2017-2012 Leadership Development

Selections can be from the 2012-2017 reading lists if not included in previous reports, children and youth titles can be read for credit in all plans of the Reading Program. Brenda Thompson Reading Program Specialist UMW Communications.

2017 Leadership Development

Called to the Fire A Witness for God in Mississippi: The Story of Dr. Charles Johnson.

Chet Bush. Abingdon Press (2013) 203 pages

As the key witness to take the stand in the trial famously dubbed the "Mississippi Burning" case, Dr. Johnson, a young preacher fresh out of Bible college, became a voice for justice and equality in the segregated South. Overcoming fear and adversity and off erring clarity to the event that led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Johnson's story of love, conviction, adversity and redemption is a riveting account of a life pursuing the call of God and the fight for justice and equality.

2017 Leadership Development

Falling Into Place A Memoir of Overcoming. Hattie Kauffman

Baker Books (2014) 236 pages

Covering wildfires and murder trials and interviewing presidents, astronauts and Olympians, Hattie Kauffman made history as the first Native American journalist ever to file a report on a national network evening news broadcast. But as she uncovered the stories behind big personalities and events, her own story remained untold. This is an inside look at the events that shaped a remarkable woman's life and of her surprise at what she learned about herself.

2017 Leadership Development

High Yield Seven Disciplines of the Fruitful Leader. Lovett H. Weems Jr. and Tom Berlin Abingdon Press (2014) 116 pages

In High Yield, the authors describe seven disciplines that effective church leaders must practice. These include behaviors such as building trust, setting standards and redeeming conflict. The authors dissect each discipline, offering practical ways for leaders to learn and embody them.

2017 Leadership Development

Not Safe for Church Ten Commandments for Reaching New Christians. F. Douglas Powe Jr. and Jasmine Rose Smothers. Abingdon Press (2015) 142 pages

Congregations say they want to reach new and younger people, many of whom are simply turned off by church. To really connect, congregations have to start doing new things that are out of their comfort zones. F. Douglas Powe Jr. and Jasmine Rose Smothers give ten ways to help, providing tools to reframe the good news in non-traditional ways and move from merely stating your intentions to taking action. This book includes study questions for leadership teams.

2017 Leadership Development - Large Print

Sally Ride America's First Woman In Space. Lynn Sherr

Gale/Cengage Learning (2014) 623 pages

Sally Ride made history as the first American woman in space. After leaving NASA, she co-founded a successful company promoting science literacy and education for children, especially girls. This is a rich biography of a woman whose life intersected with revolutionary social and scientific changes in America.

2017 Leadership Development - Recommended Reading

Global Girlfriends How One Mom Made It Her Business to Help Women in Poverty Worldwide Stacey Edgar. St. Martin's Press (2012)

Seven years ago, Stacey Edgar had a \$2,000 tax return and a deep desire to help provide economic security for women in need. She knew that of the 1.3 billion people living on less than \$1 per day, seventy percent are women. What she didn't have was a business plan. Or a passport. But that didn't stop her from creating a socially conscious business that has helped poor women in five continents feed their families and send their children to school. Global Girlfriend has since grown into a multimillion dollar enterprise that specializes in handmade, fairly traded, ecoconscious apparel, accessories, and items made by women all over the world

2017 Leadership Development – Youth – counts for all Reading Plans

Pig Park. Claudia Guadalupe Martinez

Cinco Puntos Press (2014) 253 pages

It's crazy! Fifteen-year-old Masi Burciaga's neighborhood is becoming more and more of a ghost town since the lard company moved away. Her school closed down. Her family's bakery and the other surviving businesses may soon follow. As a last resort, the neighborhood adults enlist all the remaining able-bodied boys and girls to haul bricks and help build a giant pyramid in the park, hoping to lure visitors. Maybe their neighbors will come back too. But something's not right about the entrepreneur behind it all. Then, there's the new boy who came to help, the one with the softest lips...

2017 Leadership Development – Children – counts for all Reading Plans

The Courage to be Yourself True Stories by Teens About Cliques, Conflicts, and Overcoming Peer Pressure. Al Desetta (editor)

Free Spirit Publishing (2006) 145 pages

The Courage to Be Yourself introduces us to 26 real teens as they write about their lives and how hard it is to be themselves, especially when they're bullied, picked on, pressured, excluded and disrespected. The stories don't have easy answers and they don't all have happy endings. There are no magic solutions to the problems these teens face, but the message is clear—although they can't control how others see them, they can control how they see themselves.

2017 Leadership Development – Children – counts for all Reading Plans

Just Like I Wanted. Elinoar Keller, Naama Peleg Segal

Eerdmans Books for Young Readers (2015) 32 pages

As she tries to create a perfect picture, a girl keeps drawing outside the lines. Instead of giving up, she simply transforms the mistake into something new. She learns that no matter how determined you are to draw the perfect picture, it's not always easy to stay inside the lines. Sometimes, mistakes can make a perfect picture even better.

2017 Leadership Development - Children - counts for all Reading Plans

RAD American Women A-Z Rebels, Trailblazers, and Visionaries Who Shaped Our History... and Our Future! Kate Schatz

City Lights Publishers (2015) 62 pages

If you could have any of your heroines at a party, who would you invite? In Rad, we meet 26 diverse women A–Z who shaped America's history. These artists, abolitionists, scientists, sports heroes, rock stars, rabble-rousers, and agents of change of all kinds span several centuries and multiple professions as the book documents America's famous and unsung heroines.

The Andrew Paradigm: How to Be a Lead Follower of Jesus. Michael J. Coyner

Abingdon Press (2012). 112 pages. E-book available

Like Jesus' disciple Andrew, excellent Christian leadership is more about following Jesus than it is about learning the latest fads from business or seminary. Leadership must be granted, earned and supported by those who are willing to follow. This book takes a fresh look at some of the hard sayings of Jesus and introduces us to ordinary Christ followers who exemplify obedience and live as devoted disciples of Jesus.

2016 Leadership Development

Girls With Swords: How to Carry Your Cross Like a Hero. Lisa Bevere

Gale Cengage Learning (2014). 332 pages. E-book available

What if you discovered you have been entrusted with an invisible, invincible and incorruptible weapon? Would you use it? Move beyond only study and begin to wield the Word of God. World-wide women are the targets of prejudice, human trafficking, abuse and gendercide. It's time women become the heroes God created them to be and stand — courageous, discerning, forgiving and wise.

2016 Leadership Development

I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban

Malala Yousafzai

Back Bay Books (2015). 368 pages. E-book available

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education, almost paying the ultimate price. Instead, the sixteen-year-old's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York.

2016 Leadership Development - Recommended

Lean In – Women, Work, and the Will to Lead. Sheryl Sandberg & Nell Scovell.

Knopf, (2013). 240 pages.

Sandberg forces each one of us—woman and man—to reexamine ourselves at work and in life, using a unique filter. Are we more concerned about being liked than succeeding? Do we think of our career as a series of upward ladders rather than a jungle gym? Do our authentic selves—and honesty—show up in business? In short, every single "undoing" of a woman's career is examined thoughtfully and with twenty-first-century gentleness and exposed with recommended remedies.

2016 Leadership Development – Youth – all plans

Nature Girl: A Guide to Caring for God's Creation. Karen Whiting and Rebecca White Zonderkidz (2014). 176 pages. E-book available

Nature Girl offers fun ways to care for God's creations while becoming an expert in all things green. With activities, recipes, science experiments and much more, you will learn to create recycled jewelry, plan a spa day with friends, and green care for animals. From the flowers at your feet to the air you breathe, discover how you can make a difference for our planet.

The Weight of Mercy: A Novice Pastor on the City Streets. Deb Richardson-Moore

Monarch Books (2012). 288 pages. E-book available

Deb Richardson-Moore spent 27 years as a journalist in the Deep South. She then retrained as a Baptist pastor and accepted a post at a run-down, inner-city church where the homeless gathered. Initially shocked, she gradually learned whom she could trust and whom she couldn't. She found that sometimes the best person to handle a situation was a drug addict, and that sometimes Jesus has the face of a prostitute. All were fiercely welcomed into this bewildering church family.

2016 Leadership Development - Children - counts for all Reading Plans

Because I am a Girl: I Can Change the World . Rosemary McCarney and Jen Albaugh

Second Story Press (2014). 72 pages

These amazing girls from all over the world tell stories of lives that are sometimes hard to imagine. In Because I Am a Girl, we hear of the barriers and dangers that they, and millions of girls like them, face every day. But despite their hardships, they have great hope for the future and are willing to do whatever they can to make their lives and those of their families and communities better.

- Wooster UMW Reading Circle read

2015 Leadership Development

Fulfilled: Living and Leading With Unusual Wisdom, Peace and Joy

Kirk Byron. Jones. Abingdon Press (2013). 176 pages

Leadership can be mentally, emotionally and spiritually exhausting. In Fulfilled, Kirk Byron Jones examines stillness, awareness and playfulness, three inner capabilities that every leader can access but most simply ignore or disregard. He shows you how to draw on each of them in daily life and how the fulfilled leader lives in wisdom, peace and joy, successful in all the most important ways.

2015 Leadership Development

The New Feminist Agenda: Defining the Next Revolution for Women, Work and Family

Madeleine M. Kunin.. Chelsea Green Publishing (2012). 304 pages

Feminists opened doors in the 1960s and 1970s. Women now make up nearly half of all medical and law students and have entered the workforce in record numbers. But are U.S. women where they thought they'd be? It's time, says former U.S. Ambassador and Governor Madeleine M. Kunin, to usher in a new social revolution — one that calls for the kind of policies than can improve women's lives and strengthen their families.

6 print copies public library

2015 Leadership Development

Sum It Up: 1,098 Victories, a Couple of Irrelevant Losses and a Life in Perspective

Pat Summitt. Random House (2014). 416 pages

Pat Summitt, a country girl from Henrietta, Tennessee, grew up driving fast and playing hard, learning basketball playing with a homemade backboard against three brothers. She went on to win an Olympic medal and at 22 became head coach of the University of Tennessee Lady Vols. Her autobiography tells the whole story, full of humanity, wit and fierceness, by a giant among coaches who has transcended American sports.

38 print copies; 8 Audiobook CD; 1 Downloadable Audiobook; 4 large print; public library

Tough Cookies: Leadership Lessons from 100 Years of the Girl Scouts

Kathy Cloninger. John Wiley (2011). 181 pages

Full of inspired wisdom, Tough Cookies describes Girl Scouts' transformative journey to become an integrated, unified movement for girls. It captures the essence of this iconic institution and the principles that have sustained its 100-year history of success. Millions of

American businesswomen, thought leaders and politicians received their first lessons in salesmanship, money management, marketing, teamwork and fulfillment from Girl Scouts — as will millions more to come.

4 print copies public library

2015 Leadership Development - Recommended Reading

Get off Your Donkey! Help Somebody and Help Yourself

Reggie McNeal. Baker Books (2013)

You've been sitting on your donkey long enough!

In one of his most famous parables, Jesus points us to a man who gets down off his donkey and helps someone in dire need. Now, with energy and enthusiasm, Reggie McNeal calls you to dismount, get messy, and live a life that makes a real difference. He reveals two mutually reinforcing truths: First, helping others is often the best path for our own personal development. And second, as you become more the person you were designed to be, you increase your capacity to serve others. It all starts with a decision to get off your donkey--today!

2 print copies public library

2015 Leadership Development - Recommended Reading

Vital Voices

Alyse Nelson. John Wiley (2012)

Vital Voices president and CEO Alyse Nelson makes us aware of a leadership challenge in her book: Vital Voices: The Power of Women Leading Change Around the World. It too has five elements: mission, community, connection, action and "paying it forward," – that is helping mentor and support the next generation.

Women's rights might be guaranteed through policy; they will be achieved through practice – as doers. The stories told in Vital Voices make it clear that this holds true for all doers – whether you are educated or not; rich or poor; urban or rural. It is a call to action for all, with the message that "leadership is not a destination one can aspire to reach only having achieved many other things; in fact, it is not a destination at all. It is a choice made anew each day, recognizing that the most important step in a leader's journey is always the one you are about to take."

9 print copies public library

2015 Leadership Development – Youth – counts for all Reading Plans

This Girl is Different: A Novel

J.J. Johnson. Peachtree Publishers (2011). 320 pages

Evie is different. Not just her upbringing — though that's certainly been unusual — but also her mindset. She's smart, independent, confident, opinionated and ready to take on a new challenge, the institution of school. It doesn't take this homeschooled kid long to discover that high school is a whole new world. It's also a social minefield, and Evie finds herself confronting new problems at every turn. May contain provocative language.

10 print copies public library

Back to Zero: The Search To Rediscover the Methodist Movement. Gil Rendle. 2012. 114p. Abingdon Press.

How can United Methodists join in common mission to change the world? What must we risk? How can we challenge current practices? One way of framing the issue is to distinguish between members and disciples, consumers waiting for the Church to care for their needs and citizens willing to commit to and be held accountable for the whole community.*

The good news for Rendle's readers is that they will be able to judge his arguments based on real-time results. Several annual conferences across the country are implementing much of what he advocates, and their progress will be relatively easy to track

The bad news is that, despite his expertise in leadership and organizational development—or perhaps because of it—Back to Zero will be of limited use to those not in positions of authority within the church. This wide section of pastors, lay leaders, and passionate citizens may find value in his premises, but will have to work out the practical implications on their own. – Ministry Matters review

2014 Leadership Development

Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond. Lilly Ledbetter and Lanier Scott Isom. 2012. 288p. Crown Archetype.

Ledbetter's amazing story takes us from a poor Alabama county to the U.S. Supreme Court, then on to Congress and the White House, where history was made on January 29, 2009, when the law named for her was signed, guaranteeing equal pay for equal work. After finishing high school and raising two children, the author entered the workforce at age 31 for a minimum wage, and 10 years later, she completed manager training at a local Goodyear plant. On the factory floor, she was warned "to choose my words and actions carefully . . . anything could be twisted . . . (beware ruffling feathers) . . . or I'd pass them on the way down." With remarkable bravery and determination, she endured years of harassment in various management posts until she learned that she was substantially underpaid. Hers is a thought-provoking profile in courage as she sought legal recourse, which led to the 2009 equalpay law. This is an important book for library patrons, as Ledbetter teaches valuable lessons in her excellent autobiography. A must-read. Booklist review

2014 Leadership Development

King Peggy: An American Secretary, Her Royal Destiny, and the Inspiring Story of How She Changed an African Village. Peggielene Bartels and Eleanor Herman. 2012. 352p. Doubleday. Bartels was a native of Ghana living in the U.S., working as secretary to the Ghanaian embassy, when a relative called to give her startling news. Following the death of her uncle, a village king, the council of elders had determined that she would be his successor. Bartels, who'd come to the U.S. to study and had become a U.S. citizen, hadn't been home since the death of her mother. But she accepted the daunting prospect with determination and brio. She would rule part-time, traveling between Washington, D.C., and Ghana. Bartels, along with coauthor Herman, chronicles her journey from secretary to king of the poor and isolated village of Otuam, 60 miles from the capital of Accra

Women, Spirituality and Transformative Leadership: Where Grace Meets Power. Kathie Schaaf, Kay Lindahl editors. 2011. 250p. SkyLight Paths

Blending the interdisciplinary approaches of a Buddhist nun, Certified Listening Professional, teaching fellow at Lutheran Theological Seminary, and cofounder of Gather the Women Global Matrix, the four editors have twined their wisdom with those of the outstanding contributors to this essay collection to create a "dynamic conversation" about women's spiritual leadership power. Reconnection with women's deepest spiritual roots and global reclamation of women's rightful place as spiritual leaders are two necessary steps examined in four "explorations" featuring writing from diverse individuals, including author Jean Bolen, a physician, and Benedictine nun Joan Chittester. Each exploration into empowerment, spirituality, diversity, women's collective impact, and the channeling of transformative powers ends with a focus on leadership, which includes specific questions, blessings, leadership tools, and a culminating "Digging Deeper."

2014 Leadership Development

Lord, I Love the Church and We Need Help. Virginia O. Bassford. 2012. 112p. Abingdon Press. Is hope lost in The United Methodist Church? Have we been consumed with ineffectiveness, mediocrity and burnout? Is there another way? Bassford believes there is a simple, straightforward yet challenging path and gives you the opportunity throughout this book to ponder questions from within yourself. You are encouraged to embrace the questions—not wrestle with the answers.* "This is one of the books recommended for Pre-General Conference Reading.

2014 Leadership Development

The Student Leadership Challenge: Five Practices for Exemplary Leaders. James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner. 2008. Josey-Bass

The Student Leadership Challenge is based on the findings outlined in Kouzes and Posner's classic work The Leadership Challenge. "The fundamental purpose of The Student Leadership Challenge is to assist students—whether in a formal or unofficial leadership position or not—in furthering their abilities to lead others to get extraordinary things done" (Kouzes & Posner, 2008b, p. 2). The book is written so that undergraduate student leaders may strengthen their leadership abilities and is intended to be practical and inspirational.

Intended as a textbook or guidebook for undergraduates who are developing their leadership potential, this work reads like a conversation between the authors and the college student leader.

2014 Leadership Development – Youth [include with all Reading Plans]

A Native American Thought of it: Amazing Inventions and Innovations. Rocky Landon and David MacDonald. 2008. 48p. Annick Press.

Discover more than 70 items and ideas that were crucial to native survival and celebrate the resourcefulness of North America's native inhabitants. This book explores how native people's creativity and ingenuity combined to make the most of woodlands, prairies, deserts and ocean coasts.*

2014 Leadership Development - Children - counts for all Reading Plans

Yours for Justice, Ida B. Wells: The Daring Life of a Crusading Journalist. Phillip Dray. 2008. 48p. Peachtree Publishers.

This book recounts the amazing story of Ida B. Wells, a former slave from Mississippi who became a crusader for justice, helping to bring an end to lynching in America and leaving a legacy of activism for freedom and equality that would find its full expression during the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.*

2014 Leadership Development - Children - counts for all Reading Plans

The Herd Boy. Niki Daly. 2012. 32p. Eerdmans. PreS-Grade1

"It's a big job for a small boy." Malusi cares for his grandfather's sheep and goats, and this title's dramatic, accessible images show him working barefoot in the South African veld as he shouts at the hungry baboon who hopes to grab a lamb ("Hamba! Go away!"), and he is careful to avoid the snake coiled up beneath the grass. His friend laughs when Malusi shares his dream of becoming president. But then one day, a big car, shiny and new, stops at the village, and the passenger (whom many will recognize as Nelson Mandela) tells the boys that, at their age, he also looked after sheep. Daly's beautiful watercolor artwork—rendered in thick black lines and lots of red and green accents—captures the daily struggle in the poor, rural village from the child's viewpoint as well as the beauty and the harshness of the landscape. The back matter includes a note confirming that Mandela was indeed a herd boy in his village, and a glossary that reflects the rich South African mix across cultures. Booklist review

2013 Leadership Development

Do It Anyway: The New Generation of Activists. Courtney E. Martin. Beacon Press. 2010. 199p 6 copies public library interlibrary loan

The profiles of eight young activists in *Do It Anyway* reveal people who are flawed, scared, human and who ask questions that really matter. This is a book for people of every generation who want to be fully alive in and to the world.

2013 Leadership Development

Her Place at the Table: A Woman's Guide to Negotiating Five Key Challenges to Leadership Success. Deborah M. Kolb, Ph.D., Judith Williams, Ph.D., Carol Frohlinger, J.D. Jossey-Bass. 2010. 250p 5 copies public library interlibrary loan

Her Place at the Table points out that the skills women have developed a the foot of the table – bringing people together, building bridges across differences and thinking outside the box – are in great demand, but women still face challenges and barriers to a seat at the table. This book will help women negotiate what they need to succeed as leaders.

2013 Leadership Development

Outcasts United: a Refugee Soccer Team, An American Town and One Women's quest to Make a Difference. Warren St. John. Random House, Inc. 2009. 320p

15 copies public library interlibrary loan

5 audiobook CD public library interlibrary loan

Clarkston, Georgia, was designated as a refugee settlement center in the 1990s and became the first American home for families in flight from the world's war zones. *Outcasts United* is the stunning real-life story of an inspiring group of refugees and a woman who, with tough love and fiery determination, changes an entire community for the better.

2013 Leadership Development 2013

This Will be Remembered of Her: Stories of Women Reshaping the World. Wm. Be. Eerdmans Publishing Co. 2010. 200p

1 copy public library/Wooster 3 copies public library interlibrary loan

In *This Will be Remembered of Her*, three strands – stories from Scripture, stories of select women from around the globe and stories from religious, folk and wisdom traditions worldwide – are woven into one strong braid showing how life can be made more compelling, communal and just for all people. In the end the book asks: How will you be remembered?

2013 Leadership Development - Youth - counts for all Reading Plans

Do hard Things: A teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations. Alex & Brett Harris. Multnomah. 2009. 240p

40 copies public library interlibrary loan

A growing movement of young people is rebelling against the low expectation of today's culture by choosing to "do Hard things" for the glory of God. *Do Hard Things* is the Harris twins' message giving readers a glimpse of what is possible for teens who actively resist cultural lies that limit their potential.

2013 Leadership Development – Children – counts for all Reading Plans *Agatha's Feather Bed.* Carmen Agra Deedy. Peachtree Publishers. 1994. 32p 4 copies public library interlibrary loan

Agatha, a weaver sells her woven wares and imparts knowledge to all, especially children. "Everything comes from something, nothing comes from nothing." But after she orders a new feather bed, six naked, shivering geese pay her a visit demanding their feathers back, but as it turns out, her goose isn't cooked.

2012 Leadership Development

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope. William Kamkwamba. HarperCollins Publishers. 2009. 306p. e-reader version available.

After reading about windmills, William Kamkwamba dreamed of building one that would bring to his small Malawian village a set of luxuries that only 2 percent in his country enjoys: electricity and running water. With a small pile of forgotten science textbooks, scrap metal, tractor parts and bicycle halves he embarked on a daring plan to build an unlikely contraption and small miracle that would change the lives around him.

2012 Leadership Development

Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus. Mike Slaughter. Abingdon Press. 2010. 158p. e-reader version available.

Despite the church's place of prominence in American culture and the ever-resent church in every American town, misconceptions about the faith of Jesus Christ run rampant. Christians are known more for exclusivity than for love, more for potlucks than for solving world hunger

2012 Leadership Development

More Bad Girls of the Bible. Barbara J. Essex. The Pilgrim Press. 2009. 128p.

This Bible study consists of 12 units and is designed for individual or group study. Each Study unit begins with a focus text and review of the stories of selected biblical women and ends with a reflection questions to help start a discussion about what we can learn form these characters and their stories. The book is designed to help us examine our own motives, assumptions and identity as we explore the stories of our faith.

2012 Leadership Development

Old Testament Prophets for Today. Carolyn J. Sharp. Westminster John Knox Press. 2009. 112p. ereader version available.

Prophets can be mediators who connect us to the holiness of God. They can be idealists whose desires for humanity call us to new heights of God's desire, and they can be companions for us in the confusing journey through our complicated world. In this book the author offers a lay-friendly introduction to some of the Old Testament's most interesting-and often-overlooked-prophets.

Women Lead the Way: Your Guide to Stepping Up to Leadership and Changing the World. Linda Tarr-Whelan. Berrett-Koehler Publishers. 2009. 213p. e-reader version available.

Despite enormous gains in the past decades, women continue to be woefully underrepresented in positions of power. This is a loss for everyone. Women's priorities are overlooked, and society misses out on the new perspectives and fresh insights that women can offer. *Women Lead the Way* offers practical guidance for bringing your passion, brains and background to the tables where critical issues get decided.

2012 Leadership Development

Why Women Should Rule the World. Dee Dee Meyers. HerperCollins. 2009. 364p. Large print, audio and e-reader versions available.

In this blend of memoir, social history and call to action, *Why Women Should Rule the World* challenges us to imagine a not-too-distant future in which increasing numbers of women reach the top ranks of politics, business, science an academia. Reflecting on her own tenure in the Clinton administration, the author assesses the crucial but long ignore strengths that female leaders bring to the table.