

July 10, 2023

2021 UMRA Book Club Report

The UMRA Book Club was established in March 2011. It meets on the 3rd Friday of every month. 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 December. 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 from July 2022 through June 2023:

Circling the Sun
Hamnet
The Personal Librarian
This Tender Land
West with Giraffes
The Book of Lost Names
Nomadland
A House Among the Trees
Elephant Company
Miss Benson's Beetle
Flight Behavior

Currently, we have 14 members who are:

Becky Anderson
*John Bantle
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

**John Bantle is a new member starting in July, 2023. Paula Knutzen left the club in February, 2023.*

Each month the book Club discussion leader writes a book summary including a summary of our discussion. This is 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.

