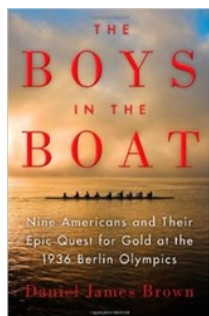




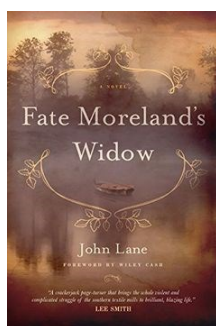
First Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg, SC

Book Selections 2015-2016



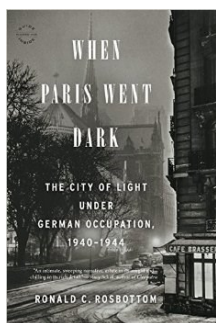
THE BOYS IN THE BOAT by Daniel James Brown - Tuesday, September 1, 2015

Here's the story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal. Can the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers defeat elite rivals from eastern and British universities and finally the German crew in the Olympic games in Berlin, 1936? Trust in one another makes them a victorious team. Here's a story of what can be done when everyone quite literally pulls together—beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times. It is an improbable, intimate story of nine working-class boys from the American West who, in the depths of the Great Depression, showed the world what true grit really meant.



FATE MORELAND'S WIDOW by John Lane - Tuesday, October 6, 2015

On a placid Blue Ridge mountain lake on Labor Day Weekend in 1935, three locals sightseeing in an overloaded boat drown, and the cotton mill scion who owns the lake is indicted for their murders. Decades later Ben Crocker, witness to, and reluctant participant in the aftermath of this long-forgotten tragedy, is drawn once more into the morally ambiguous world of mill fortunes and Foothills justice.



WHEN PARIS WENT DARK: THE CITY OF LIGHT UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION

by Ronald C. Rosbottom - Tuesday, November 3, 2015

A riveting account of one of the most resonant hostage-takings in history: the 1,500 days when a swastika flew from the Eiffel Tower. Author Rosbottom illuminates every corner of a darkened, heartsick city, exploring the oddities, capturing the grisly humor, and weighing the prices of resistance, accommodation, and collaboration. The result is an intimate, sweeping narrative, astute in its insight, and chilling in its rich detail.

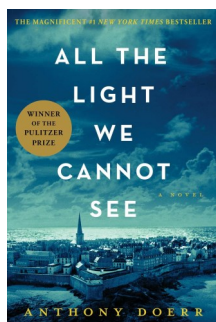


Christmas Gathering

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 ~ Fogartie Hall

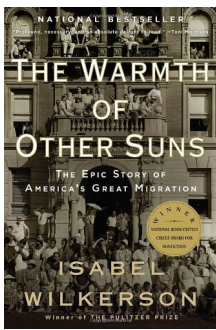
THE STORY OF THE OTHER WISE MAN by Henry Van Dyke

Come and share your favorite appetizer, dessert, goodie, and Christmas joy!



ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE by Anthony Doerr - Tuesday, January 5, 2016

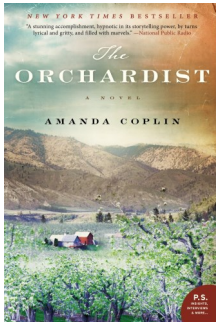
This beautiful, stunningly ambitious book is about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. They are powerful examples of how average people in trying times must decide daily between morality and survival. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, Doerr illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another.



THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS: THE EPIC STORY OF AMERICA'S GREAT MIGRATION

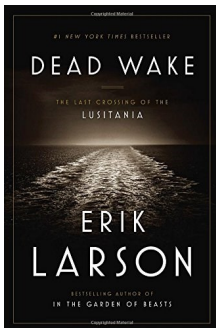
by Isabel Wilkerson - Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life. From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. With stunning historical detail, Wilkerson tells this story through the lives of three unique individuals. Through the breadth of its narrative, the beauty of the writing, the depth of its research, and the fullness of the people and lives portrayed herein, this book is destined to become a classic.



THE ORCHARDIST by Amanda Coplin - Tuesday, March 1, 2016

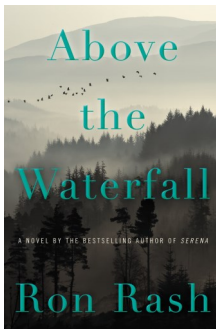
At once intimate and epic, *The Orchardist* is historical fiction at its best. In her stunningly original and haunting novel, Amanda Coplin evokes a powerful sense of place. She mixes tenderness and violence as she spins an engrossing tale of a solitary orchardist who provides shelter to two runaway teenage girls in the untamed American West and the dramatic consequences of his actions.



DEAD WAKE: THE LAST CROSSING OF THE LUSITANIA

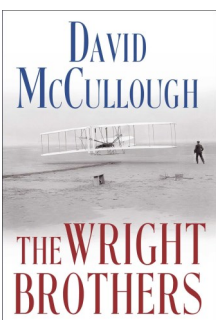
by Erik Larson - Tuesday, April 5, 2016

On May 1, 1915, with World War I entering its tenth month, a luxury ocean liner as richly appointed as an English country house sailed out of New York, bound for Liverpool. Among the passengers were a record number of children and infants. Erik Larson tells the story thrillingly, switching between hunter and hunted while painting a larger portrait of America at the height of the Progressive Era. *Dead Wake* captures the sheer drama and emotional power of a disaster whose intimate details and true meaning have long been obscured by history.



ABOVE THE WATERFALL by Ron Rash - Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Les, a long-time sheriff nearing retirement, contends with the ravages of poverty and crystal meth on his small Appalachian town. Nestled in a beautiful hollow of the Appalachians, his is a tightly knit community, rife with secrets and suspicious of outsiders. Becky, a park ranger, arrives in this remote patch of North Carolina hoping to ease the anguish of her harrowing past. Searching for tranquility amid the verdant stillness, she finds solace in poetry and the splendor of the land. A vicious crime will plunge both sheriff and ranger into deep and murky waters, forging an unexpected bond between them.



THE WRIGHT BROTHERS by David McCullough - Tuesday, June 7, 2016

David McCullough, master historian and two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize, tells the surprising, profoundly American story of Wilbur and Orville Wright. That they had no more than a public high school education, little money, and no contacts in high places never stopped them in their mission to take to the air. Every time they took off in one of their contrivances, they risked being killed. They were men of exceptional courage and determination.

Visitors and New Friends Always Welcome
Morning Group 10:30 A.M. — Evening Group 7:00 P.M.
The BBC Meets in The William L. Arthur Center - Kennedy Street
If you are interested or have questions, please contact Kirk Neely
(864-583-4531 or kirkhneely44@gmail.com)