

St. Mark Book Club 2023

Meetings **1st Tuesday** of the month at 7 pm by the fireplace.

January – No meeting in January - Happy New Year!

February 7th– West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge – A Novel inspired by a true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won hearts in Depression era America.

March 7th– The Murder of Roger Ackroyd by Agatha Christie – One of her most popular books, fourth in the Hercule Poirot series.

April 4th – The Christie Affair by Nina de Gramont – In a world of townhomes and shooting parties, Miss Nan O’Dea became Archie Christie’s mistress, luring him away from his well-known wife, Agatha.

May 2nd–The Maid by Nina Prose – A hotel maid discovers a murdered guest, turning her world upside down and inspiring an unexpected group of allies to solve the mystery.

June 6th – Starvation Lake by Bryan Gruley – In the dead of a Michigan winter the small town of Starvation Lake is shaken by what washes up on the lake’s edge one night.

July 11th – This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger - novel about four orphans on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression, from the bestselling author of Ordinary Grace.

August 1st – A \$500 House in Detroit by Drew Philip – Rebuilding an abandoned home in an American city

September 5th – The Death of Mrs. Westaway by Ruth Ware – After receiving a letter of inheritance by mistake, a woman decides to claim the money, even though it is meant for someone else.

October 3rd – The Sentence by Louise Erdrich – A small bookstore is haunted by a former customer. The new employee must solve the mystery of the haunting.

November 7th - The Pull of the Stars by Emma Donaghue – Set at a Dublin hospital during the 1918 flu pandemic.

December 5th - Switchboard Soldiers by Jennifer Chiaverini - In June 1917, General John Pershing needed telephone operators. At the time, nearly all well-trained American telephone operators were women and the U.S. Army Signal Corps promptly began recruiting them.

Other book ideas:

The Woman in the Library by Sulari Gentil – A thriller set in the Boston Public Library.

The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams – A novel about the words that didn't make it into the first Oxford English Dictionary.

Resistance Women by Jennifer Chiaverini – based on actual events in the 1930s and 40s, this is a story of ordinary people determined to resist the rise of evil, sacrificing their own lives and liberty to fight injustice and defend the oppressed.

The Mitford Murders by Jessica Fellowes – Part 1 of a series featuring the Mitford sisters, one of whom is Nancy Mitford who later in life becomes a famous author. We read her book, "In Pursuit of Love".

The Mousetrap by Agatha Christie – This is a play, but one of Christie's best known works.

Waves of Mercy by Lynn Austin - Geesje de Jonge crossed the ocean at age seventeen with her parents and a small group of immigrants from the Netherlands to settle in the Michigan wilderness. This novel is based on the founding of the town of Holland, Michigan.

All the Stars in the Heavens by Adriana Trigiani - The movie business is booming in 1935 when twenty-one-year-old Loretta Young meets thirty-four-year-old Clark Gable on the set of *The Call of the Wild*. This novel explores this true life story.

The Gown by Jennifer Robson - An historical novel about one of the most famous wedding dresses of the twentieth century- Princess Elizabeth's wedding gown-and the fascinating women who made it in London,1947.

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson - Thanks to Roosevelt's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project, Troublesome Creek has its very own traveling librarian, Cussy Mary Carter, who also happens to be one of the last of the blue skinned people.

The Stolen Book of Evelyn Aubrey by Serena Burdick - England, 1898. When Evelyn is dazzled by her new husband's brilliance. But when he is gripped by writer's block and steals a draft of her novel and passing it off as his own.

Empress Orchid by Anchee Min - Within the Forbidden City are thousands of women hoping to bear the emperor a son and become his empress.

Belle Greene by Alexander Lapierre - New York in the 1900s. A young girl becomes the director of J. P. Morgan's library. Belle has a secret. Although she looks white, she is African American.

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig – Nora's life has been going from bad to worse. Then at the stroke of midnight on her last day on earth she finds herself transported to a library. There she is given the chance to undo her regrets and try out each of the other lives she might have lived.