackson thought immigration justice was administered through walls and fences. Then she met a deported young father separated from his U.S.-citizen family, and everything changed. As she began to meet families ravaged by threats in their homeland, biblical justice took on a new meaning. The work she began through Casa de Paz joined the Christian tradition of hospitality, shining light on what it means to love our neighbor.

2024 *** Youth

They Called Us Enemy

George Takei

This New York Times bestselling graphic novel is a memoir detailing the childhood of George Takei, actor, author, and activist. Takei spent his childhood imprisoned with his family within American concentration camps during World War II. *They Called Us Enemy* is his firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the experience of growing up under legalized racism, his mother's hard choices, his father's faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future.

2024 *** Youth

Thirty Talks Weird Love

Alessandra N. Varela

This is a moving story of a girl on the cusp of womanhood who learns to empathize with others—and ultimately to care for herself. Thirteen-year-old Anamaría is struggling both with depression and with understanding what's truly important as she grows up in Ciudad Juárez, México. Enter her 30-year-old self, who pays a surprise visit to Anamaría. Anamaría doesn't want to trust this stranger, who insists she's from the future. Meanwhile, she's mourning the tragedy plaguing her city—the disappearance of young girls and women that is becoming increasingly common.