

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 2024 through June 2025:

*How Stella Learns to Talk*

*The Bookbinder*

*Half Life of a Secret*

*Should We Stay or Should We Go*

*A Fever in the Heartland: The Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take Over America, and the Woman Who Stopped Them*

*Tom Lake*

*A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail*

*Good Night, Irene*

*Random Family*

*The Frozen River*

*The Great River*

Currently, we have 14 members who are:

Becky Anderson

John Bantle

Beth Bedell

Kathleen Cramer

Stephanie Daily

Laura Ericksen

Judy Helgen

\*James Lewis

Linda Lindeke

Diane Madlon-Kay

Joni Mitchell

Kathryn Sedo

Pat Tollefson

Mary Jane Towle

\*Mariah Snyder passed away and was replaced by James Lewis.

Each month the Book Club discussion leader writes a book review including a brief summary of our discussion. This is for the Book Notes column on the UMRA website. Pat Tollefson reminds members to do the review and has them send it to the newsletter editor. Pat and Kathryn Sedo write and send announcements of upcoming books through the portal to the website.

