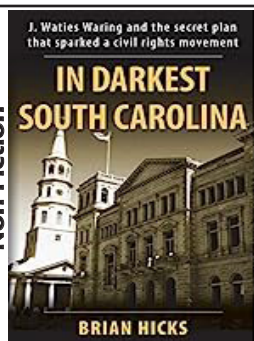


2023-2024 Book Selections



Non-Fiction

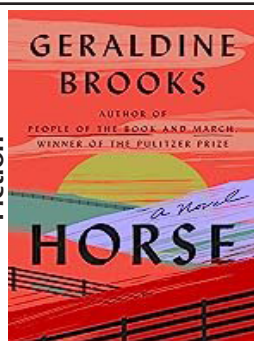


In Darkest South Carolina, by Brian Hicks

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Four years before the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision *Brown v. Board of Education*, a courageous federal judge in Charleston hatched his secret plan to end segregation in America. Julius Waties Waring, son of a confederate soldier, was perhaps the most unlikely civil rights hero in history. Waring did what he thought was right: He followed the law, and the United States Constitution. Hicks tells the story of Judge J. Waties Waring, his incredible life and the country he changed.

Fiction

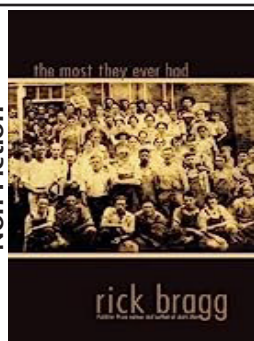


Horse, by Geraldine Brooks

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

A discarded painting in a junk pile, a skeleton in an attic, and the greatest racehorse in American history: from these strands, a Pulitzer Prize winner braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across American history. Based on the remarkable true story of the record-breaking thoroughbred Lexington, *Horse* is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning with racism.

Non-Fiction



The Most They Ever Had, by Rick Bragg

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

The mill had become almost a living thing, rewarding the hard-working and careful with the best payday they ever had, but punishing the careless and clumsy, taking a finger, a hand, more. The mill preceded the automobile, the airplane, and they served it even as it filled their lungs with lint and shortened their lives. In return, it let them live in stiff-necked dignity in the hills of their fathers. In these real-life stories, Rick Bragg brilliantly evokes the hardscrabble lives of those who lived and died by an American cotton mill.



7:00PM

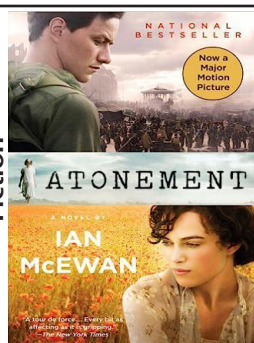
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023

Annual Christmas Gathering

Bring your favorite appetizer,
finger food, or dessert to share
along with your Christmas spirit!



Fiction

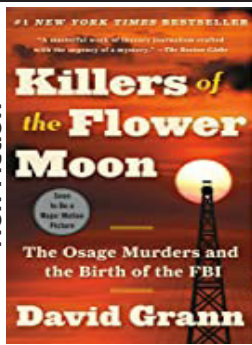


Atonement, by Ian McEwan

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

National Bestseller. On a hot summer day in 1935, thirteen-year-old Briony Tallis witnesses a moment's flirtation between her older sister, Cecilia, and Robbie Turner, the son of a servant and Cecilia's childhood friend. But Briony's incomplete grasp of adult motives—together with her precocious literary gifts—brings about a crime that will change all their lives. *Atonement* engages the reader on every conceivable level as it follows that crime's repercussions through the chaos and carnage of World War II and into the close of the twentieth century, engaging the reader on every conceivable level, with an ease and authority that marks it as a genuine masterpiece.

Non-Fiction

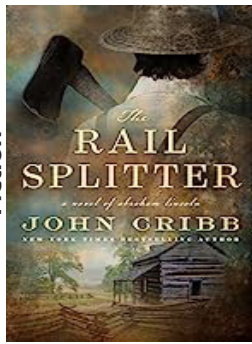


***Killers of the Flower Moon*, by David Grann**

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

In the 1920s, the richest people per capita in the world were members of the Osage Indian Nation in Oklahoma after oil was discovered beneath their land. Then, one by one, they began to be killed off. In this last remnant of the Wild West—where oilmen like J. P. Getty made their fortunes and where desperadoes such as Al Spencer, “the Phantom Terror,” roamed – virtually anyone who dared to investigate the killings were themselves murdered. As the death toll surpassed more than twenty-four Osage, the newly created F.B.I. took up the case, in what became one of the organization’s first major homicide investigations. A twisting, haunting true-life murder mystery about one of the most monstrous crimes in American history.

Fiction

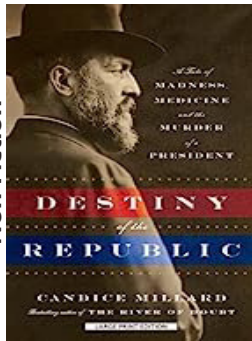


***The Rail Splitter*, by John Cribb** *Author will be joining us at both sessions

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

From John Cribb, author of the acclaimed novel Old Abe, comes a new work of historical fiction that brings Abraham Lincoln to life as never before. The Rail Splitter tells the story of Abraham Lincoln’s remarkable journey from a log cabin to the threshold of the White House—a journey that makes him one of America’s most beloved heroes. We walk beside him on every page of this spellbinding novel and come to know his hopes and struggles on his winding path to greatness.

Non-Fiction



***Destiny of the Republic*, by Candice Millard**

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

James A. Garfield was one of the most extraordinary men ever elected president. Born into abject poverty, he rose to become a wunderkind scholar, a Civil War hero, and a renowned and admired reformist congressman. Nominated for president against his will, he engaged in a fierce battle with the corrupt political establishment. But four months after his inauguration, a deranged office seeker tracked Garfield down and shot him in the back. But the shot didn’t kill Garfield. The drama of what happened subsequently is a powerful story of a nation in turmoil. The unhinged assassin’s half-delivered strike shattered the fragile national mood of a country so recently fractured by civil war and left the wounded president as the object of a bitter behind-the-scenes struggle for power over his administration, over the nation’s future, and, hauntingly, over his medical care.

Fiction

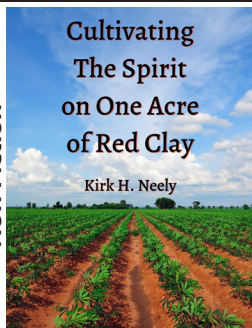


***Night Talk*, by Elizabeth Cox** *Author will be joining us at both sessions

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

At night, under the same roof, nothing divides Evie and Janey Louise. Talking in their beds they discuss their mothers, Agnes and Volusia; their absent fathers, one dead, one on the other side of the country; and their brothers, one fighting polio, the other fighting in the U.S. Army. Their closeness blinds Evie to the divisions -- that she is white and her best friend is black; that it is her family’s house they live in; that Jane’s mother is the housekeeper for Evie’s family. For years the inequities of race so permeate their lives that they remain invisible to Evie. Largely set against the backdrop of the Civil Rights days of the fifties and sixties, Night Talk also confronts the challenges of the present day and exposes the insidious and persistent barriers that prevent us from being honest with each other. The author, Elizabeth Cox is an active member of First Presbyterian Church.

Non-Fiction



***Cultivating The Spirit on One Acre of Red Clay*, by Kirk Neely**

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Kirk’s newest book combines his lifetime of pastoral ministry with his training as a Master Gardener. Kirk has written a book of devotional readings with reflections from his own backyard. This volume is chocked full of the down-home stories we have come to expect from Kirk as well as his practical theology. The book will be available in the summer of 2023.

VISITORS AND NEW FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

MEETS IN THE WILLIAM L. ARTHUR CENTER, 410 E KENNEDY STREET

FIRST TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER THRU JUNE

MORNING SESSION 10:30AM - EVENING SESSION 7:00PM

Contact Cathy Rush at crush@fpcspartanburg.org