

Crook County Library

Staff picks: CHRISTIAN FICTION

March 2015

Albom, Mitch

The Time Keeper: A Novel (2012)

After being punished for trying to measure God's greatest gift, Father Time returns to Earth along with a magical hourglass and a mission: a chance to redeem himself by teaching two earthly people the true meaning of time. (*Fantasy*) NP

Blackstock, Terri

Private Justice (1998)

A serial killer is stalking the wives of the town's firefighters, and unless Mark and Allie Branning renew their commitment to each other and to God, Allie may be next. (*Romantic suspense*) JFS

Bunn, Davis

The Turning (2014)

"The message was unexpected but instantly recognizable. A voice resonated from a distance and somehow from within. Against all earthly logic, it carried a divine command. And five very different people knew they were summoned to obey" (*Contemporary fiction*) MR

Burch, Heather

Halfings (2012)

After being inexplicably targeted by an evil intent on harming her at any cost, seventeen-year-old Nikki finds herself under the watchful guardianship of three mysterious young men who call themselves halfings. (*Christian Suspense, Young Adult*) BM

Dickerson, Melanie

The Princess Spy (2014)

The year is 1413. Margaretha hopes her newest suitor, Lord Claybrook, will be her one true love, but when an injured man is brought to Hagenheim Castle claiming to be an English lord who was attacked by Claybrook, Margaretha is drawn into a plot, not knowing who is telling the truth. (*Young adult*) MR

Gabhart, Ann

Love Comes Home (2014)

World War II is finally over and the people of Rosey Corner are busy welcoming the boys home. The Merritt sisters in particular are looking toward the future as they learn to hold their plans with a loose hand, trusting that God will guide and strengthen them. (*Historical fiction*) MR

Henderson, Dee

Danger in the Shadows (1999)

Reclusive author Sara Walsh hides from the public for a reason. As a child, she was kidnapped (with her twin sister, Kim) and locked in a root cellar for nine days. Their father, a diplomat, balked at paying the ransom, and Kim died on the eighth day. Twenty-five years later, one of the kidnapers, who remains frustratingly elusive, regularly torments Sara by sending mementos of their time together. Sara is locked

in a gilded cage, and the potential key, retired football player Adam Black, may be too explosive for a life lived in shadow, but he is convinced Sara is the answer to his prayers. (*Romance, suspense*) MR

Karon, Jan

At Home in Mitford (1998)

Father Tim, a bachelor rector in the small hill town of Mitford, North Carolina, gets more than he bargained for when he yearns for more excitement in his life and suddenly finds himself dealing with a large dog, a very attractive new neighbor, a jewel thief, and an unloved boy. (*Contemporary Christian Life*) BM

Kingsbury, Karen

Oceans Apart (2004)

A riveting story of secret sin and the healing power of forgiveness. Airline pilot Connor Evans and his wife, Michele, seem to be the perfect couple living what looks like a perfect life. Then a plane goes down in the Pacific Ocean. One of the casualties is Kiahna Siefert, a flight attendant Connor knew well. Too well. Kiahna's will is very clear: before her seven-year-old son, Max, can be turned over to the state, he must spend the summer with the father he's never met, the father who doesn't know he exists: Connor Evans. Now will the presence of one lonely child and the truth he represents destroy Connor's family? Or is it possible that healing and hope might come in the shape of a seven-year-old boy? (*Inspirational*) NP

LaHaye, Tim

Left Behind (1995)

When the trumpet sounds, where will you be? Passengers in an airborne Boeing 747 find out in this riveting novel by renowned Christian speaker Tim LaHaye and master storyteller Jerry Jenkins. Without any warning, passengers mysteriously disappear from their seats. Terror and chaos slowly spread not only through the plane but also worldwide as unusual events continue to unfold. For those who have been left behind, the apocalypse has just begun. This fictional account of life after the Rapture delivers an urgent call to today's readers to prepare their own hearts and minister to others. (*Science Fiction*) MR

Marshall, Catherine

Christy (1967)

In the year 1912, nineteen-year-old Christy Huddleston leaves home to teach school in the Smoky Mountains -- and comes to know and love the resilient people of the region, with their fierce pride, their dark superstitions, their terrible poverty, and their yearning for beauty and truth. But her faith will be severely challenged by trial and tragedy, by the needs and unique strengths of two remarkable young men, and by a heart torn between true love and unwavering devotion. (*Historical fiction*) MR

Oke, Janet

Another Homecoming (1997)

Kyle grows into a sweet but headstrong young woman, somewhat uncomfortable in the "high society" trappings of her family's estate. But when the secret of her adoption is accidentally divulged, Kyle sets out to discover who she is, finding heartbreak and romance, despair and faith along the way. Are her birth parents, even a brother or a sister, somewhere waiting for her? (*Domestic*) AS

Oke, Janette

Love Comes Softly (1979)

Thrown together by tragic circumstances, Marty and Clark Davis face both good and bad times on the frontier prairies of the late 1800s. (*Historical Christian Romance*) BM

Peretti, Frank

Monster (2005)

Miles away from the hectic city, Reed and Rebecca hike into the beautiful Northwester woods. They are surrounded by gorgeous mountains, waterfalls, and hundreds of acres of unspoiled wilderness. During their first night camping, an unearthly wail pierces the calm of the forest. Then something emerges from the dense woods. Everything that follows is a blur to Reed--except the unforgettable image of a huge creature carrying his wife into the darkness. Enter into deep wilderness where the rules of civilization no longer apply. A world where strange shadows lurk. Where creatures long attributed to overactive imaginations and nightmares are the hunters . . .and people are the hunted. (*Horror*) MR

Peretti, Frank

Piercing the Darkness (1989)

Leaders in the realm of darkness have mounted a new attack that will create chaos and cause defeat in the human beings who claim unity with their enemy, Christ. Readers will find themselves rooting for a most unlikely hero as her quest for inner peace exposes the most frightening war of all, the battle for the human soul. Be captivated anew as you enter the world of battling angels and demons that author Frank Peretti so masterfully uncovered in *This Present Darkness*. (*Fantasy*) MR

Ringo, John

Princess of Wands (2006)

When Barbara Everette heads to New Orleans for a weekend getaway, she has an unexpected rendezvous with Detective Kelly Lockhart--a homicide investigator working on a case with no suspects--that may reveal the mystery of the Bayou Ripper. (*Science Fiction*) JFS

St. Amant, Betsy

Addison Blakely: Confessions of a PK (2012)

Addison Blakely has never had much trouble pleasing her widowed, overprotective father. After all, he's a pastor, and she knows her reputation is closely linked to his. But when the bad boy next door, the cute but arrogant quarterback, and a charming new guy all vie for Addison's attention, she begins to doubt her resolve. (*Young Adult Fiction; Realistic Fiction*) JFS

Samson, Lisa

Runaway Saint (2014)

When Sara's aunt Bel shows up looking for a place to stay after years without contact, the enigmatic woman brings refreshing change into the lives she touches, but Sara soon learns of the ordeal that Bel went through while she was away. (*Domestic*) MR

Snelling, Lauraine

Heaven Sent Rain (2014)

Dinah Taylor has an orderly life that is just how she likes it. A perfectly furnished luxury apartment, a satisfying career as a scientist and CEO of her own company, and an uncomplicated personal life. But all of that changes when she meets seven-year-old Jonah. The boy shows up one day, a scruffy dog by his side, in front of her office building. Dinah knows nothing about kids and even less about animals, but after she buys him breakfast, he shows up the next day...and the next. She tries to learn more about him, to help him, but he's remarkably skilled at evading her questions. And then, late one night, he calls her in a panic--his dog has been badly injured. Dinah rushes them to a local animal clinic, where she meets Garret, a veterinarian with a thriving practice and a passion for drawing. Though Jonah takes to

Garret right away, for some reason neither understands, Dinah and Garret just don't mesh. But for Jonah's sake, their lives continue to collide, and slowly the relationship between these three strangers begins to change. (*Contemporary Fiction*) MR

Stokes, Penelope

Blue Bottle Club (1999)

Four friends gathered in a cold, dusty attic on Christmas day to make a solemn pact. But that event happened in 1929, and it is decades later when local news reporter Brenna Delaney stumbles upon that bottle . . . and into the most meaningful story of her career. Life has taken those four girls' dreams of love, fame, and faith on a path fraught with seduction, betrayal, and loss. Little has turned out as expected-and yet every choice, every tear has led each of them to a special place. Brenna's search will uncover the secrets of that Blue Bottle Club . . . and her own life will never be the same. (*Historical fiction*)MR

Thoene, Bodie & Brock

When Jesus Wept (2013)

Lazarus occupies a surprising position in the Gospel accounts. Widely known as the man Jesus raised from the dead, his story is actually much broader and richer than that. Living as he did at Bethany, near Jerusalem, Lazarus was uniquely placed to witness the swirl of events around Jesus. *When Jesus Wept*, the first novel in *The Jerusalem Chronicles* series by bestselling authors Bodie and Brock Thoene, unfolds the turbulent times in Judea during Jesus' ministry, centering on the friendship between Jesus and Lazarus. With rich insights from vineyard owners and vine dressers, the Thoenes explore the metaphor of Jesus as the True Vine, harvesting the ancient secrets found in the Old Testament. Weaving the life of Lazarus, who owned a vineyard, into the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ will help you understand it is the hand of Love Divine that holds the knife, that cuts and breaks with such tender and loving touch, and that we who have born some fruit, after the pruning, can bear much more. (*Historical*) AS

Young, William Paul

The Shack (2007)

Mackenzie Allen Philips' youngest daughter has been abducted and evidence that she may have been murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later, Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend.. (*Suspense*) AS