The UMRA Book Club was established in March 2011. It meets on the 3rd Friday of every month except December. Our meeting place is the library of the 1666 Coffman Building, which is near the St. Paul Campus. Two of our members, Herb Scherer and Linda Lindeke, are residents there.

We read both fiction and nonfiction books from many different genres. Our yearly book scheduling takes place in November. Each member tells about the book they’ve selected, sometimes suggesting more than one. Then we sign up for the month we want for reading the book we’ve decided on and also to be the discussion leader.

Books read in 2019:

- The Care and Management of Lies
- Radium Girls
- Educated: A Memoir
- The Shoemaker’s Wife
- The Great Gatsby
- Diary of a Bookseller
- A Tree Grows in Brooklyn
- Still Foolin “Em
- Becoming
- The All-Girl Filling Station’s Last Reunion
- Main Street

Books Read in 2020 are:

- Leadership in Turbulent Times
- Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love
- Where the Crawdads Sing
- Year of Yes
- Italian Shoes
- The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector’s Story
- The Art of Racing in the Rain
- The Story of Arthur Trulove
- The Beekeeper of Aleppo

The January book was moved to February because the meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. Also no book for March because the meeting place was unavailable during corona virus crisis.

April, May, June, and July meetings were Zoom meetings.

Currently, we have 16 members who are:

Becky Anderson
A new column was started in 2017 on the UMRA web site called Book Notes. Each month the book Club discussion leader for the month writes a summary of our book discussion for this column, which is also sometimes included in the UMRA Newsletter.