

## ***Leadership Development through 2024***

***Highlighted titles are Bonus Books and Count for Two Books***

2019

### ***Courage is Abundant in the Abstract***

Selena Einwechter

Everyone has a dream at some point in their life. It might be to become famous or invent something life changing. Sometimes dreams simply fade away as one continues on life's path. But sometimes a dream feels so real that the dreamer cannot only see it, but also feel it and taste it.

*Courage is Abundant in the Abstract* is about my dream. I wanted to build a bed and breakfast and become an inn keeper. I thought about it all the time, but I never acted on it. When a dear friend said to me, "Selena, if there is something that has been on your heart for so long that you just can't seem to shake it, well then, it might just be from God." How could I argue with that? So my journey began.

In 2008, I decided it was time to step out and begin. But I had just lost my job! I had no income! The economy was in free-fall! And what did I know about construction? I took a leap of faith and began to realize my dream. It was hard, and I stumbled a lot, but I did things I never imagined I could.

I did it, and you can too. In fact, I will show you how. In this book, you'll see the steps I took and how I continued to keep moving forward. I have replicated the plan so that you can use it to begin realizing your dream. You will see how Tiffany Hill became a reality. I've created a path that you can begin using today.

\*\* Available with Kindle Unlimited

2019

### ***Eleanor— A Spiritual Biography***

Harold Ivan Smith

More than fifty years after her death, Eleanor Roosevelt is remembered as a formidable first lady and tireless social activist. Often overlooked, however, is her deep and inclusive spirituality. Her personal faith was shaped by reading the New Testament in her youth, giving her a Jesus-centered spirituality that fueled her commitment to civil rights, women's rights, and the rights of all "little people" marginalized in American society.

She took seriously Jesus' words and despite her life of privilege, she made the needs of those on the margins her priority. *Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography* provides insight into one of

America's most famous women, particularly the spiritual influences that made her so active in social justice issues.

2019

*Fresh Expressions: A New Kind of Methodist Church for People Not in Church*

Ken Carter & Audrey Warren

A wave of new Christian churches is emerging to reach unchurched and dechurched people who live in a culture that is increasingly non-religious and multi-religious. These new forms of church gather and network with people who typically have never been to church. The new faith communities listen to people and go where they are on the journey toward Jesus. They are deeply ecumenical but do not lose their distinctiveness because they learn fresh ways to communicate their identity through discipleship.

*Fresh Expressions* began in the United Kingdom where it ignited over 3000 new faith communities. In the United States, the movement is putting down roots in Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Florida.

Ken Carter and Audrey Warren offer this book as a group study for church leaders and congregations who are in the grip of Holy Spirit motivation to renew their tradition by reaching people who are dechurched or not yet in a discipleship relationship with Jesus.

2019

*Hands on the Freedom Plow: Personal Accounts by Women in SNCC*

Holsaert, Noonan, Richardson, Robinson, Young and Zellner

In *Hands on the Freedom Plow*, fifty-two women--northern and southern, young and old, urban and rural, black, white, and Latina--share their courageous personal stories of working for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) on the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement.

The testimonies gathered here present a sweeping personal history of SNCC: early sit-ins, voter registration campaigns, and freedom rides; the 1963 March on Washington, the Mississippi Freedom Summer, and the movements in Alabama and Maryland; and Black Power and antiwar activism. Since the women spent time in the Deep South, many also describe risking their lives through beatings and arrests and witnessing unspeakable violence. These intense stories depict women, many very young, dealing with extreme fear and finding the remarkable strength to survive.

The women in SNCC acquired new skills, experienced personal growth, sustained one another, and even had fun in the midst of serious struggle. Readers are privy to their analyses of the Movement, its tactics, strategies, and underlying philosophies. The contributors revisit central debates of the struggle including the role of nonviolence and self-defense, the role of white

people in a black-led movement, and the role of women within the Movement and the society at large.

Each story reveals how the struggle for social change was formed, supported, and maintained by the women who kept their "hands on the freedom plow." As the editors write in the introduction, "Though the voices are different, they all tell the same story--of women bursting out of constraints, leaving school, leaving their hometowns, meeting new people, talking into the night, laughing, going to jail, being afraid, teaching in Freedom Schools, working in the field, dancing at the Elks Hall, working the WATS line to relay horror story after horror story, telling the press, telling the story, telling the word. And making a difference in this world."

2019 \*\*\* Children

*Red*

Jan De Kinder

In this poignant story, a girl finds it funny when her classmate starts blushing on the school playground. Her friends laugh along with her, but one student takes the teasing too far. Torn between her sympathy for her classmate and her fear of the bully, the girl must make a difficult choice. This heartfelt book will inspire readers to find the courage to take a stance against bullying and show compassion toward others.

2019 \*\*\* Youth

*Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh*

Uma Krishnaswami

Envision your life as an adventure co-created by God. This study explores Joseph's story. He accomplished great things in Egypt, but he didn't really understand his story's significance until he recognized what God was doing through him. Sarah Heath helps you explore your own life story in the same way. By doing so, you'll discover how to co-create with God the kind of life that will be a page-turner.

2019

*Synergy: A Leadership Guide for Church Staff and Volunteers*

Ann A. Michel

The people are the church—not just the pastor. Yet, in many congregations there is a heavy imbalance in the ownership of ministry. Clergy and paid staff are seen as God's agents in the world, and congregants as occasional participants. Sometimes, clergy and other leaders perpetuate this imbalance.

2019 \*\*\* Children

*Weird!: A Story About Bullying in Schools*

Erin Frankel

Luisa is repeatedly teased and called "weird" by her classmate Sam, even though she is simply being herself—laughing with her friends, answering questions in class, greeting her father in Spanish, and wearing her favorite polka-dot boots. Luisa initially reacts to the bullying by withdrawing and hiding her colorful nature. But with the support of her teachers, parents, classmates, and one special friend named Jayla, she is able to reclaim her color and resist Sam's put-downs.

2020

*Teaching Outside the Box*

LouAnne Johnson

Rather than tweaking the ways youth ministers communicate the gospel, *Teaching Outside the Box* explores five distinct approaches to forming youth in the faith—approaches that open youth to experiencing the implications of the gospel in new ways. We'll start by providing a new take on the instructional approach, and then introduce four additional approaches that are likely new to readers: community of faith, interpretive, liberation, and contemplative.

2020

*Vital Voices: The Power of Women Leading Change Around the World*

Alyse Nelson

Women's progress is global progress. Where there is an increase in women's university enrollment rates, women's earnings, and maternal health, and a reduction in violence against women, we see more prosperous communities, better educated, healthier families, and the preservation of equal human rights. Yet globally, women remain the most consistently under-utilized resource. *Vital Voices* calls for and makes possible transformative leadership around the world.

In *Vital Voices*, CEO Alyse Nelson shares the stories of remarkable, world-changing women, as well as the story of how *Vital Voices* was founded, crossing lines that typically divide. For 15 years, *Vital Voices* has brought together women who want to enable others to become change agents in their governments, advocates for social justice, and supporters of democracy. They equip women with management and business development skills to expand their enterprises and create jobs in their communities. Their voices, stories, and hard-earned lessons—shared here for the first time—are deeply authentic and truly vital.

Through the firsthand accounts of trail-blazing leaders, *Vital Voices* introduces unforgettable, inspiring women who are shaping our world.

2020

*Which Way Lord?*

Rob Fuquay

Through many detours, adversity, and time spent thinking about his life, Paul completely reoriented his understanding of faith and God's purpose for his life. God placed Paul in a community that shared God's love with him, and Paul underwent several years of training in preparation for his ministry.

Discover how to discern and follow God's leading, explore ways God can use you and your life experience, respond to God's signals, endure hardships and doubts, and persevere with hope and faith. Rediscover the truths that you are wonderfully made, created for purpose, and equipped to live a life of significance. Join us in traveling together to find your purpose.

2021 \*\*\*Youth

*#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women*

Charleyboy

Whether looking back to a troubled past or welcoming a hopeful future, the powerful voices of Indigenous women across North America resound in this book. In the same style as the best-selling *Dreaming in Indian*, *#Not Your Princess* presents an eclectic collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that combine to express the experience of being a Native woman. Stories of abuse, humiliation, and stereotyping are countered by the voices of passionate women making themselves heard and demanding change. Sometimes angry, often reflective, but always strong, the women in this book will give teen readers insight into the lives of women who, for so long, have been virtually invisible.

2021

*Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism*

Carolyn B. Helsel

"What if I say the wrong thing?" "I'm white--is race really something I need to talk about? I'm worried I'll be called a racist!" "What does race have to do with faith, anyway?" "Why do we have to keep talking about this?"

If talking about racism makes you anxious, afraid, or even angry, you're not alone. In *Anxious to Talk About It*, pastor and professor Carolyn B. Helsel draws on her success with white congregations to offer insight and tools to embrace, explore and work through the anxious feelings that often arise in these hard conversations. Through powerful personal stories, new observations on racial identity development, and spiritual practices to help engage issues of racial justice prayerfully, you'll gain a deeper understanding of race in America and your place in it. You will learn how to join conversations with courage, compassion, and knowledge of self, others, and the important issues at stake. Helsel's guidance will inspire you to receive the gifts that come through these difficult race conversations and point to how you can get further involved in the important social justice work around race relations. Each chapter ends with

questions for reflection and discussion to further help you get the conversations started.

While *Anxious to Talk About It* can be read alone, reading with a group will deepen the discussion, integrate the material, and provide opportunities to practice. A free Study Guide and other group resources are available at [www.chalicepress.com](http://www.chalicepress.com).

2021 \*\*\*Youth

*Cinderella Liberator*

Rebecca Solnit

"This is a reminder of hope and possibility, of kindness and compassion, and—perhaps most salient—imagination and liberty. Through the imaginations of our childhoods, can we find our true selves liberated in adulthood?"—Chelsea Handler

In her debut children's book, Rebecca Solnit reimagines a classic fairytale with a fresh, feminist Cinderella and new plot twists that will inspire young readers to change the world, featuring gorgeous silhouettes from Arthur Rackham on each page.

In this modern twist on the classic story, *Cinderella*, who would rather just be Ella, meets her fairy godmother, goes to a ball, and makes friends with a prince. But that is where the familiar story ends. Instead of waiting to be rescued, Cinderella learns that she can save herself and those around her by being true to herself and standing up for what she believes.

Rebecca Solnit is the author of more than twenty books including *Men Explain Things to Me*, *Call Them by Their True Names*, *Hope in the Dark*, and *The Mother of All Questions*.

Arthur Rackham (1867–1939) was a prominent British illustrator of many classic children's books from *The Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm* to *Sleeping Beauty*. His watercolor silhouettes were featured in the original edition of *Cinderella*.

2021

*Failing Boldly: How Falling Down in Ministry can be the Start of Rising Up*

Christian Coon

This book is a must-read for anyone who has ever tried to energize or grow a ministry. Christian Coon takes us through his own missteps and mistakes as the co-founder of the Urban Village Church--as well as those of others working to do the same--and shows how failure can serve as a springboard to new possibilities and even a closer connection to God and what leadership means. Woven together with honesty, humility, and humor, we learn to look on failure as an actual gift that can be the gateway to a deeper journey.

2021 \*\*\*Youth

*Follow That Map! (Confetti Kids #7)*

Sheri Tan

In this new early chapter book in the popular *Confetti Kids* series, Pablo is excited to help his friends find the best route to Coney Island by using different transportation maps.

Five friends from diverse backgrounds learn how to navigate common childhood challenges, new experiences, and the world around them in the realistic and kid-friendly *Confetti Kids* early chapter books. Pablo and his friends want to spend the last day of summer at Coney Island. They can ride bumper cars or play ring toss--there's so much to do! But first, they need to figure out how to get to Coney Island from their neighborhood. It's a long trip on the bus and subway, so it's a good thing Pablo has his trusty maps to help them find the way. Coney Island or bust!

2021 \*\*\*Youth

*Rise!: From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou*

Bethany Hegedus

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the publication of *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, this beautiful biography of Maya Angelou describes how she rose above a childhood of trauma and emotional pain to become one of the most inspiring voices of our lifetime.

Writer, activist, trolley car conductor, dancer, mother, and humanitarian, Maya Angelou's life was marked by transformation and perseverance. In this comprehensive picture-book biography geared towards older readers, Bethany Hegedus lyrically traces Maya's life from her early days in Stamps, Arkansas through her work as a freedom fighter to her triumphant rise as a poet of the people.

A foreword by Angelou's grandson, Colin A. Johnson, describes how a love of literature and poetry helped young Maya overcome childhood trauma and turn adversity into triumph. Coupled with Tonya Engel's metaphorical and emotive illustrations, this biography beautifully conveys the heartaches and successes of this truly phenomenal woman, and is a powerful tribute to the written word.

2021

*Speaking Well: Essential Skills for Speakers, Leaders, and Preachers*

Adam Hamilton

The thought of speaking in public strikes fear in the hearts of many. But we are often called upon to speak, teach, preach, or make presentations in our work and personal lives. In *Speaking Well*, Adam Hamilton offers nineteen powerful tips and tactics that lead to excellent speaking in

any setting.

“One of today’s masters instructs us in the art of public speaking. I wish I’d had this book twenty years ago!” —Cal Turner, retired CEO of Dollar General

“Adam teaches us how to use the gift of words effectively and in ways that elevate and inspire those who hear them.” —Irvine O. Hockaday Jr., retired President and CEO of Hallmark Cards (1985–2001)

“This little book will improve your preparation, content, delivery, and impact.” —Patricia Farris, Senior Minister, First United Methodist Church, Santa Monica, CA

2022

*Becoming*

Michelle Obama

In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As First Lady of the United States of America—the first African American to serve in that role—she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history, while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the U.S. and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives, and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. Along the way, she showed us a few dance moves, crushed Carpool Karaoke, and raised two down-to-earth daughters under an unforgiving media glare.

In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world’s most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it—in her own words and on her own terms. Warm, wise, and revelatory, *Becoming* is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations—and whose story inspires us to do the same.

2022

*Hidden Figures: The American Dream & the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race*

Margot Lee Shetterly

The phenomenal true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA whose calculations helped fuel some of America’s greatest achievements in space. Soon to be a major motion



picture starring Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monae, Kirsten Dunst, and Kevin Costner.

Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space.

Among these problem-solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation. Originally relegated to teaching math in the South’s segregated public schools, they were called into service during the labor shortages of World War II, when America’s aeronautics industry was in dire need of anyone who had the right stuff. Suddenly, these overlooked math whizzes had a shot at jobs worthy of their skills, and they answered Uncle Sam’s call, moving to Hampton, Virginia and the fascinating, high-energy world of the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory.

Even as Virginia’s Jim Crow laws required them to be segregated from their white counterparts, the women of Langley’s all-black “West Computing” group helped America achieve one of the things it desired most: a decisive victory over the Soviet Union in the Cold War, and complete domination of the heavens.

Starting in World War II and moving through to the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement and the Space Race, *Hidden Figures* follows the interwoven accounts of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson and Christine Darden, four African American women who participated in some of NASA’s greatest successes. It chronicles their careers over nearly three decades they faced challenges, forged alliances and used their intellect to change their own lives, and their country’s future.

2022 \*\*\*Children

*My Little Golden Book about Ruth Bader Ginsburg*

Shana Corey

Help little ones dream big with this biography about the late Supreme Court Justice. From a young age, Ruth Bader Ginsburg knew that she wanted to fight for girls and women to have equal rights. She studied and worked very hard and became the second woman—and the first Jewish woman—to be a U.S. Supreme Court Justice. A terrific read for future trailblazers and their parents!

2022

*Sacred Resistance: A Practical Guide to Christian Witness & Dissent*

Ginger Gaines-Cirelli

In the midst of polarized communities and nations, religious leaders across the theological spectrum are seeking help with how to respond and lead in troubled times. The need for courage to speak out and act is ever-present, because every generation faces a new set of fears and troubles.

Author Ginger Gaines-Cirelli pastors a church in the heart of Washington DC, adjacent to the White House, which actively works to bring justice and help for marginalized communities, refugees and immigrants, and the endangered earth. She inspires and leads this work through preaching and by organizing and developing strong leaders, deeply rooted in a well-developed theological understanding. Pastoral warmth and compassion characterize the recommended practices.

*Sacred Resistance* addresses these questions, among others:

- When Christians see that something is wrong in our nation or community, how and when should we respond?
- When we see multiple instances of 'wrong', how do we choose which ones to address?
- How can pastors and other leaders faithfully take risks without violating relationships with the congregation or denomination?
- What historical, biblical, and theological safety nets can be relied on?
- How can we take care of ourselves and one another, so that our ministries and lives are sustained?

2022 \*\*\*Youth

*Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*

Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

The construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, to create dynamics that separate and silence. This book is a reimagining of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's book *Stamped from the Beginning* for a young audience. It shines a light on the many insidious forms racist ideas have taken throughout America's history—and on ways readers can identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their daily lives.

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. Throughout, she shows how there has never been more opportunity to change the world—and ourselves.

Writing with emotion, candor, and grace, she introduces us to remarkable women and shows the power of connecting with one another.

2022

*Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Insisted on Equality for All*

Martha S. Jones

In the standard story, the suffrage crusade began in Seneca Falls in 1848 and ended with the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. But this overwhelmingly white women's movement did not win the vote for most Black women. Here, Martha S. Jones offers a new history of how African American women—including trailblazers like Maria Stewart, Frances Ellen Watkins Harper and Fannie Lou Hamer—defied both racism and sexism to fight for the ballot, from the earliest days of the republic to the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and beyond.

2022

*We Are Called to be a Movement*

Reverend Dr. William J. Barber II

It's time to come together and renounce the politics of rejection, division, and greed. It's time to lift up the common good, move up to higher ground, and revive the heart of democracy.

In a single, rousing sermon, the celebrated Reverend William J. Barber II of the Poor People's Campaign makes an impassioned argument whose message could not be clearer: It's time for change, and the time needs you.

2023

*All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis*

Ayana Elizabeth Johnson And Katherine K. Wilkinson

Named one of the best books of the year by Smithsonian magazine, *All We Can Save* illuminates the expertise and insights of dozens of diverse women leading on climate in the United States—scientists, journalists, farmers, lawyers, teachers, activists, innovators, wonks, and designers, across generations, geographies, and race—and aims to advance a more representative, nuanced, and solution-oriented public conversation on the climate crisis. These women offer a spectrum of ideas and insights for how we can rapidly, radically reshape society. Intermixing essays with poetry and art, this book is both a balm and a guide for knowing and holding what has been done to the world, while bolstering our resolve never to give up on one another or our collective future.

2023 \*\*\*Children

*Change Sings: A Children's Anthem*

Amanda Gorman and Illustrated by Loren Long

In this stirring, much-anticipated picture book by presidential inaugural poet and activist Amanda Gorman, anything is possible when our voices join together. As a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes—big or small—in the world, in their communities, and, most importantly, in themselves. *Change Sings* is a triumphant call to action for everyone to use their abilities to make a difference.

2023

*Ida B. The Queen: The Extraordinary Life and Legacy of Ida B. Wells*

Michelle Duster

Journalist. Suffragist. Antilynching crusader. In 1862, Ida B. Wells was born enslaved in Holly Springs, Mississippi. In 2020, she awarded a Pulitzer Prize. *Ida B. the Queen* tells the awe-inspiring story of a pioneering woman who was often overlooked and underestimated—a woman who refused to exit a train car meant for white passengers; a woman who brought to light the horrors of lynching in America; and a woman who cofounded the NAACP. Written by Wells' great-grand-daughter Michelle Duster, it is a unique visual celebration of Wells' life, and of the Black experience.

2023

*A Knock at Midnight: A Story of Hope, Justice and Freedom*

Brittany K. Barnett

Brittany K. Barnett was a law student when she came across the case that would change her life forever—that of Sharanda Jones, single mother, business owner, and, like her, Black daughter of the rural South. A victim of America’s war on drugs, Sharanda had been separated from her young daughter and was serving a life sentence without parole for a first-time drug offense. As Barnett studied this case, a system came into focus with widespread racial injustice at the core of America’s addiction to incarceration. Moved, Barnett set to work to gain Sharanda’s freedom. The memoir is at once Barnett’s coming-of-age story and a powerful evocation of what it takes to bring hope and justice to a system built to resist them.

2023 \*\*\*Children

*Miosotis Flores Never Forgets – Novel*

Hilda Eunice Burgos

Miosotis Flores is excited about three things: fostering rescue dogs, goofy horror movies, and her sister Amarilis’ upcoming wedding. But her papi wants her to care about school most, so they strike a deal—if Miosotis improves her grades in two classes, she can adopt a dog this summer. But when she notices her sister behaving strangely and discovers her secret, she faces some difficult choices. What do you do if someone is in danger, but doesn’t want your help? What ultimately matters most—what Miosotis wants, or what’s right for the ones she loves?

2023 \*\*\*Youth

*On the Come Up – Novel*

Angie Thomas

In this follow-up to *The Hate U Give*, Angie Thomas dives into the story of 16-year-old Bri, who wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time—or at least win her first battle. As the daughter of an underground hip-hop legend who died right before he hit big, Bri’s got massive shoes to fill. But it’s hard to get your come up when you’re labeled a hoodlum and your fridge is empty after your mom loses her job. Bri pours her anger and frustration into her first song, which goes viral for all the wrong reasons, and soon finds herself at the center of a controversy. But with an eviction notice looming, Bri doesn’t just want to make it—she has to.

2023

*Pioneer Black Clergywomen: Stories of Black Clergywomen of the United Methodist Church 1974-2016*

Rev. Dr. Josephine Whitely-Fields

Authored by Dr. Josephine Whitely-Fields, who retired after 40 years of ministry and nonprofit leadership, this book features stories about Black clergywomen as pioneers of The United Methodist Church who overcame challenges and injustices in a predominately White male vocation to fulfill God’s work in the world today. The book delves into the individual,

institutional, and systemic acts of racism, sexism, and ageism they have endured while being subjected to economic discrimination. Among the many featured Black clergywomen are bishops Linda Lee, Tracy Malone, Sharma Lewis, and Cynthia Moore-Koikoi.

2023

*Spiritual Leadership*

J. Oswald Sanders

In this long-standing faith-based classic, J. Oswald Sanders, a Christian leader for nearly 70 years and author of more than 40 books, presents the key principles of leadership in both the temporal and spiritual realms. He illustrates his points with examples from Scripture and biographies of eminent men of God, such as Moses, Nehemiah, the apostle Paul, David Livingstone, Charles Spurgeon, and others. Featured topics include the costs, responsibility, tests, qualities, and requirements of leadership, as well as the art of developing effective leaders today. Sanders holds that even natural leadership qualities are God-given, and their true effectiveness can only be reached when they are employed in the glory of God.

2024

*Beautiful Country: A Memoir*

Qian Julie Wang

Seven-year-old Qian arrives in New York full of curiosity—and overwhelmed by fear and scarcity. While in Chinese, the word for America translates to “beautiful country,” her new life is anything but beautiful. Formerly professors, now Qian’s parents labor in sweatshops and fight constantly, desperate to survive in poverty in the richest country in the world. Shunned by her classmates for her limited English, Qian turns to books—and small joys that keep her going. This New York Times bestseller reveals a family fracturing under the weight of invisibility, and a girl coming of age in the shadows, who never stops seeking the light.

2024

*Becoming Brave: Finding Courage to Pursue Racial Justice Now*

Brenda Salter McNeil

Are you brave enough to break the silence and work with others to dismantle systems of injustice and inequality? Speaker, author, professor, and thought leader Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil offers a distinctly Christian framework for addressing systemic injustice, challenging Christians to be everyday activists. Through the lens of the biblical narrative of Esther, McNeil challenges Christian reconcilers to recognize the particular pain in our world and work together to repair what is broken while maintaining a deep hope in God’s ongoing work for justice. This book provides education and prophetic inspiration for every person who wants to take reconciliation seriously.

2024 \*\*\* Youth

*Carved in Ebony*

Jasmine L. Holmes

In this companion book aimed toward young readers, Holmes shares 10 short biographies of Black Christian women who were instrumental in American history between the 18th and 20th centuries. While these names may not be familiar, these women lived faithful and influential lives in a world filled with injustice. They worked to change laws, built schools, spoke to thousands, and shared the gospel all around the world. And while history books may have forgotten them, their stories can teach so much about how we can live today.

2024

*Carved in Ebony: Lessons from the Black Women Who Shape Us*

Jasmine Holmes

These names may not be familiar, but they worked to change laws, built schools, spoke to thousands, shared the gospel, and modeled much about what it means to be modern women of faith. *Carved in Ebony* takes a look at the lives and impact of Elizabeth Freeman, Nannie Helen Burroughs, Maria Fearing, Charlotte Forten Grimké, Sarah Mapps Douglass, Sara Griffith Stanley, Amanda Berry Smith, Lucy Craft Laney, Maria Stewart, and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, discovering how Black women have helped define the landscape of American history and faith.

2024

*Fierce Love: A Bold Path to Ferocious Courage and Rule-Breaking Kindness that Can Heal the World*

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

In this book, Lewis addresses how embracing the tenets of ubuntu can help bring about the change we seek in a world divided. Race and ethnicity, caste and color, gender and sexuality, class and education, and religion and political party have become demographic labels that reduce differences to simplistic categories in which “we” are vehemently against “them.” But Lewis’s own experience—of being the first female and first Black minister in her church’s history, of being in an interracial marriage, and of making peace with childhood abuse—illustrates how empathy and forgiveness are the key to reversing these ugly trends.

2024

*For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts: A Love Letter to Women of Color*

Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodriguez

In what she calls a “love letter to women of color,” author Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodríguez—the founder of Latina Rebels—shares the challenges Brown girls face, from imposter syndrome to colorism. In this book, she empowers women to decolonize their worldview and defy “universal” White narratives by telling their own stories. She guides women of color toward a sense of pride and sisterhood and offers essential tools to energize a movement with the knowledge they need to find success on their own terms. The result is a liberating path forward for all women of color.

2024

*High Conflict: Why We Get Trapped and How We Get Out*

Amanda Ripley

Bestselling author and award-winning journalist Amanda Ripley investigates how good people get captured by emotionally unhealthy, over-the-top conflict—and how they break free. Ripley begins by exploring real-world examples of such conflict, from political feuds to gang warfare and personal vendettas, then dissects how those involved dismantled the stakes and transformed high conflict into something good. As the book asserts, people can and do escape high conflict. Individuals, and entire communities, can short-circuit the feedback loops of outrage and blame—if they want to.

2024

*How Women Transform Preaching*

Leonora Tubbs Tisdale

Leonora Tubbs Tisdale, Clement-Muehl Professor Emerita of Divinity at Yale Divinity School, explores how the presence of women preachers and scholars has transformed the practice of homiletics in this country—from the reclamation of women’s “herstory” in preaching, to the topics addressed to the way in which hermeneutics and theologizing are undertaken, to the imagery and embodiment of the sermons themselves. Tisdale shares untold stories of women preachers throughout history who are largely unknown but who serve as examples of both the struggle and power of women’s preaching. She also tells the stories of contemporary women preachers.

2024

*I Am a Girl from Africa: A Memoir of Power, Community and Hope*

Aelizabeth Nyamayaro

When she was eight years old, a severe drought hit Nyamayaro’s village in Zimbabwe. Unable to move from hunger and malnourishment, she encountered a United Nations aid worker who gave her a bowl of warm porridge and saved her life—a transformative moment that inspired her to dedicate herself to giving back to her community, continent, and world. Nyamayaro’s



incredible memoir takes readers from the near-death experience of an African girl to a lifelong dedication to real change. It is a story of persevering through great odds and finding one's true calling while delivering an important message of hope, empowerment, and interdependence.

2024 \*\*\* Children

*I Am Golden*

Eva Chen

Described as both joyful and lyrical, this children's picture book by Eva Chen, illustrated by Sophie Diao, was an instant New York Times bestseller. *I Am Golden* tells the story of Mei, the daughter of Chinese immigrants to New York, who is shown to be a bridge connecting her parents to their new home. Not only is it a moving ode to the immigrant experience, but it is also a manifesto of self-love for Chinese American children.

2024

*Invisible: Theology and the Experience of Asian American Women*

Grace Ji-Sun Kim

In *Invisible*, Grace Ji-Sun Kim examines encounters with racism, sexism, and xenophobia as she works toward ending Asian American women's invisibility. Kim explores how invisibility is not only a racial and cultural issue, but also a profound spiritual issue. The Western church—and its theology—has historically obscured the concerns of Asian Americans. The Asian American church relegates women to domestic, supportive roles meant to uplift male leaders. Kim deploys biblical, sociological, and theological narratives to empower the voices of Asian American women.

2024

*Lead from the Outside: How to Build Your Future and Make Real Change*

Stacey Abrams

Stacey Abrams, one of the most prominent Black female politicians in the U.S., offers this necessary handbook for harnessing the strengths of being an outsider when it comes to leadership. Abrams argues that knowing your own passion is the key to success, and she draws from her experience and hard-won insights to break down how ambition, fear, money, and failure function in leadership, while offering personal stories that illuminate practical strategies. Differences in race, gender, and class are surmountable, she asserts. The trick is to proactively use this "otherness" while recognizing internal fears.

2024 \*\*\* Youth

*Notable Native People: 50 Indigenous Leaders, Dreamers, and Changemakers from Past and Present*

Adrienne Keene

An American Indian Library Association Youth Literature Award Young Adult Honor Book, *Notable Native People* celebrates the lives, stories, and contributions of Indigenous artists, activists, scientists, athletes, and other changemakers. Keene, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and assistant professor of American studies and ethnic studies at Brown University, highlights the vital impact Indigenous dreamers and leaders have made on the world. Featured are 50 notable American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian people, from NBA star Kyrie Irving to 19th-century sculptor Edmonia Lewis to linguist Jessie Little Doe Baird, who revived the Wampanoag language.

2024

*Our Strangely Warmed Hearts: Coming Out into God's Call*

Karen Oliveto

Karen Oliveto is bishop of the Mountain Sky Episcopal Area for The United Methodist Church and the first openly lesbian bishop in the denomination. Here, Oliveto discloses how, just like Methodism founder John Wesley experienced a strangely warmed heart when he discovered his true spiritual identity, so too do spiritual renewal and a personal call to ministry emerge in the strangely warmed hearts of lesbian and gay Christians. The book includes first-person narratives of LGBTQ persons faithfully serving in the UMC, as well as how the coming-out process is deeply spiritual as one grows into an authentic, God-created and graced self.

2024 \*\*\*Children

*The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family*

Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali Little

Written by Olympic medalist and social justice activist Ibtihaj Muhammad and Morris Award finalist S.K. Ali, *The Proudest Blue* is a powerful, vibrantly illustrated story about the first day of school—and two sisters on one's first day of hijab. For while many see hijab as beautiful, others do not. Uplifting and universal, the story lifts up the importance of new experiences, the unbreakable bond between siblings, and why being proud of who you are matters so much.

2024

*The Purpose of Power: How We Come Together When We Fall Apart*

Alicia Garza

The *Purpose of Power* is a call to action and an essential guide to building transformative movements to address the challenges of our time. Authored by Alicia Garza, the co-creator of #BlackLivesMatter and the Black Lives Matter Global Network, the book offers new lessons for today's generation of activists—including how making room amongst the woke for those who are still awakening can inspire and activate more people to fight for the world we all deserve. This is the story of one woman's lessons through years of bringing people together to create change.

2024

*Too Soon Old, Too Late Smart*

Gordon Livingston Da Capo

This bestselling collection of common-sense wisdom from celebrated psychologist and veteran Gordon Livingston proves it's never too late to move beyond the deepest of losses. Out of a lifetime of experience, Livingston has extracted 30 bedrock truths, including that we are what we do; any relationship is under the control of the person who cares the least; the perfect is the enemy of the good; and only bad things happen quickly. Livingston illuminates these in a series of essays, many of which focus on our closest relationships and the things that we do to impede or, less frequently, enhance them.

2024 \*\*\*Children

*Who is Florence?*

Students of the Special Music School, Kaufman Music Center

A group of New York City middle school students at Special Music School, Kaufman Music Center, had the opportunity to write this history of composer Florence Price, the first Black woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer and be performed by a major American orchestra in 1933. When Price was just four years old, she played her first piano concert. As she grew up, she studied and wrote music, hoping one day to hear her music performed by an orchestra. This is the story of a brilliant musician who prevailed against race and gender prejudices to achieve significant acclaim.

2024

*You've Been Chosen: Thriving Through the Unexpected*

Cynt Marshall

This relentlessly optimistic memoir by one of the most influential Black business leaders in America offers hope and guidance for navigating life's most difficult challenges. Marshall has spent her life beating personal and professional odds while helping everyone she meets see how they are uniquely equipped to thrive. She grew up in a housing project with a violent father, but also a strong, devoted mother. She excelled at school and her professional life,

overcoming overt and subtle racism to become, at 40, one of the first Black woman officers at AT&T. At 51, she was diagnosed with stage 3 colon cancer. Overnight, her life changed, but her commitment to serve others did not.