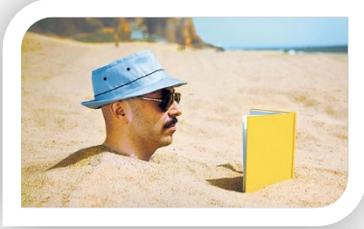


SUMMER READS



Book Discussion Thursday August 9, 10am-1pm at Luther Park Bible Camp-OR Zoom Video Conference call Wednesday August 8 at 11 am. Hosted by Laurie Skow-Anderson

***Agile Church: Spirit Lead Innovation in an Uncertain Age* by Dwight Zschiele**



Summer is just around the corner and that means you might just maybe have a little extra time to read a good book. Here are my recommendations for good summer reads that will help you when fall rolls around and ministry kicks up into high gear. The first one of my list is *Agile Church*. If I could, I'd buy it for every rostered leader and we'd read it together. I can't buy it for everyone, but let's read it together.

Option 1: Luther Park Order the book on AMAZON for your Kindle or get a paper copy and let's meet up at beautiful Luther Park Bible Camp on Thursday August 9 from 10-1 to talk about the book and what it might mean for your church and our synod. Luther Park said we could join them for lunch at noon. It's family camp that week.

Option 2: Video Conference Read the book and then join me and some of our colleagues in a one-hour ZOOM Conference Call discussion of this book on Wednesday August 8 at 11 am. (this is an experiment)

Please email the synod office to register for either of these book discussions. lbartsch@nswi.org The only cost is for the book.

HEADS UP----

Six Synods, the five Wisconsin and the Northern Great Lakes Synods, received a \$75,000 SIEBERT grant to teach and train us how to create Adaptive Learning Communities in ALL of the congregations in our synods! This is a big deal.

DWIGHT ZCHIELE, Professor at Luther Seminary in St. Paul will be training the synod staff and volunteers to create Adaptive Learning Communities in our Synod this next year. As you read his book *Agile Church*, think about being a part of this experiment.

1. Think about what it would mean to stop doing ministry as usual and begin trying adaptive learning experiment process in your congregation
2. Consider putting together a team to be trained in adaptive learning concepts in 2019
3. Imagine what your congregation would look like if it became an Adaptive Learning Community.
4. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Skow-Anderson at Lskow-anderson@nswi.org or 715-651-1658

WHEN YOU FINISH READING AGILE CHURCH, I'd like to recommend the following GOOD SUMMER READS:

Beyond Church Walls: Cultivating a Culture of Care by Rick Rouse

This book reframes pastoral care/congregational care from the pastor taking care of the church members to the congregation caring for the community. *Beyond the Church Walls* explores a new way of thinking about pastoral care in the outwardly-focused church.

Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory by Tod Bolsinger

In 1804, Lewis and Clark's expedition looked for a water route to the Pacific Ocean, they were prepared for that. They weren't prepared for the Rocky Mountains. Many of us were prepared to do ministry in a cultural landscape that no longer exists. Little we learned in seminary prepares for what lies ahead. This book will help us figure out how to lead in our rapidly changing world and in uncharted territory.

Preaching and Stewardship: Proclaiming God's Invitation to Grow by Craig Satterlee Bishop Satterlee was our speaker at Winter Theo this year. Good solid direction on how to talk about money, values, faith and scripture.

Two oldies but goodies. Both are quick reads.

Living Lutheran Renewing YOUR Congregation by David Daubert (2007) Great guide for helping your congregation move away from its useless mission statement and toward a helpful PURPOSE Statement and GUIDING PRINCIPLES.

DISCOVERING HOPE: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations by David Poling-Goldenne and Shannon Young (2001) This oldie is solid, foundational for all ministry. It focuses on building on the strengths of small membership rural congregations, clarifying their purpose and stretching them to be faithful to God's mission in their context. It really is about HOPE.

HAPPY READING-Laurie Skow-Anderson