

- *Real Love for Real Life: The Art and Work of Caring*
Andi Ashworth
“Here she offers a grand invitation to serve others with the beauty, imagination, and love to which God calls us.”
- *Hidden Art of Homemaking*
Edith Schaeffer
“...reveals the many opportunities for artistic expression that can be found in ordinary, everyday life.”
- *Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life*
Tish Harrison Warren
“How do we embrace the sacred in the ordinary and the ordinary in the sacred?”
- *Placemaking and the Arts*
Jennifer Allen Craft
“The arts . . . place us in time, space, and community in ways that encourage us to be fully and imaginatively present in a variety of contexts.”
- *Placemaking: Reflections on the Meaning of Home*
Jen Michael Pollack
“And for many of us homesickness is a nagging place of grief. This book connects that desire and disappointment with the story of the Bible, helping us to see that there is a homemaking God with wide arms of welcome.”
- *You are What You Love*
James K. A. Smith
“Who and what we worship fundamentally shape our hearts. [...]we are not often aware of how culture shapes us. [...] Smith helps us recognize the formative power of culture and the transformative possibilities of Christian practices.
- *On the Road with St. Augustine*
James K A Smith
“Augustine spent a lifetime searching for his heart's true home and he can help us find our way.”
- *Augustine's Confession*
St. Augustine
The first such spiritual memoir ever recorded,
Saint Augustine traces a story of sin, regret, and redemption that is both deeply personal and, at the same time, universal.
- *On the Incarnation*
St. Athanasius, with forward by CS Lewis
“The incarnation shows us that God truly loves us enough to make a way for us through Jesus.
- *Practice the Presence of God*
Brother Lawrence
“He spent years disciplining his heart and mind to yield to God's presence.”
- *The Letters of John Newton*
John Newton
Rich in humility, grace, love, and Scripture.
- *Eat This Book: a Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading*
Eugene Peterson
He is “convinced that the way we read the Bible is as important as that we read it . . . do we read in order to listen to God and respond in prayer and obedience.”
- *The Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World*
Paul Miller
...”shares his insights and conclusions about how to connect the broken pieces of your life and allow prayer. . . to fill the gaps with meaning and substance.”

- *Every Moment Holy*
Douglas McKelvey
New liturgies for the ordinary events of daily life. . . These prayers are ways of reminding us that our lives are shot through with sacred.
- *Keeping the Sabbath Wholly*
Marva J. Dawn
“Ceasing, resting, embracing, feasting...”
- *Living in Community: Cultivating Practices that Sustain Us*
Christine D. Pohl
“Pohl moves beyond abstractions about the church as alternative community by offering . . . four core practices that sustain healthy community: gratitude, promise-keeping, truthfulness, and hospitality.
- *Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies*
Marilyn McEntyre
This book challenges “lies (including widely tolerated forms of deception and spin)” while also “fostering the art of conversation, and encouraging playfulness and prayerfulness in writing and speaking.”
- *The Remarkable Ordinary*
Fredrick Bueccner
“He reflects on how both art and faith teach us to pay attention to the remarkableness right in front of us.
- *All That’s Good: Recovering the Lost Art of Discernment*
Hannah Anderson
“Come, discover the God who not only made all things, but who will also make all things good once again.”
- *The Letters on Cezanne*
Rainer Maria Rilke
“Rilke’s prayerful responses to the French master’s beseeching art. *For a long time*

nothing, and then suddenly one has the right eyes.”

- *Georges Rouault: A Vision of Suffering and Salvation*
William Dryness
“What is attractive to me is the stark character of the light and dark, especially in the intaglio prints, that suits perfectly the bleak character of the subjects of this period—Christ humiliated, on the cross, people huddled in a barren landscape”
- *Teaching and the Christian Imagination*
David J. Smith and Susan M. Felch
[The authors] creatively use three metaphors — journeys and pilgrimages, gardens and wilderness, buildings and walls — to illuminate a fresh vision of teaching and learning. Stretching beyond familiar clichés, they infuse these metaphors with rich biblical echoes and theological resonances that will inform and inspire Christian teachers everywhere.”
- *A Prayer Journal*
Flannery O’Conner
“I would like to write a beautiful prayer,” writes the young Flannery O’Connor in this deeply spiritual journal. . . “There is a whole sensible world around me that I should be able to turn to Your praise.”
- *Home: A Short History of an Idea*
Witold Rybczynski
“Walk through five centuries of homes both great and small. . . on a house tour like no other, one that delightfully explicates the very idea of *home*.”
- *The Shelter of Each Other* (as well as her book *Reviving Ophelia*)
Mary Pipher
“...illuminates how our families are suffering at the hands of shifting cultural norms... The Shelter of Each Other is an impassioned call for us to gather our

families in our arms and hold on to them for dear life.”

- *Booked: Literature in the Soul of Me*
Karen Swallow Prior
Memoir, literary analysis and ponderings on growing as a woman and a Christian.
- *Breaking Bread with the Dead*
Alan Jacobs
W. H. Auden once wrote that “art is our chief means of breaking bread with the dead” . . . Alan Jacobs shows us that engaging with the strange and wonderful writings of the past might help us live less anxiously in the present . . .”
- *Finding Livelihood*
Nancy Nordenson
“ . . . a book about work for grown-ups. It’s about not just the work we thought we wanted but about the work we found and the work that found us. It’s also about the work we have lost.”
- *The Supper of the Lamb: A Culinary Reflection*
Robert Farrar Capon
“From a passionate and talented chef who also happens to be an Episcopalian priest comes this surprising and thought-provoking treatise on everything from prayer to poetry to puff pastry.”
- *The Not So Big House: A Blueprint for the Way We Really Live*
Sarah Susanka
“...Sarah Susanka started a revolution in home design with a deceptively simple message: quality should always come before quantity.”
- *Fierce Convictions: The Extraordinary Life of Hannah Moore, Poet, Reformer and Abolitionist*
Karen Swallow Prior
“The enthralling biography of the woman writer who helped end the slave trade,

changed Britain’s upper classes, and taught a nation how to read.”

- *Wonder Woman: Navigating the Challenges of Motherhood, Career, and Identity*
Kate Harris
“YOU DON'T NEED TO 'HAVE IT ALL.' Really, You Don't. Wonder Women is for every woman trying to maintain the perfect everything . . . sometimes 'you can do anything you want' feels less like empowerment and more like pressure to do everything. . . .”
- *Walking on Water*
Circle of Quiet and *Summer of the Great-Grandmother*
Two-Part Invention: The Story of a Marriage
Madeline L’Engle
(Three books that changed my life in my 20s)
Art making and Christian faith, memoir of different times of her life, and the story of her marriage with Hugh Franklin...
- *L’Abri*
Edith Schaeffer
This is the remarkable story of how God led the Schaeffers step by step, as that one small chalet grew into a whole community.” (I learned a lot about prayer and waiting on God’s work .)
- *Hannah Coulter*
Wendell Berry
"This is the story of my life, that while I lived it weighed upon me and pressed against.... This is my story, my giving of thanks."
- *Kristin Lavransdatter*
(Books 1, 2, and 3 *The Wreath; The Wife; and The Cross*)
Sigrid Undset, translated by Tiina Nunnally

“In her great historical epic *Kristin Lavransdatter*, set in fourteenth-century Norway, Nobel laureate Sigrid Undset tells the life story of one passionate and headstrong woman.”

- *Persuasion*
Jane Austen
“Of all Jane Austen’s great and delightful novels, *Persuasion* is widely regarded as the most moving. It is the story of a second chance.”
- *East of Eden*
John Steinbeck
“This masterpiece . . . is a work in which Steinbeck created his most mesmerizing characters and explored his most enduring themes: the mystery of identity, the inexplicability of love, and the murderous consequences of love’s absence.
- *Gilead*
Marilyn Robinson
“It tells how wisdom was forged in Ames’s soul during his solitary life, and how history lives through generations, pervasively present even when betrayed and forgotten.”
- *My Name is Asher Lev*
Chaim Potok
“Asher Lev is a Ladover Jew. . . [He] is an artist who is compulsively driven to render the world he sees and feels even when it leads him to blasphemy. . . Asher’s passage between these two identities, the one consecrated to God, the other subject only to the imagination.
- *The Lord of the Rings*
J. R. R. Tolkien
“One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them, One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them.”
- *The Chronicles of Narnia*
CS Lewis
Hmmm . . . are there adequate words to discuss the stories of Narnia? There are not... but I’m grateful to be reminded that we are between the paws of Aslan.
- *The Green Earth*
Accompanied by Angels
The Generosity
Luci Shaw
Her poems have been a means of grace to me for many decades. When I started reading her words, I learned what poetry is and how it illuminates beauty, truth, and goodness.
- *Sounding the Seasons*
After Prayer
David’s Crown
Malcolm Guite
“Malcolm Guite knows exactly how to use the sonnet form to powerful effect. These pieces have the economy and pungency of all good sonnets, and again and again, offer deep resources for prayer and meditation to the reader
- *When Poets Pray*
Marilyn McEntyre
“... companionable compilation of twenty-four poems that are either written as prayers or take prayer as their subject.”
- *Studying with Miss Bishop” Memoirs from a Young Writers Life*
Dana Gioia
One of my favorite writers and poets to listen to and read is Dana Gioia. His essays on poetry are inspiring. This book was a delightful read. “In deft, graceful essays, poet, literary critic, and librettist Gioia recalls six “people of potent personality” who shaped his vocation.”