The UMRA Book Club was established in March 2011. It meets on the 3rd Friday of every month except December. When meeting in person, our meeting place is the library of the 1666 Coffman Building, which is near the St. Paul Campus. Two of our members, Linda Lindeke and Judy Helgen are residents there. At present we meet through Zoom, and our Zoom hostess is Judy Helgen.

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 each sign up for the month we want for reading the book we decided on, and also to be that month's discussion leader.

Books read in 2021:

One Hundred Years of Solitude
The Night Watchman
The Year of Magical Thinking
The Color of Water
Caste
The Big Burn
Just Mercy

House on Endless Waters

Marcel's Letters

Braiding Sweetgrass

Have you Seen Luis Velez?

Currently, we have 14 members who are:

Becky Anderson

Beth Bedell

Kathleen Cramer

Stephanie Daily

Laura Ericksen

Judy Helgen

Paula Knutzen

Linda Lindeke

Diane Madlon-Kay

Joni Mitchell

Kathryn Sedo

Mariah Snyder

Pat Tollefson

Mary Jane Towle

Each month our book Club discussion leader for the month writes a summary of our book discussion for the Book Notes column on the UMRA website. Kathleen Cramer takes care of getting the book summaries and forwarding them to the UMRA newsletter editor and the UMRA website coordinator. She also keeps them informed as to our upcoming books.