

Westminster Reading List – Summer/Fall 2026

Dear Friends,

I invite you, during my sabbatical, to take a deep breath and indulge in your own time of refreshment and reflection. Below is a list of books and articles that will stimulate your thinking, fuel good conversation, and lead you more deeply into prayer. Some are about the identity and calling of the church; some are about our daily lives as followers of Jesus; others specifically address issues of sexuality. (This is not by any means an exhaustive list! You might have a better idea or discover something along the way.) Neither Westminster nor I endorse every idea in every book, but I think reading these materials will be good for our life as a church as we navigate the times we live in.

I encourage you to start with one title that piques your interest (check out the links to Amazon). Maybe invite a friend to read along with you, then get together to discuss and pray. (Remember the weekly “Saturday Night Alive” prayer gatherings with Pastor Bill at 7pm at Westminster.) It may even be helpful to read something that comes from a different perspective than your own, but which may stretch you in a good way and make you more understanding of other views. Overall, I pray these books will deepen our love for God, for others, and for the church. So enjoy a good read, and may God bless you as we practice loving him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength!

Grace and peace to you all,

Pastor Bob

The Bible. Yep, the Bible. This is not one choice among many; it’s the starting point for everything else. Not sure where to begin? How about the Gospel of Mark? Or 1 Corinthians, or Ephesians, or Amos, or Jude, or the Psalms... God speaks in his Word. You can go to The Bible Project ([Study the Story of the Bible With Free Tools | BibleProject™](#)) or YouVersion ([Home](#)) for more ideas.

Sam Allberry, [Is God Anti-Gay? And Other Questions About Jesus, the Bible, and Same-Sex Sexuality](#)

Jerry Bridges, [Respectable Sins](#)

Rosaria Butterfield, [The Gospel Comes with a House Key: Practicing Radically Ordinary Hospitality in Our Post-Christian World](#)

Rosaria Butterfield, [The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert](#)

J.D. Greear, [Gospel: Recovering the Power that Made Christianity Revolutionary](#)

Christopher B. Hays and Richard B. Hays, [The Widening of God's Mercy: Sexuality Within the Biblical Story](#)

Jeff Henderson, [Know What You're FOR: A Growth Strategy for Work, An Even Better Strategy for Life](#)

David Kinnaman & Gabe Lyons, [Good Faith: Being a Christian When Society Thinks You're Irrelevant and Extreme](#)

Kristin Kobes Du Mez, [Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation](#)

C.S. Lewis, [Mere Christianity](#)

Dane Ortlund, [Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers](#)

Nancy Pearcey, [Love Thy Body: Answering Hard Questions about Life and Sexuality](#)

Cornelius Plantinga Jr, [Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin](#)

Scott Sauls, [A Gentle Answer: Our 'Secret Weapon' in an Age of Us Against Them](#)

Preston Sprinkle, [Grace // Truth 1.0](#)

Bri Stensrud, [Start with Welcome: The Journey toward a Confident and Compassionate Immigration Conversation](#)

Carl Trueman, [Strange New World: How Thinkers and Activists Redefined Identity and Sparked the Sexual Revolution](#)

Dallas Willard, [Renovation of the Heart: Putting on the Character of Christ](#)

N.T. Wright, [Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense](#)

Christopher Yuan, [Holy Sexuality and the Gospel: Sex, Desire, and Relationships Shaped by God's Grand Story](#)

CHAPTERS/ARTICLES

The Book of Order, “**The Foundations of Presbyterian Polity**”

[2025 0724 Book of Order Interactive 2025-2027.pdf](#)

An interesting, scholarly, series on religious life in America:

Tim Keller, “**On the Decline and Renewal of the American Church: Part 1**”

[Tim Keller on the Decline and Renewal of the American Church](#)

Tim Keller, “**The Decline and Renewal of the American Church: Part 2 – The Decline of Evangelicalism**”

[The Decline and Renewal of the American Church: Part 2 – The Decline of Evangelicalism – Gospel in Life](#)

Tim Keller, “**The Decline and Renewal of the American Church: Part 3 – The Path to Renewal**”

[The Decline and Renewal of the American Church: Part 3 – The Path to Renewal – Gospel in Life](#)

Tim Keller, “**The Decline and Renewal of the American Church: Part 4 – The Strategy for Renewal**”

[The Decline and Renewal of the American Church: Part 4 – The Strategy for Renewal – Gospel in Life](#)

Stephen McAlpine, “**The Christian Air is Running Out in the West**” (A sharp analysis of secularism and cultural pressure on believers)

Samuel James, “**Digital Liturgies**” (Deep dives into technology, modern life, and Christian wisdom)

Michael Jensen, “**Against the Algorithm: In Praise of the Parish**” (A reflection on community, modern life, and recovering Christian practices)

Alan Noble, “**You Are Not Your Own**” (Cultural critique on identity, modern pressures, and Christian hope)