

August, 2024

## 2023-2024 UMRA Book Club I Report

The UMRA Book Club was established in March 2011. It meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2023 through June 2024:

*The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*

*The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*

*Lessons in Chemistry*

*The Dictionary of Lost Words*

*Strongmen: Mussolini to the Present*

*Fox Creek*

*Howard's End*

*The Other Einstein*

*The Scarlet Letter*

*Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law*

*Scoop*

Currently, we have 14 members who are:

Becky Anderson

John Bantle

Beth Bedell

Kathleen Cramer

Stephanie Daily

Laura Ericksen

Judy Helgen

Linda Lindeke

Diane Madlon-Kay

Joni Mitchell

Kathryn Sedo

Mariah Snyder

Pat Tollefson

Mary Jane Towle

Each month the Book Club discussion leader writes a book summary including a brief summary of our discussion. This is for the Book Notes column on the UMRA website. Kathleen Cramer has been taking care of forwarding the monthly summaries to the UMRA newsletter editor. She has also been keeping them informed as to our upcoming books. Kathleen has asked to be relieved of these duties as of December 2023. Pat Tollefson will remind members to write their summary and forward it to the newsletter editor. Pat and Kathryn Sedo will inform the newsletter editor of upcoming books.

Pat Tollefson, Co-Chair