

## **St. Mark Book Club 2021**

Meetings **1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday** of the month at 7 pm in the Upper Room.

**January** – No meeting in January - Happy New Year!

**February 2nd** – The Jane Austen Society by Natalie Jenner – Following WWII some villagers in Chawton form a society to try to preserve some the site of Jane Austen’s former home.

**March 2nd** – The Woman in the Window by AJ Finn - About a woman who lives alone and is unable to go outside. She sees something she shouldn’t from her window.

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** – The Loon Feather by Iola Fuller - Published in 1940 The story of an Indian girl growing up with traditions of her people and of the white traders on Mackinac Island.

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** – Running with Sherman by Christopher McDougall – An humorous memoir about training a rescue donkey to run in a race.

**June 1st** – Lady Clementine by Marie Benedict - Lady Clementine is the ferocious story of the ambitious woman beside Winston Churchill, the story of a partner who did not flinch through the sweeping darkness of war, and who would not surrender to expectations or to enemies.

**July 6<sup>th</sup>** – The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd - About a woman and her slave set in early nineteenth century Charleston. Based on a real person, Sarah Grimke, who becomes an early pioneer in abolition and women’s rights.

**August 3rd** – Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger - A boy in the 1960s trying to understand the world that seems to be falling apart.

**September 7th** – We Hope for Better Things by Erin Bartels – A woman meets a great-aunt she never knew she had and learns there is a lot of family history that shaped her. Set in Detroit, a 2020 Michigan notable book.

**October 5<sup>th</sup>** – The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate – A slave family is separated during the Civil War and one woman is trying to find her siblings. A second story set in 1987 when a young teacher starts work in the same southern town and uncovers long hidden secrets.

**November 2nd** - The Atomic City Girls by Janet Beard - A novel of the everyday people who worked on the Manhattan Project during World War II.

**December 7<sup>th</sup>**- Mrs. Lincoln’s Sisters by Jennifer Chiaverini - In May 1875, Elizabeth Todd Edwards reels from news that her younger sister Mary, former First Lady and widow of President Abraham Lincoln, has attempted suicide. The sisters must put aside past differences in order to help her.

### **Other book ideas for 2021**

Her Royal Spyness by Rhys Bowen – First in series set in 1930s England, Lady Georgiana is 34<sup>th</sup> in line for the crown and has been asked by the Queen to spy on her son Davis who is interested in Wallis Simpson.

If I Were You by Lynn Austin- Newest book by this Christian author who lives in Holland, Michigan. A story about two English women who help one another through many troubles in war torn England in the 1940s.

News of the World By Paulette Jiles - A captive Kiowa journey back to her people following the Civil War.

The Pull of the Stars by Emma Donoghue – Set at a Dublin hospital during the 1918 flu pandemic.

The Royal Governess by Wendy Holden – The childhood years of Queen Elizabeth II.

Murmur of Bees by Sofia Segoria - About a Mexican boy found set during the influenza of 1918 and Mexican Revolution.

Winter in Paradise by Elin Hilderbrand – First book in a 3 book series set on the island of St. John, Virgin Islands. A mystery and a love story, set before the recent hurricanes destroyed the island. This gives a true representation of island life at the time.

Cher Ami and Major Whittlesey by Kathleen Rooney – The true story of a carrier pigeon that helped to save a group of American soldiers during WWI.

Killing Jesus by Bill O'Reilly – Very thorough historical account of the last days of Jesus. One of Bill O'Reilly's series that includes Killing Lincoln, Killing Kennedy and Killing Reagan among others.

My Dear Hamilton by Stephanie Dray – The story of Hamilton from the point of view of his wife Eliza.

Redeeming Love by Francine Rivers - A retelling of the Biblical story of Hosea, setting it in the 1850 in during the California gold rush.

All the Stars in the Heavens by Adriana Trigiani – A young woman becomes secretary to movie star Loretta Young in the 1930s

The Lost and Found Bookshop by Susan Wigg – A woman inherits a book shop and also has to care for her ailing grandfather.

Dear George, Dear Mary; A Novel of George Washington's First Love by Mary Calvi – Based on actual letters, witness accounts and journal entries, the author explores Washington's relationship with New York heiress Mary Phillipse.

10% Happier by Dan Harris - Dan Harris discusses his path to reduce stress and improve his life

The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson – How Churchill taught the British people to defy Hitler.

The Gown by Jennifer Robson – In post war Britain, two women are chosen to take part in creating the wedding gown for Princess Elizabeth

The Lying Game by Ruth Ware – Former schoolmates reflect on how their participation in a dangerous game contributed to the death of a teacher.

The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd - Raised in a wealthy family with ties to the ruler of Galilee, Ana is rebellious and ambitious, with a brilliant mind and a daring spirit. Ana is expected to marry an older widower, but a chance encounter with eighteen-year-old Jesus changes everything.