



Holy Spirit Lutheran

Mission:
To expand the intersection of intellect and spirituality while holding physical space in our busy world for prayer, introspection and study.

Wrestling with the Mystery

Advent is the season of awe and wonder. And mystery. The mystery of Christ's birth. This month, Pastor Katy offers her review of Rachel Held Evans' new book exploring mysteries of the bible.

Visit the Library downstairs to find this and other inspiring advent books for all ages. An online library catalog is available on the church website, www.hslckirkland.org (under "Programs" select "Library at HSLC").

"Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again" by Rachel Held Evans

Review by Pastor Katy McCallum Sachse

What happens when your childhood knowledge and understanding of the bible doesn't fit your experiences of the world as an adult? What happens when you develop questions you can't answer anymore? What does it mean to believe, as an adult in 2018, that the bible is true? These are the questions Rachel Held Evans asks in *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*. Evans retells well-loved bible stories as she weaves in her own story of wrestling with the relevance, beauty, and challenge of scripture. Along the way, she gives us a wonderful vision of the bible not as a book, but a living story – a story we are still part of, even now. This is the best book I've read on the bible in quite awhile; it's accessible, beautifully written, and deeply personal. Evans asks important questions and refuses to settle for easy answers. She also refuses to let scripture be anything less than radically transformative. "God is still breathing," she writes. "The Bible is both inspired and inspiring. Our job is to ready the sails and gather the embers, to discuss and debate and, like...Jacob, to wrestle with the mystery until God gives us a blessing."

Pastor Katy is also reading

"Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover

An unforgettable memoir about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University.

"Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America" by Jennifer Harvey

For families, churches, educators, and communities who want to equip their children to be active and able participants in a society that is becoming one of the most racially diverse in the world while remaining full of racial tensions. For white people who are committed to equity and justice, living in a nation that remains racially unjust and deeply segregated creates unique conundrums.

"Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" (which she and her daughter are reading together) by J.K. Rowling

Back at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry for his second year, Harry hears strange whispers echo through empty corridors - and then the attacks start. Students are found as though turned to stone... Dobby's sinister predictions seem to be coming true.

Note: This is our fourth in a yearlong series of book reviews by Holy Spirit pastors and staff. All books are available in your church library. Book descriptions are from Amazon.com.