

2026 – 2021 Education for Mission

Eligible years for 2026: books from 2021-2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 Reading Program lists are eligible for Reading Program reporting credit, if you have not already read them.

2026 Education for Mission

Legacy: A Black Physician Recons with Racism in Medicine.

Uche' Blackstock. Viking 2024.

Wayne County Library clevnet: eAudiobook Libby. eBook Libby. Kindle. 45 print copies.

In her bestselling memoir, Black physician Uché Blackstock offers a look at the profound and long-standing systemic inequities that exist in America's health care system, not only for Black patients but also for Black physicians, who comprise just two percent of all U.S. physicians today. From racist practices and policies to a deeply flawed system as a whole, Blackstock explores the critical intersection of racism and health care. Her book is a call to action for all to stand up as health equity advocates.

2026 Education for Mission

Grace can Lead Us Home: A Christian Call to End Homelessness.

Kevin Nye. Herald Press 2022.

Wayne County Library clevnet: Libby ebook. Kindle, 2 print copies.

Drawing on years of experience in homelessness services, minister and advocate Kevin Nye presents an intimate look at a people often on the margins of life. The book introduces readers to the Christ Nye has met in tents, shelters, and drop-in centers, demystifying homelessness by journeying into complex issues like affordable housing, mental illness, addiction, and more. Readers come to understand Nye's powerful theological vision that calls us to shelter all God's people through hope and faithful action.

2026 Education for Mission

The Happiest Man on Earth: The Beautiful Life of an Auschwitz Survivor.

Eddie Jaku. Harper Paperbacks 2022.

Wayne County Library clevnet: Audiobook CD. Libby eAudiobook. Libby eBook. Kindle. 28 print copies.

In this riveting New York Times bestseller, Eddie Jaku shares his powerful memoir as a Holocaust survivor, paying tribute to those lost as he offers inspiring wisdom on living one's best possible life despite the most horrible circumstances. Jaku was a teenager when Nazi soldiers sent him to a concentration camp with thousands of other Jews across Germany. He spent seven years in Buchenwald and then Auschwitz, finally enduring a forced death march during the Third Reich's final days. Somehow, he found the will to survive and made himself a promise to smile every day in gratitude and to honor the six million Jews murdered by Hitler. (V)

2026 Education for Mission Bonus Book

So We and Our Children My Live: Following Jesus in Confronting the Climate Crisis.

Sarah Augustine & Sheri Hostetler. Herald Press 2023.

Wayne County Library clevnet: 1 print copy.

In this impactful read, Sarah Augustine and Sheri Hostetler challenge people to open their eyes to the signs that all is not right with our planet. From extreme weather patterns to the pollutants that sour our soils and waterways, they urge readers to understand our world is in the midst of a larger ecological crisis. If change is to occur, we must look beyond the same systems that created those problems. With a call to worldwide decolonization, Augustine and Hostetler offer solutions for a better future by joining with Indigenous peoples to protect life and negotiate with decision-makers for sustainable change that follows Jesus.

2026 Education for Mission

Trash: A Poor White Journey.

Cedar Monroe. Broadleaf Books 2024.

Wayne County Library clevnet: Hoopla eAudiobook. Libby eBook. Kindle. 7 print copies.

Every day across the United States, 66 million poor white people pay the price for failing whiteness. In this sweeping debut, Monroe writes indelibly about and for poor white people: about unlearning the American dream, untangling from white supremacy, and working for liberation alongside other poor folks. With insight born of liberation theology, radical politics, and an even more radical hope, Monroe shares stories of a growing group of people who are rejecting the empty promises of white supremacy and embracing solidarity with other poor people, joining the resistance to the system killing us all. (V) (L)

2026 Education for Mission

What We Remember Will Be Saved: A Story of Refugees and the Things They Carry.

Stephanie Saldaña. Broadleaf Books 2023.

Wayne County Library clevnet: Libby eBook. Kindle. 7 print copies.

Journalist and scholar Stephanie Saldaña, who lived in Syria before the war, sets out on a journey across nine countries to meet refugees and learn what they salvaged from the ruins when they escaped. In the narratives of six women and men, from Mt. Sinjar to Aleppo to Lesbos to Amsterdam, readers discover that the little things matter a great deal. Saldaña introduces us to a woman who saved her city in a dress, a musician who saved his stories in songs, and a couple who rebuilt their destroyed pharmacy even as the city around them fell apart. Together, they provide a window into a religiously diverse corner of the Middle East on the edge on the edge of unraveling, and the people keeping it alive with their stories. (V)

2026 Education for Mission Youth

Don't Look Back: A Memoir of War, Survival, and My Journey from Sudan to America.

Achut Deng & Keely Hutton. Square Fish 2024.

Wayne County Library clevnet: Hoopla eAudiobook. 8 print copies.

After a deadly attack in South Sudan left six-year-old Achut Deng without a family, she lived in refugee camps for 10 years. Then a refugee relocation program gave her the opportunity to move to the United States. When asked why she should be given a chance to leave the camp, Achut simply told the interviewer: I want life. But starting a new life in a new country came with a different set of challenges, some of them equally deadly. Taught by the strong women in her life not to look back, Achut kept moving forward, overcoming one obstacle after another and facing each day with hope and faith in her future. (V)

2026 Education for Mission Youth Sanctuary.

Paola Mendoza & Abby Sher. Nancy Paulsen Books 2021.

Wayne County Library clevnet: Libby eAudiobook. 13 print copies.

In this near-future dystopian novel set in 2032 America, a young girl and her brother must escape a xenophobic government to find sanctuary. Sixteen-year-old Vali and her family have carved out a stable, happy life in small-town Vermont. When Deportation Forces raid their town, they are forced to flee across the country to her Tía Luna in California, a sanctuary state that is currently being walled off from the rest of the country. But when Vali's mother is detained before their journey even begins, Vali must carry on with her younger brother across the country to make it to safety before it's too late. (V)

2026 Education for Mission Children The Little House of Hope.

Terry Catusus Jennings. Neal Porter Books 2022.

Wayne County Library clevnet: 16 print copies

Author Terry Catusus Jennings first came from Cuba to the United States in 1961, when she was 12 years old. In this award-winning children's book, she offers an inspiring, semi-autobiographical story of how immigrants can help each other find their footing in a new country. The book details how when Esperanza and her family arrive in the United States from Cuba, they rent a little house, una casita. It may be small, but they soon prove that there's room enough to share with a whole community. Together, they turn the house into a place where other new immigrants can help one another.

2026 Education for Mission Children These Olive Trees: A Palestinian Family's Story.

Aya Ghanameh. Viking Books for Young Readers 2023.

Wayne County Library clevnet: 6 print copies.

In this debut from author-illustrator Aya Ghanameh, readers embrace a bold tale of bitterness, hope, and the power of believing in a free and thriving future. It's 1967 in Nablus, Palestine, and Oraib loves the olive trees that grow outside the refugee camp where she lives. Each harvest, she and her mama pick the small fruits and stomp on them to release their golden oil. Olives have always tied her family to the land. But when war forces them to flee, Oraib makes a solemn promise to her beloved olive trees—their legacy will live on for generations to come.

2026 Education for Mission Children Zion Learns to See.

Terence Lester & Zion Lester. IVP Kids 2024.

Wayne County Library clevnet: 1 print copy.

Join Zion and her dad on a life-changing Saturday in *Zion Learns to See*, by father-daughter duo Terence and Zion Lester. Based on a true story, this beautifully illustrated book teaches lessons of connection, compassion, and faith in action. For as Zion learns, every person matters to God. And that means every person should matter to us. Follow young Zion as she accompanies her father to a local community center serving people experiencing homelessness. What begins as an ordinary day soon becomes a powerful lesson that changes Zion's perspective.

2025 Education for Mission

After the Last Border: Two Families and the Story of Refuge in America.

Jessica Goudeau. Penguin Books 2021. 348p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 Electronic: Kindle, Libby E Book. 9 print copies.

Writer and activist Jessica Goudeau offers an intimate look at the lives of two women as they struggle for the 21st-century American dream as refugees in Austin, Texas. Mu Naw, a Christian from Myanmar struggling to put down roots with her family, was accepted after decades in a refugee camp at a time when America was at its most open to displaced families. Hasna, a Muslim from Syria, agrees to relocate as a last resort for the safety of her family, only to be separated from her children by a sudden ban on refugees from Muslim countries. The book is hailed as a dramatic, character-driven story within a larger history.

2025 Education for Mission

Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining our Future.

Patty Krawec. Broadleaf Books 2022. 203p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic Format: Hoopla Audio book. 1 Electronic Libby Audiobook. 1 Electronic Format: Kindle, Libby Ebook. Unlimited Electronic: Hoopla E Book. 9 Print copies.

In *Becoming Kin*, podcaster Patty Krawec weaves her own story with the story of her ancestors and the broader themes of creation, replacement, and disappearance, helping readers see settler colonialism through the eyes of an Indigenous writer. Krawec asks questions such as: What would it look like to remember that we are all related? How might we become better relatives to the land, one another, and Indigenous movements for solidarity? The work is a sojourn through Native and settler history, myth, identity, and spirituality that helps us retrace our steps and unravel the history we have been taught.

2025 Education for Mission

The Book Woman's Daughter: A novel.

Kim Michele Richardson. Sourcebooks Landmark 2022.

Wayne Co Library clevnet: 5 Electronic: Libby Audiobook. 24 Electronic: Kindle, Libby Ebook.

Unlimited Electronic: Hoopla E Book. 19 copies on Audio Discs. 74 print copies. 34 Large print copies. 2 Audio media player copies.

Both a standalone and a sequel to the bestselling novel *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*, *The Bookwoman's Daughter* tells the story of Honey Lovett, daughter of the famed, blue-skinned Troublesome Creek packhorse librarian.

Honey and her Kentucky family have been hiding from the law all her life. But when her mother and father are imprisoned, Honey realizes she must fight to stay free. Picking up her mother's library route, Honey begins to deliver books to the remote hollers of Appalachia. But the route can be treacherous, and Honey's going to have to fight for her place. (Violence)

2025 Education for Mission

Fortune: How Race Broke my Family and the World and How to Repair it all.

Lisa Sharon Harper. Brazos Press. 2022.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet : Unlimited Electronic Hoopla Audio Book. 1 Electronic Libby Audiobook, MP3. 3 print copies.

Drawing on her lifelong journey to know her family's history, activist Lisa Sharon Harper recovers the beauty of her heritage, exposes the brokenness that race has wrought in America, and casts a vision for collective repair. With careful research, Harper traces 10 generations of her family history, showing how American ideas, customs, and laws robbed her ancestors—and the ancestors of so many others—of their humanity and flourishing. A Word & Way 2022 Book of the Year and listed in Sojourners' 2022 Book Roundup to Inspire Faith and Justice.

2025 Education for Mission -Bonus two books in Education for Mission

The Girl with the Louding Voice: A Novel

Abi Dare. Dutton. 2020. 382p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 Electronic Libby Audiobook. 46 print copies. 8 Large print copies.

This coming-of-age novel tells the story of Adunni, a 14-year-old girl growing up in a rural Nigerian village who longs to get an education so she can find her "louding voice" and speak up for herself.

Despite the obstacles in her path, Adunni never loses sight of her goal of escaping her life of poverty so she can build the future she chooses—and help other girls like her do the same. The debut novel from Abi Daré, who grew up in Nigeria and now lives in the United Kingdom, was an instant New York Times bestseller. (Violence) (Sex)

2025 Education for Mission

How to Reach the West Again: Six Essential Elements of a Missionary Encounter.

Timothy Keller. Redeemer City to City. 2020.

Authored by the late American Calvinist pastor, preacher, theologian, and Christian apologist Timothy James Keller, this book calls upon churches to step up in the face of Christianity's decline in the West and be compelled to rethink evangelism from the ground up. Using the early church as our guide, Keller argues that churches and individual Christians must examine ourselves, our culture, and Scripture to work toward a new missionary encounter with Western culture that will make the gospel both attractive and credible to a new generation.

2025 Education for Mission

How the Word is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America.

Clint Smith. Little, Brown and Company. 2021. 334 p,

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 Electronic Kindle, Libby Ebook. 3 print copies. 1 Audio media player. 63 print copies, 8 Audio disc copies.

American writer, poet, and scholar Clint Smith leads the reader on an unforgettable tour of monuments and landmarks that offer an intergenerational story of how slavery has been central in shaping our nation's collective history and ourselves. How the Word Is Passed illustrates how some of our country's most essential stories are hidden in plain view, offering a new understanding of the hopeful role that memory and history can play in making sense of our country and how it has come to be. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction, the Stowe Prize, and the 2022 Hillman Prize for Book Journalism.

2025 Education for Mission

The Making of Asian America: A History.

Erika Lee. Simon & Schuster 2016.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic: Hoopla Audio Book. 2 Electronic Libby Audiobook. 1 copy on sound discs. 4 print copies.

Authored by historian and author Erika Lee, the granddaughter of Chinese immigrants, this book illuminates how generations of Asian immigrants and their American-born descendants have made and remade Asian American life, from sailors who came on the first trans-Pacific ships in the 1500s to the Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II. Over the past 50 years, a new Asian America has emerged. But as Lee shows, Asian Americans have continued to struggle as both “despised minorities” and “model minorities,” revealing all the ways that racism has persisted in their lives and in the life of the country.

2025 Education for Mission

Rough Sleepers: Dr. Jim O’Connell’s Urgent Mission to Bring Healing to Homeless People.

Tracy Kidder. Random House 2024. 298p

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic Hoopla E book. 1 Electronic Libby Audiobook. 47 print copies. 3 large print copies

Authored by the Pulitzer Prize-winning, New York Times bestselling author Tracy Kidder, *Rough Sleepers* shares the powerful tale of one doctor, Jim O’Connell, who made a difference by helping to create a program to care for Boston’s homeless community, addressing one of American society’s most difficult problems instead of looking away. Kidder spent five years following O’Connell and his colleagues as they worked with thousands of homeless patients, offering medical care, socks, soup, empathy, humor, and friendship to some of the city’s most endangered citizens. Named a Best Book of the Year by NPR, BookPage, and the Chicago Public Library. (Violence)

2025 Education for Mission – Youth Books

The Lucky Ones.

Linda Williams Jackson. Candlewick. 2022.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 28 print copies.

This compelling historical fiction account tells the story of 11-year-old Ellis Earl Brown who lives in the Mississippi Delta in 1967. Ellis Earl works hard in school and has big dreams, planning to grow up to become a teacher or a lawyer so his mama won’t have to work as a maid and there will always be enough food in the icebox. But when Mama tells Ellis Earl that he might need to quit school to help support the family, he wonders if happy endings are only possible in storybooks. A gripping story about racism, poverty, and the power of community to help lift people up.

2025 Education for Mission – Youth books

The Witness blanket: Truth, Art and Reconciliation

Carey Newman & Kristie Hudson. Orca Book Publishers. 2022. 91p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Hoopla E book. 1 print copy,

This nonfiction book for middle-grade readers tells the story of the Witness Blanket, a work by Indigenous artist Carey Newman. For 150 years, thousands of Indigenous children were taken from their families and sent to residential schools across Canada. Newman created the Witness Blanket to make sure that history is never forgotten. The Witness Blanket is a living work of art, a collection of hundreds of objects from those schools including everything from photos and dolls to piano keys. This book is both a collection of truths and a beacon of hope

2025 Education for Mission – Children’s Books

Sitti’s Bird: A Gaza Story

Malak Mattar. Crocodile Books. 2024.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 print copy.

From Palestinian artist Malak Mattar comes this slice-of-life narrative that explores how painting helped her overcome the fear and isolation she experienced as a child living in Gaza with her parents. One day while she is in school, bombings begin. She spends the next 50 days at home with her parents worrying and feeling scared, until one day she picks up her paintbrush. Her story brings warmth and wonder to children as it tells of her rebirth as an artist during the 2014 airstrikes on Gaza.

2025 Education for Mission – Children’s Books

The Tower of Life: How Yaffa Eliach Rebuilt Her Town in Stories and Photographs

Chana Stiefel. Scholastic Press. 2022.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 19 print copies.

This moving biography helps young readers understand the motivation behind the woman who created The Tower of Faces, a powerful exhibit at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. Yaffa was just a girl when Nazi soldiers invaded her childhood home of Eishyshok, a beautiful Polish town brimming with light and laughter. Nearly 3,500 Jewish souls, including her family, friends, and neighbors, were erased. After the war, Yaffa made it her life’s mission to recover thousands of her town’s photographs from around the world. Using these photos, she built her amazing exhibit.

2024 Education for Mission

30 Days with E Stanley Jones: Global Preacher, Social Justice Prophet.

John Harnish. Read The Spirit Books. 2022.

Dive into 30 short, inspiring true stories about the life of E. Stanley Jones (1884-1973), described as the “greatest missionary since Saint Paul” in his day. Twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his ministry work in India, Jones was an author, statesman, interfaith leader, and a spokesman for peace, racial inclusion, and social justice. His work brought him into close contact with Mahatma Gandhi and other Indian leaders, and his writings are said to have influenced Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s nonviolent approach to injustice. Here, Harnish illustrates the timeless, loving wisdom that Jones believed lay at the core of Christianity.

2024 Education for Mission

The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story

Nikole Hannah-Jones. Random House/One World. 2021. (Adults)

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 4 MP3, Overdrive Listen 2021. 9 HTML, Adobe, EPub, Kindle 2021. 197 print copies.

The 1619 Project is an exploration of the meaning and overall impact of slavery on American life. Produced in August 2019, the 400-year anniversary of the arrival of the first enslaved people to Virginia, it retells United States history through essays, photos, and podcasts. Ultimately, The 1619 Project addresses the impact of slavery on the nation’s foundational ideals, economy, health care system, racial segregation, music, and more, examining the systems of race and caste that still operate in America today.

2024 Education for MissThe Book of Rosy: A Mother’s Story of Separation at the Border.

Rosayra Pablo Cruz and Julie Schwiertert. Harperone. 2020.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle 2020, 1 MP3, Overdrive Listen 2020, 21 print copies.

This wrenching story shares the plight of the many families separated at the United States and Mexico border. Here, Rosayra “Rosy” Pablo Cruz pens her agonizing tale of seeking asylum in the U.S. after fleeing her home country of Guatemala with her two young boys. After the brutal journey, they arrived at the Arizona border—only to be seized and forcibly separated under the Department of Homeland Security’s new “zero tolerance” policy. She shares her painful but inspiring story about the cruelty of detention and the unbearable agony of being separated from her children in a strange land.

2024 Education for Mission

Defiant: What the Women of Exodus Teach Us About Freedom.

Kelly Nikondera. Eerdmans. 2020.

Wayne Co. Public clevnet: 1 print copy. 1 HTML, Adobe, EPub, Kindle 2020.

The women of Exodus defied Pharaoh, raised Moses, and plundered Egypt. They summoned courage, harnessed intelligence, and gathered resources to enact justice in many small ways and overturned an empire. Today, women find themselves in similar circumstances. Defiant reflects on the resistance literature of Exodus and what it has to offer women, as well as the deep work women do to create conditions for liberation in their church, community, and country. Nikondeha shares how what the women of Exodus accomplished under the oppression of Pharaoh might unlock for us as we imagine our mandate under modern systems of injustice.

2024 Education for Mission

The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A Border Story

Aaron Borrow-Strain. Farrar, Straus and Giroux/Picador. 2019.

Wayne Co. Public clevnet: 15 print copies.

This book tells the story of a Mexican teen mother, Aida, journeying through the U.S. immigration system and the obstacles she faces. Aida was born in Mexico in 1987. When Aida was 8 years old, her mother took her and her siblings to live in Arizona, where she grew up undocumented. After her deportation, Aida found herself in a Mexican city marked by violence, in a country not hers, and separated from her son. To get back to the United States and reunite with her son, she embarked on a harrowing journey, enduring detention centers, immigration courts, and more.

2024 Education for Mission

Child, Church and Mission

Dan Brewster. The Pfdion Mission. 2014.

Penned by longtime Compassion International child ministry expert Dan Brewster, this book addresses the topic of ministry to children in totality, ultimately focusing on the most critical issues and needs. It practically examines how to reach, equip, and empower children to maximize their transformational impact and mobilize them for continuing impact throughout the rest of their lives. As Brewster notes, God often accomplishes the work of the kingdom of God through the very special abilities of the children. The book is lauded as a resource for ministers, seminarians, teachers, and other child advocates. Book available in Korean, some also available in English.

2024 Education for Mission – Bonus Book [2 books in Education for Mission]

I'm Black, I'm Christian, I'm Methodist

Rudy Rasmus, Editor. Abingdon Press.

In this book, edited by Dr. Rudy Rasmus, personal narratives from 10 men and women reveal the distinct struggles of being Black in the church, facing both historic and modern racism. While the essays each begin with the central identities of Black, Christian, and Methodist, they also represent different journeys of confronting centuries of White supremacy in religious and secular institutions. Weaving together autobiography and spiritual formation, they represent a significant contribution to our theological understanding of racism.

2024 Education for Mission

How Beautiful We Were: A Novel.

Imbolo Mbue. Random House. 2021.

Wayne Co. Public clevnet: 2 HTML, Adobe, EPub, Kindle 2021. 83 print copies. 8 Audio disc.

What happens when the reckless drive for profit, coupled with the ghost of colonialism, comes up against one community's determination to hold on to its ancestral land? In *How Beautiful We Were*, a fearless young woman, Thula, from the small fictional African village of Kosawa, starts a revolution against an American oil company. In Kosawa, the people have been living in fear because of the environmental degradation there, from pipeline spills harming farmlands to children dying from drinking toxic water. Left with few choices, the people of Kosawa decide to fight back.

2024 Education for Mission

The House That Love Built: Why I Opened My Door to Immigrants and How We Found Hope Beyond a Broken System.

Sarah Jackson. Zondervan. 2020.

Wayne Co. Public clevnet: 6 print copies.

What does it mean to love our neighbor? That is the question at the heart of this story, authored by one woman who experienced transformation after she opened her home to immigrants. Once, Jackson thought immigration justice was administered through walls and fences. Then she met a deported young father separated from his U.S.-citizen family, and everything changed. As she began to meet families ravaged by threats in their homeland, biblical justice took on a new meaning. The work she began through Casa de Paz joined the Christian tradition of hospitality, shining light on what it means to love our neighbor.

2024 Education for Mission

Apple: Skin To the Core

Eric Gansworth. Levine Querido. 2020.

Wayne Co. Public clevnet: 3 HTML, Adobe, EPub, Kindle 2020. 25 print copies. 4 Audio disc. 1 Sound recording.

In many Native American communities, the term "apple" is a racial slur referring to a person who is "Red on the outside, White on the inside," meaning one who looks like an Indigenous person but acts "White." In this bittersweet but inspiring poetic memoir, the author reclaims the term, transforming the slur through the retelling of his own narrative. An Onondaga writer and visual artist raised in the Tuscarora Nation, Gansworth explores the terrible legacy of government boarding schools and addresses identity and belonging as he struggles with appropriation, language, family ties, friendship, feeling lost, and leaving home for college. Suitable for upper youth or adult.

2024 Education for Mission

Let Your Light Shine: Mobilizing for Justice with Children and Youth

Reginald Blount and Virginia Lee. Friendship Press. 2019.

What can we do about the plethora of harsh situations children face today, such as broken immigration policies, hunger, school shootings, mass incarceration, human trafficking, and failing schools? Advocacy might well be the answer. This collection of writings on advocacy for children and theological education mobilizes readers by educating about the history and goals of the Children's Defense Fund, including the passion of founder Marian Wright Edelman. Child advocacy is also woven throughout the book with religious core values, illuminating the faith aspect of helping children have a voice. The book also covers the Freedom Schools movement of the 1960s, as well as the CDF's contemporary Freedom Schools.

2024 Education for Mission

Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival, and Hope in an American City.

Andrea Elliot. Random House. 2021.

Wayne County Public clevnet: 104 Print copies. 11 HTML, Adobe, EPub, Kindle. 21 MP3, Overdrive Listen 2021.

The winner of the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize and a finalist for the Bernstein Award, this book follows eight dramatic years in the life of Dasani, a precocious and imaginative girl living in a homeless shelter in Brooklyn. Elliott weaves the story of Dasani's childhood with the history of her ancestors, tracing their passage from slavery to the Great Migration north. As Dasani comes of age, New York City's homeless crisis has exploded, deepening the chasm between rich and poor. She must guide her siblings through a world riddled by hunger, violence, racism, drug addiction, and the threat of foster care.

2024 Education for Mission

The 1619 Project: Born on the Water

Nikole Hannah-Jones. Kokila. 2021. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 3 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 5 HTML, Kindle. 78 print copies.

Hannah-Jones collaborated with children's book author Renée Watson to produce this companion piece. A children's picture book written in verse, it serves to help young people understand the important concepts addressed in the original—notably, the impact of slavery on American's foundational principles. In the children's version, the book explores a perspective from a young Black girl tasked in school to draw a flag that represents her ancestral land. At first, she doesn't understand her family's past, but soon the girl talks with her grandmother and learns the truth about her lineage.

2024 Education for Mission

They Called Us Enemy

George Takei. Top Shelf Productions. 2019. Youth.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 5 HTML, kindle 2020. 57 print copies.

This New York Times bestselling graphic novel is a memoir detailing the childhood of George Takei, actor, author, and activist. Takei spent his childhood imprisoned with his family within American concentration camps during World War II. They Called Us Enemy is his firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the experience of growing up under legalized racism, his mother's hard choices, his father's faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future.

2024 Education for Mission

Thirty Talks Weird Love

Alessandra N. Varela. Cinco Puntos Press. 2021. Youth

Wayne Co. library clevnet: 13 print copies.

This is a moving story of a girl on the cusp of womanhood who learns to empathize with others—and ultimately to care for herself. Thirteen-year-old Anamaría is struggling both with depression and with understanding what's truly important as she grows up in Ciudad Juárez, México. Enter her 30-year-old self, who pays a surprise visit to Anamaría. Anamaría doesn't want to trust this stranger, who insists she's from the future. Meanwhile, she's mourning the tragedy plaguing her city—the disappearance of young girls and women that is becoming increasingly common.

2024 Education for Mission

Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky.

Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond. Knopf Books for Young Readers. 2022. Children

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 HTML, Kindle. 33 print copies.

This riveting exploration of culture and history traces the journey of the color through time and across the globe. The color blue has been long sought-after, from the mass quantities of sapphire rocks ground by ancient Afghan painters, to the snails harvested in Eurasia for the tiny bits of blue contained in their bodies, to the indigo grown as a cash crop on the backs of African slaves. In this beautifully rendered children's book, discover a history of the color as deep as the sea and as wide as the sky.

2024 Education for Mission

Cycle of Rice, Cycle of Life: A Story of Sustainable Farming.

Jan Reynolds. Lee & Low Books. 2021. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 print copy.

From award-winning author and National Geographic photographer Jan Reynolds comes the Spanish-language version of her remarkable and illustrative photography book, skillfully and beautifully detailing the ancient ritual of the cycle of water and the cycle of rice in Bali from temples to fields and from seeds to rice-bearing plants. Woven throughout is information on Balinese spiritual ritual practices and the dangers of overproduction into the explanation of this tiny but powerful grain. Readers come away with a poignant and critical message on responsible stewardship.

2024 Education for Mission

The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families

Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore. Lee & Low Books. 2021. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 8 print copies.

Now available in both English and Spanish, Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore's *The Mangrove Tree* uses powerful prose and pictures to capture this poignant look at an ecological innovation project in the village of Hargigo in the impoverished African nation of Eritrea. The book details Dr. Gordon Sato's idea to plant mangrove trees there, which grow easily in salt water, ultimately providing profound longterm benefits for the community. Also included are many photographs of Sato and the people of Hargigo, bringing their inspiring story into real-world perspective.

2024 Education for Mission

Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey

Margriet Ruurs. Orca Book Publishers. 2016. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 16 print copies. 1 HTML copy. 1 MP3 Overdrive Listen.

This dual-language (English/Arabic) book shares the story of a young girl, Rama, who with her multigenerational family is forced to flee her once-peaceful village to escape the ravages of civil war. The book was inspired by the stone artwork of Syrian artist Nizar Ali Badr, discovered by chance by Canadian writer Margriet Ruurs, who has authored more than 40 children's books. The author was impressed with Badr's work and, using many of his already-created pieces, set out to create a story about the Syrian refugee crisis, allowing the human side of the situation to speak louder than the political.

2023 Education for Mission

Being Sheela: The Life journey of an Immigration Lawyer. Adithi Rao. Harper Collins India. 2020.

A young mother separated from her children for eight long years; a man facing deportation after being mistaken for a terrorist; a woman forced to endure domestic violence so she can retain her right to remain in her adopted country—these are just a few of the thousands immigration lawyer Sheela Murthy has helped in her long career as a philanthropist. From her birth in India through law school at Harvard and starting one of the world's most successful immigration law firms, Adithi Rao explores the journey of a woman driven to help others overcome injustice, dispossession, and legal tangles so they may live a life of dignity in an increasingly challenging world.

2023 Education for Mission

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek – Novel. Kim Michele Richardson. Sourcebooks Landmark. 2019.

Inspired by the true blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s, this bestselling historical novel follows packhorse librarian Cussy Mary Carter and her quest to bring books to Troublesome Creek. The last of her kind, her skin a shade of blue unlike most anyone else, Cussy has to confront prejudice as old as the Appalachias and suspicion as deep as the holler to bring the joy of books to the hill folks. *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* is a story of raw courage, fierce strength, and one woman's belief that books can carry us anywhere—even back home.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 13 Electronic: HTML, ADOBE, EPUB, KINDLE. 37 print copies.

2023 Education for Mission

How Far Do You Love Me? Lulu Delacre. Lee & Low Books. 2021.

This unique bedtime book by award-winning author-illustrator Lulu Delacre features a game that highlights the universal love between caregivers and children while taking readers on a journey across the seven continents of earth. Based on a bedtime game Delacre played with her young daughters, is an I love you book with a twist. With every expression of love, readers visit a different location around the world, each a beautifully illustrated scene of caregivers and children in a place of natural beauty. Suitable for children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 5 print copies.

2023 Education for Mission

"I Am a Man" Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice. Joe Starita. St. Martin's Griffin. 2010.

In 1877, Chief Standing Bear's Ponca Indian tribe was forcibly removed from their Nebraska homeland and marched to Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), in what became the tribe's own Trail of Tears. "I Am a Man" chronicles what happened when Standing Bear set off on a 600-mile walk to return the body of his only son to their traditional burial ground. Along the way, it examines the complex relationship between the United States government and the small, peaceful tribe and the legal consequences of land swaps and broken treaties, while never losing sight of the heartbreaking journey the Ponca endured. *It also explores fundamental issues of citizenship, constitutional protection, cultural identity, and democracy—issues that continue to resonate loudly today.*

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 2 print copies.

2023 Education for Mission

Pachinko – Novel. Min Jin Lee. Grand Central Publishing. 2017.

Among New York Times Top Ten Books of the Year and National Book Award finalist, this novel details the four generations of an immigrant family as they fight to control their destiny in 20th-century Japan. When teenaged Sunja discovers she is pregnant—and her lover is married—she accepts an offer of marriage from a gentle, sickly minister passing through Korea on his way to Japan. But her decision sets off a dramatic saga that echoes through the generations. From bustling street markets to the halls of Japan's finest universities to the pachinko parlors of the criminal underworld, Lee's complex and passionate characters survive and thrive against the indifferent arc of history.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 31 print copies. 3 Electronic: HTML, ADOBE, EPUB, KINDLE. 7 MP3, OVERDRIVE LISTEN.

2023 Education for Mission

Phoebe: A Story- Novel. Paula Gooder. Intervarsity Press. 2018.

When the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Rome around 56 AD, he entrusted his letter to Phoebe, the deacon of the church at Cenchreae. But who was this remarkable woman? In her debut novel, biblical scholar Paula Gooder tells Phoebe's story—who she was, the life she lived, and her first-century faith—and in doing so opens up Paul's theology, giving a sense of the cultural and historical pressures that shaped Paul's thinking, and the faith of the early church.

2023 Education for Mission

Stamped (For Kids): Racism, Antiracism, and You. Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi. Little Brown Books for Young Readers. 2021.

Adapted from the award-winning, bestselling *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*, this book takes young readers on a journey from present to past and back again. Kids will discover where racist ideas came from, identify how they impact America today, and meet those who have fought racism with antiracism. Along the way, they'll learn how to identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their own lives—and learn that talking about race is one of the most important things to learn how to do. Ibram X. Kendi's research, Jason Reynolds' and Sonja Cherry-Paul's writing, and Rachelle Baker's art come together in this vital read.

Suitable for youth.

Wayne Co. Public clevnet : 65 print copies. 1 MPE, Overdrive Listen. 4 Electronic: HTML, Adobe, EPUB, Kindle. 7 Audiobook

2023 Education for Mission

Super Cilantro Girl/La Supernina Del Cilantro. Juan Felipe Herrera and Illustrated by Hnorrio Robledo Tapia. Lee & Low Books. 2022.

Authored by former U.S. poet laureate Juan Felipe Herrera, this empowering story centers on a young girl who uses her superpowers to rescue her mamá from the United States-Mexico border. Young Esmeralda Sinfronteras eagerly waits for her mamá to come home from Mexico so the two of them can be together again. But when Esmeralda learns that that her mother is being kept at the United States-Mexico border, she decides to use her newfound powers to save Mamá herself. In a daring rescue, Esmeralda—now known as Super Cilantro Girl—finds her mother, evades the border patrol, and successfully reunites her family. Suitable for children.

Wayne Co. Public clevnet – 3 print copies.

2023 Education for Mission – Bonus book – counts 2 books Education for Mission

Susan Angeline Collins: With a Hallelujah Heart. Janis Bennington Van Buren. Westbow Press 2021.

Years before Mary Jane McLeod Bethune started her school for girls in Florida, one Midwestern woman was steadily doing her part for girls in the northern Angolan high plateau. For more than three decades, African American missionary Susan Angeline Collins made a tremendous difference in the lives of countless African women and children, some orphaned and homeless and others escaping early marriage and subservience. Authored by retired professor Janis Bennington Van Buren, this book explores the remarkable service-oriented life of Collins from her 1851 birth in Illinois until her 1940 death in Iowa. Collins overcame economic, education, gender, race, religious, and other obstacles surrounding Africa's colonization to serve as a stalwart missionary, leader, teacher, nurse, construction manager, and surrogate mother to "her girls."

2022 Education for Mission

Finding Jesus at the Border: Opening Our Hearts to Our Immigrant Neighbors. Julia Lambert Fogg. Brazos Press. 2020.

Summary: "A beautifully written, well-researched, painfully moving book" Interweaving biblical narratives of border crossing and stories of immigrants journeying to the United States, Finding Jesus at the Border invites Christians to reconsider the plight of their neighbors and respond with compassion to the immigration crisis.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 2 print copies.

2022 Education for Mission

First and Only: A Black Woman's Guide to Thriving at Work and in Life. Jennifer R. Farmer. Broadleaf Books. 2021.

The path for success for Black women includes a commitment to self-care, spiritual growth, and a willingness to push for progress even as we fight for our own liberation. First and Only is not just about how to lean in, or how to discover the irrefutable laws of leadership. It's about how to heal so you can sustain work for justice and equity. It's about finding personal and social redemption--and leading others to find it too.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet - 6 print copies. 1 Electronic: PDF, HTML, ADOBE EPUB, KINDLE

2022 Education for Mission

How to Be an Antiracist. Ibram X. Kendi. One World. 2019.

Kendi weaves an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science, bringing it all together with an engaging personal narrative of his own awakening to antiracism. *How to Be an Antiracist* is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society."

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 13 Audiobook CD. 12 Largeprint. 118 Print copies. 119 Electronic: HTML, Adobe, EPUB, Kindle. 63 Electronic: MP3, Overdrive Listen.

2022 Education for Mission

Metamorphosis: How to Transform Punishment in America. Robert A. Ferguson. Yale Univ. Press. 2018.

Bolstered by insights from hundreds of letters written by prisoners, Ferguson makes the case for an entirely new concept of prisons and their purpose: an "inner architectonics of reform" that will provide better education for all involved in prisons, more imaginative and careful use of technology, more sophisticated surveillance systems, and better accountability.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 2 Digital Format: Html, Adobe EPUB, Kindle.

2022 Education for Mission

Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-Led Resistance to Corporate Globalization. Sharon Delgado. Fortress Press. 2020.

2022 Education for Mission

One Dress. One Year: One Girl's Stand Against Human Trafficking. Bethany Winz with Susana Foth Aughtman. Baker Books 2016.

2021 Education for Mission

Gum Moon: A Novel of San Francisco Chinatown. Jeffrey L Staley. Self-Published. 2018.

In 1898, three-year-old Chinese-American girl Mei Chun Lai is sold to a cruel brothel keeper, where a sympathetic prostitute befriends her. Two years later, at the height of a plague quarantine, a young Methodist woman rescues Chun and places her in a home for abused and trafficked girls. The home is destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire. Chun (aka "Maud") and a group of seven other Chinese children embark on a cross-country singing tour to raise funds to rebuild. When their home matron suffers a breakdown, 13-year-old Maud must lead the band of children home. Based on a true story.

2021 Education for Mission

Leading While Muslim: The Experiences of American Muslim Principals after 9/11. Debbie Almontaser. Rowman & Littlefield. 2018.

This book examines the lived experiences of American Muslim principals who serve in public schools in a post-9/11 world to determine whether global events, political discourse, and the media coverage of Islam and Muslims have affected their leadership and spirituality. Such a study is intended to help readers to gain an understanding of the adversities that American Muslim principals have experienced post-9/11 and how to address these adversities, particularly through decisions about educational policy and district leadership.

2021 Education for Mission

My Savior is the Masses: Dancing Along the Path to Justice. Joy Prim. Self-Published 2019.

Follow the story of Global Ministries mission intern Joy Prim. Joy first served in Hong Kong, working with an NGO serving migrant women domestic helpers from around Southeast Asia, and then in California, serving with an NGO friend from her international placement. After finishing her official missionary assignment, she stayed on, working with the community to continue their collective organizing. Join her through her blog, which she initially began as a way to document her experiences as a missionary and has continued as she's followed Jesus to the community margins.

2021 Education for Mission

A Road Called Down on Both Sides: Growing Up in Ethiopia and America. Caroline Kurtz. Catalyst Press. 2019.

Growing up in the remote mountains of 1950s Ethiopia, Caroline enjoyed American missionary family life. Outside, her world was shaped by drums and the joy cry; treks into the countryside; ostriches on the airstrip; and the crackle of several languages she barely understood but longed to learn. She felt exiled to a foreign country when she went to Illinois for college and later returned to Ethiopia to teach. But rather than returning to her childhood home, maybe it would have been better just to treasure her memories.
Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 1 print copy

2021 Education for Mission

The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan: inventor, entrepreneur, hero. Joan Diccico. Illustrated by Ebony Glenn. Lee & Low Books. 2019. – Elementary / Middle School Reading

“If a man puts something to block your way, the first time you go around it, the second time you go over it, and the third time you go through it.” Garrett Morgan, a prolific African American inventor and entrepreneur, must test his latest invention in a daring rescue after an explosion at the Cleveland Waterworks. But when a tunnel collapsed, trapping twenty men, the rescue would test both Garrett's invention - and his courage.

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 29 print copies