

Summer Reading Journey

Staying connected to God in the summer can be easy! The season of warmth, time away with family and friends, and the beauty of God's creation can inspire us to remember our relationship with God. But it can also be distracting and suddenly the whole summer is gone and we've stepped away and have to work our way back to noticing where God is.

The Summer Reading Program at PUMC is intended to remind us that God is always with us. Whether we are reading scripture, a novel or a book on theology... God is right there with us. Our Summer Reading Program fills the summer from June to Labor Day. We hope you will join us in reading things that are inspiring to you.

To that end, this summer our theme is "Living Water". Water is an integral part of our Christian faith. The waters of baptism mark us as God's own. Living water reminds us that our faith is not stagnant but that it is living and active and part of our daily lives.

There are two tracks for reading and a bonus for reading both. There are always prizes! That's the fun of it! The **first track** is reading scripture. Read the **book of Jonah in the Old Testament and the Gospel of John in the New Testament** for a prize. Both of these readings will connect you with the Vacation Bible Study theme this year and the sermon series this summer. And both have many images of water throughout. Look for the questions in your Summer Reading flyer to help you focus as you read.

The **second track** encourages you to **read four books of your choice** and look for evidence of God's presence or God's influence on the characters. If you don't know what to read this summer, the staff picks are also in the Summer Reading flyer as suggestions. Another addition this year is the listing of books by our congregation members that you might be interested in. They are listed on the bottom of the last page.

Summer Reading is a tradition in many families. Join us to read inspiring things this summer. It will quench your thirst!

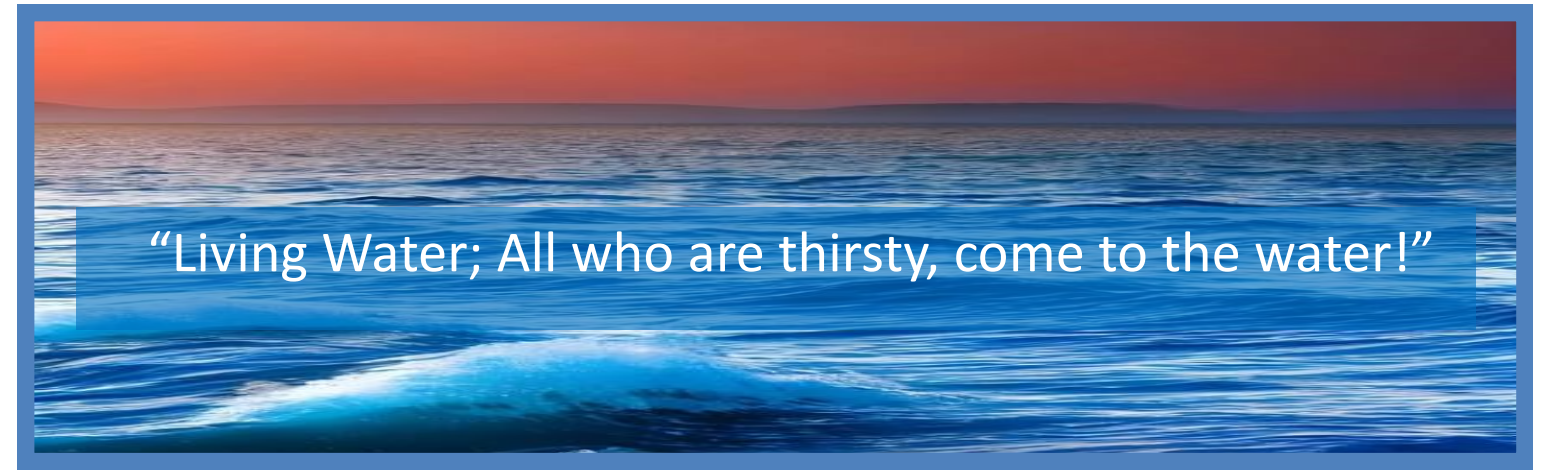
Register your participation on the website, www.powellumc.org

Scripture Track

Read the Gospel of John and the book of Jonah for a prize.

What appeals to me about this Book of the Bible?
What does the book tell me about God?
What does the book tell me about my relationship with God?

"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink." John 7:37-38



Rewards for reading:

There are three ways to win prizes.

One: Read 4 books of your choice that will meet you where you are this summer, books that lift you up and notice the attributes of God.

Two: Read the Gospel of John and the book of Jonah. We will see God there very literally!

Three: Finish the scriptures *and* the four (4) books for a grand prize.

Send an email to pattymoore@powellumc.org with your completed list and date of completion.



For more information about book selections or the program, contact kimlarue@powellumc.org or 614-847-3703.

Staff Picks & Congregation Authors

Don't know where to start? Check out these staff picks of books!

[Pastor Justin Williams](#)

Outlive by Peter Attia

The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom

Win The Day by Mark Batterson

Traveling Light by Max Lucado

[Pastor Carrie Schwab](#)

The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder by David Grann

The Women by Kristin Hannah

[Kim La Rue](#)

Sabbath by Wayne Muller

On that Night by Elizabeth Yates (Kim has a copy to lend)

The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen

[Sandy Huber](#)

The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese

When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi

Master Slave Husband and Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom by Illyon Woo

[Debbie Wenner](#)

In The Unlikely Event by Judy Blume

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

The Time Keeper by Mitch Albom

Mostly What God Does by Savannah Guthrie

[Don Moore](#)

Double Indemnity by Robert Whitlow

The Libyan Diversion by Joel C. Rosenberg

Rescue Story by Zach Williams

[Hannah VanMeter](#)

Unrelenting Grace: A United Methodist Way of Life by Kenneth Carter

Accidental Saints by Nadia Bolz-Weber

[Dave Woodyard](#)

Context: Putting Scripture in its Place by Josh Scott

Godrick by Frederick Buechner

The False White Gospel, Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming The Faith, and Refounding

Democracy by Jim Wallis

[Rebecca Brownlee](#)

Blessed Are The Misfits by Brant Hansen

Not a Fan, Becoming a Completely Committed Follower of Jesus. by Kyle Idleman

My Jesus From Heartache to Hope by Anne Wilson



[Books By Congregation Authors](#)

Bev Avers: (Kim has these to lend)

Intertwined; Beverly and Barbara in the womb

Intertwined with Jesus

I'm Up

Kelly Swemba (A Children's book)

Missing Violet

Kate David: (Children's books)

Maddox and the Magic Hat

McKay and the Magic Hat

Murphy and the Magic Hat

Dana Ullom-Vucelich (A Children's book)

I'll Never Forget

If you are an author and would like to be highlighted in next year's summer reading, just let us know!

2024 Summer Reading

Living Water

“Come all you who are thirsty, come
to the waters” - Isaiah 55:1

Register on our website at Powellumc.org

