

Welcome Back to School!

In just a short time our teachers and school staff will be returning to campus for professional development and time to set up their classrooms. **Our students will begin their new academic year on Wednesday, August 17.**



We are looking forward to this new year as we . . .

Officially re-open and staff our library

Introduce a new math curriculum

Offer a Hot Lunch program with the catering company, Rhubarb & Elliot

Offer an After School Friday Enrichment Program

Continue our relationship with UNM's Graduate Physical Education Program

THANK YOU for your generous donations for our School Supply Drive in July!

We have two **opportunities to serve** at the school this year:

Welcome Desk – Two-hour slots available throughout the week – to answer phone calls and welcome visitors. Please contact our church administrator, Linda Willoughby at office@crossofhope.org for more information.

Substitute Teachers – If you have classroom teaching experience and would like to join our roster of substitutes, please send me a note at esdirector@crossofhope.org



We'll be hosting a **Back-to-School Ice Cream Party** for our church and school community on **Friday, August 26 from 6-7:30 p.m.** Please plan to join us!

Peace,

Debra Alba, Director of School Ministry



Cross of Hope Lutheran Church and School

6104 Taylor Ranch Road NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120
Phone Number: (505) 897-0047
E-mail: office@crossofhope.org
On the web at: www.crossofhope.org
cohcouncil@crossofhope.org

This Journal of Cross of Hope Lutheran Church is published each month for the enrichment of the mission ("Loving God • Transforming Relationships • Serving Others"), for the life of the people of God at Cross of Hope and our community.

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Pat Benchik-Vice President



Confirmation Camp at
Rainbow Trail Lutheran
Camp

Cross of Hope School News



Debra Alba, School
Ministry Director



WE WANT YOUR NEWS ITEMS

Deadline is 10th of the month for the following month's edition. Send E-mail articles to office@crossofhope.org or deliver to church office.

Stewardship

Stewardship involves your time, talent and treasure. Contact the church office for assistance in getting started in any of our ministries. Please remember Cross of Hope in preparing your will.



School Online Registration

<https://www.crossofhope.org/schools/>

for more information.

Tuition for the 2022-2023 School Year

Elementary Tuition

Kindergarten - 5th grade: \$7,075

Preschool Tuition

T/TH: \$2,290

M/W/F: \$3,430

M-F \$5,720

Job Postings

Preschool Director

Cross of Hope Lutheran Church & School is seeking a Preschool Director for the 2022-2023 school year. Cross of Hope School is a welcoming Christ centered community providing a high-quality education in a nurturing environment that respects each child's development. Our Preschool serves children from age 3 - 5 years-old. An ideal candidate will maintain effective communication with families, hiring and supervising Preschool staff, and work closely with the Director of School Ministry.

Duties

The Preschool Director is responsible for the efficient and effective daily operation of a comprehensive preschool and early (a.m.) extended care program. The Preschool Director will also handle the daily leadership of the school, including welcoming families, tours, and monthly staff meetings with preschool staff members. The position oversees the required annual reporting for accreditation, ensures the compliance with state and local regulations, and tracks and completes all documentation in a timely manner.

Requirements

Candidates must meet educational requirements for New Mexico 5-star FOCUS status. A bachelor's degree in early childhood education, child development, or a related field is preferred.

Previous preschool experience as both a teacher and administrator.

Ability to pass a federal background check.

Leadership Certificate or training.

Compensation

This will be a salaried position 30 hours/week.

Compensation will be based on education and experience.

Qualified, Interested Candidates, Please Send:

1. A letter of interest (not to exceed 2 pages).
2. Your resume (not to exceed 3 pages).

To: Debra Alba; Email: esdirector@crossofhope.org ;



The congregational potluck on 6/16/22 was a great success! Thank you to all the people of COH who contributed such delicious and lovely offerings. I hope we can look forward to more events like this in the future - Claudia Russo, Care Team



Confirmation Camp at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp

Kneel always when you light a fire!
Kneel reverently, and thankful be
For God's unfailing charity,
And on the ascending flame inspire
A little prayer, that shall upbear
The incense of your thankfulness
Kneel always when you light a fire!
Kneel reverently, and thankful be.

- From THE SACRAMENT OF FIRE,
by WILLIAM ARTHUR DUNKERLEY



This poem floods my heart each summer I go to camp. It was offered throughout the many summers I worked at Camp Nawakwa as a young man, and it continues to inspire my ministry today. As I give thanks for Ethan, Hunter, Jericho, and Zach and the week we spent together at RTLCL. What are you thankful for as we share this journey of faith?

Blessings on your journey,

Pr. Adam



Who is our "Masked Hoper" question

Masked Hoper question: Who worked for a casket company?

See page 11 for the answer.



Kristyn St-Martin	2
Dale McCan	2
Rhonda Cantu	3
Russ Edwards	4
Saylor Torres	4
Richard Hielkema	6
John Lacher	7
Gem Harris	8
Debra Gonzales	8
Ruth Franz	14
Forrest Uppendahl	17
Geoff Bokan	18
Kathy Smith	18
Bonny Arseneau	18
Ignacia Wickert	19
Fran Hveem	20
Toni Kovarik	23
Ruth Hinkel	23
Dolores Hughes	25
Isaac Williams	25
Carol Russell	26
Arleen Sakelar	27
Jeanette McNealy	28
Adam Diehl	29
Rudy Simek	31



Lucille Elizabeth Benham was baptized July 10 by Pastor Adam Berndt. Her parents are Kevin and Elyse Benham, new members to Cross of Hope.



			Years Married
Leof and Susan Strand	3		54
Don and Beth Cretsinger	4		59
Janet and Wayne Conlon	7		46
Jason and Laurie Adams	8		24
Steve and Staci Spinks	17		31
Ross and Keri Sutter	17		47
Sam and Lisa Jones	18		38
Todd and Kathy Bramley	19		33
Gary and Fran Hveem	20		61

Address and Phone Updates

Sam and Lisa Jones: 9920 Basalt Lane, Denton, TX 76207

Judy Will: jpwill87114@gmail.com

Kevin and Deney Perkins, Ryan Hale: 804 Rincon De Romos Dr, Rio Rancho, NM 87124



Heart Strings

Members of COH unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Herb Delker
6404 Santolina Dr NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Carol Sabrowsky
1250 Northland Dr Apt 110
Princeton, MN 55371

Carroll Werling
2331 Westside Blvd SE #202
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Russ and Mary Pat Edwards
Brookdale, 300 Valencia Dr
SE, Apt 345
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87108

Karen Reiten
899-1504
4841 Shin Avenue NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144

Bobbi Dopslaf
10400 Universe Blvd. NW Apt
815
Albuquerque, NM 87114

John Fries
Gardens - Retreat Villas
Assisted Living
4100 Jackie Road SE, #15
Rio Rancho, NM 87124



Carol Russell has moved to North Carolina. The Family of Cross of Hope will miss you.

New Address:

Carol Russell
974 Old US 70 West, Old
Fort, NC 28762

Pastor Adam and Carol



Longtime friends,
Carol and Ruth Hinkel





COH Hosting Coming Soon

August 14 – 21, 2022

Currently there are three families with a total of seven: Three adults and four children*: ages 7 months - 10yrs. (*There is a family with three older children 9 - 14 years old who may visit. The FP staff will give us plenty of notice as needed.)

The Hosting LOCATION is the parsonage of Montgomery Church of Christ (MCOC) which is a two story house between the International School and the new Church building. This was added at our March 2022: 5-7pm HOSTINGS in PERSON (ALL week except Wednesday), MCOC 7201 Montgomery Blvd NE 87109, (just east of Louisiana Blvd) Family Promise contact number: 505 363 1144, you may call for clarity of location.

We thank you for your gracious and generous support of the Families who would otherwise be homeless. Instead, they are supported and are working toward sustainable independence. Two of the three families have vouchers in hand and one has an inspection scheduled this week. The third family may be admitted to the Saranam Program in early August. There are no concerns about our need to provide food and meals and Hosting 5-7pm. There are families ready to enter the program!!

How you can help:

- **Write** our dates of Hosting on your calendars and PRAY for the families.
- **Sign-Up To Donate Food and Household Items:** items: from the list of items at FP sign-up tables on Sundays: 7/31 and on the 7th of August between services or call Jan or Lois.
- **Provide Hot Meals:** needed Sunday 8/14 through Saturday 8/20 at 5:00p. (Delivery help will be available.)
- **Pray** about your volunteer possibilities.
- **Sign-Up to Host In-Person:** 5p-7p, Sunday 8/14 - Saturday 8/20, except Wednesday). Sign the Safe Haven Policy if you have never signed it or hosted before. (Please, join the families for the hot meal provided.) MASKS are expected to be worn by all present unless they are eating or drinking.

Lois and Jan are so very grateful for your generous gifts of time, money, food, household items, and of course your prayers. Together, WE MAKE a DIFFERENCE in the lives of all of the children served because their families are able to survive the stress of near homelessness.

The unexpected JOY is getting to know these people who are working to turn their lives around!



COH Small Group Ministry

The Mission of Cross of Hope Faith Connections Groups...

To provide an opportunity for all people to share Christ's love and authentic community in a small group setting where lives are transformed through growth in faith and service to others.

Watch the Hope-filled Happenings for the summer discussion questions or click on the following link [summer discussion questions](#).

Making Faith Connections Summer 2022

R. Adam Berndt

Unlocking Love

'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.'
Matthew 22:37-40

The season after Pentecost is the longest season in the liturgical year. During this time, we celebrate our role as the church in the ongoing life of Christ in the world, guided by the companionship and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We encounter scripture that invites us to give faithful attention to our formation, devotion, ministry, and mission on a daily basis as the life of Christ is lived through us. (sacredordinarydays.com/Pentecost)

This summer our Making Faith Connections small groups are invited to consider unlocking love through the scriptures of worship and the 10 commandments. As we contemplate how Christ lives through our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit, we'll also consider how the 10 commandments provide clear boundaries that unlock our ability to freely love God and neighbor. The questions for reflection will remain the same as your small group, your family, or yourself in devotion encounter new scripture and commandment each week. The 10 commandments are taken from Exodus 20:1-17 and we'll use the tool for teaching the faith in the home from Martin Luther called the Small Catechism (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, pg. 1160) to aid our reflection (Find many options to purchase from Augsburg Fortress by clicking [here](#), get it for your phone or device in the app store, or speak to Pr. Adam if you need a copy).

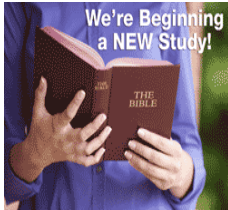
God bless you as we continue to share the journey of life and faith.

August 7 – 8th commandment – You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

August 14 – 9th commandment – You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

August 21 – 10th commandment -You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Women on Wednesday (WOW) 2022-2023



This session will focus on good women, good women in the Bible and good women in our lives. Think about what you think makes someone “good” and what our society says about that. We’ll start each meeting with me talking about a good Biblical woman and then the second part will be you talking about a good woman in your own life. It can be someone you know or knew in real life, a character in a book, a historical or public figure you admire. Tell us a little about their life and then tell us what makes them good in your eyes and how you use their lessons today. You are free to use any approach you wish (if you have pictures you want displayed send them to me and I’ll get them up on the screen). You do not have to use any technology, you can just tell us with no aids.

The last meeting of every month will also include a celebration of the birthdays of WOW members for the month. Every meeting there will be a basket (the Least Coin offering) for contributions to appropriate funds. I will need volunteers to offer the opening prayer for each session and Sherrie (2) will offer our prayers for those in need and also celebrate the good things that happen to us. Please contact me directly if you want to volunteer for opening prayers and if you want to talk about a good woman (or 2) in your life. Just let me know which you are volunteering for and if there are dates you prefer or dates you cannot attend. I’ll put together a tentative schedule of who is doing what when and we can work from there. I will handle the first session so you can see what not to do.

I welcome any and all contributions about the topics during our meetings. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions please contact me (Kathy Gorman) at klgorman@aol.com or 507-304-0079.

Hope Gardeners’ Update: Passing of the Shovel

On Friday, July 22, the Hope Gardeners got together to work on the gardens and grounds. They passed the shovel to a crew of seasoned and new gardeners. Ruth will still give her helping hands when she can, but she welcomed the new and existing crew of helpers with open arms, gloves, buckets, and garden tools.



Ruth Hinkel



Special Needs VBS

A Time to Soar

Praying and learning,
Dancing and singing,
Painting and gluing, and
Meeting new friends



We are grateful for another year of Vacation Bible School for those with Special Needs. It was a busy week filled with God's love as we all reaffirmed that God provides for us, and calls us to "soar" as we adjust to life after COVID.

We were joined this week by six students and one adult from Calvary Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, North Dakota. They were on a mission trip participating in service projects in the southwest. We were blessed to have them here for three days during the week sharing their love and joy with all of us. All total, we had 27 volunteers and 23 students, with our students ranging in age from 4 to 71 years old.

I also want to thank Wendy Harrison for all her hard work, dedication and love for all of us. She listened to God, brought us his message, and translated it into stories and crafts bringing it to life as something we can do all the time.

And finally, I want to thank all of you for your continued prayers and support of this ministry. We are all called by God to spread our wings and reach out with His love to those around us and your support has enabled us to do just that.

With peace and love,
Patty Westerfield



Youth Group from
Calvary Lutheran
Church





Ruth Hinkel

As interviewed by: Mary Bresnahan

Birthdate: August 23, 1932

Birthplace: Görlitz, Germany

Married: September 1954, to Heinz—Widowed 2008

Occupation: Seamstress

Hobbies: Gardening, crocheting, Swedish weaving, reading, classical music

Most of us know Ruth. You may have been welcomed to church on Sunday by her. Or you may have admired our beautiful gardens – Ruth’s handiwork. On Sunday, July 10, Ruth decided it was time to “pass the shovel” of leadership on to another group of gardener lovers. Fortunately, Ruth will continue to be a Cross of Hope Gardener. She has been one of our gardeners since she took things over from Barb Ostby in 2004. We owe Ruth a huge thank you for all her work. Take a moment to give her a well-deserved “thank you.”

Ruth was the oldest of six children. She has one brother, Fred, and four sisters (the youngest is 19 years younger). All of them live in the Salt Lake City area. In the spring of 1952, when Ruth was almost 20 years old and Fred was 18, they immigrated to the U.S. Her parents and sisters had to stay behind until her father could get a visa. It was a bit challenging since his hometown was now in Poland, not Germany. In spite of that, with the help of the LDS (Mormon) church and Ruth and Fred, they were able to sponsor them. The rest of the family arrived in the U.S. in the fall of 1953. Sponsorship is always necessary showing that the immigrant would have a place to live and financial support. Ruth’s father was a tool and die maker, so it was not hard for him to find work. Her mother went to work as a seamstress after the youngest was in school. Ruth and Fred found a larger apartment to accommodate the entire family.

Fred joined the U.S. Army. Ruth worked for a casket company from 1952 to 1966. (We can only imagine what little extra she slipped beneath the liner.) After five years, Ruth became a U.S. citizen. Heinz, her husband to be, came to the U. S. in 1951. He also became a U. S. citizen when his five years passed. Since Heinz was ten years older than Ruth, he had many more life experiences. He held a position within the LDS church. Additionally, he had been in the German Army. He was a prisoner of war (POW) in Russia. While there he became ill and couldn’t work, so he was released in a prisoner exchange. Once in the U.S., he went to the University of Utah majoring in Banking and Finance. Because he was German it was difficult to impossible for him to find a job in this field.

Ruth Hinkel continued from page 11

Both Ruth and Heinz became disenchanted with the LDS church and its teachings. They simultaneously decided to become Lutherans. A request came through their new church looking for teachers on the Navajo reservation. Timing was great. Ruth had been thinking about the Peace Corps. She went and listened to a presentation about the reservation job. When she got home she told Heinz all about it. He was on board. He could teach math. In 1966 they were off to the reservation in Rock Point, AZ. Under Heinz's guidance Ruth could teach grades 1 – 4 and Heinz grades 5 – 8. Their plan was to stay for ten years. However, Heinz had some health problems. After five years (1971) they moved to Albuquerque to be closer to medical care.

Ruth got a job as a seamstress with Pioneer Wear and worked there until 1992. They made Western outer wear. After a few years as a seamstress, she supervised the leather finishing and the last couple of years she was in the fabric finishing line. In between these assignments she worked in the production office keeping records and schedules. Heinz got a job in accounting. Enough time had passed that people weren't concerned that he was German and his past.

The transition from Mormon to Lutheran was difficult within the family. Both Ruth and Heinz's parents had been Lutheran and Catholic. Both religions were predominant in Germany – depending on what part of the country you came from. Heinz was an only child, so it was not quite as bad for him. However, with very close-knit families and the teachings of the LDS church, it was difficult to accept what Ruth and Heinz had done. Eventually, all was resolved, and the family has remained close. Ruth has a nephew who lives in Edgewood and recently became a Bishop in the LDS church.

While living on the reservation, they would get a four-week break. They used this time to travel to different places in the U.S., car camping along the way.

Ruth has been very involved in our church over the years. Besides being an active gardener, she has served on the church council, been a part of W³, helps in the kitchen during various events, is a liturgical reader, a part of WOW and the choir. She particularly enjoyed doing "OchHoperfest" with Pastor Dale.

Ruth has been an asset to our church and a cherished friend to many. If you don't know her, take this opportunity to meet her. She will celebrate her 90th birthday this year. Send her a birthday card or an email. She will be in Utah celebrating her special day, so you won't see her then. Thanks, Ruth, for being you and for all you do.



Welcome Lynne Bagby, Rays of Hope Production Editor

Great news! We have a new publication editor for the Rays of Hope Journal. The Rays of Hope Planning Team welcomes new member Lynne Bagby.

Lynne has recently retired from teaching, and was seeking ways to share her time and talents at COH. She is excited about this new volunteer opportunity. Here's Lynne's email if you would like to put something in the Rays of Hope; lbagby@crossofhope.org or 505-814-3825.

Council Corner Update

Loving God, Transforming Relationship, Serving Others

Summer brings – extremely hot temperatures, vacation memories, outdoor worship, annual meeting, new fiscal year, new Council members, property projects, cleaning and organizing. I am ready for cooler weather, and I am looking forward to lots of changes and challenges.

Every day I thank God for giving me another day on this great earth. I love learning new things, I love keeping busy. I love giving back to God, my Church and Church members through the Church Council.

As I was elected Church Council President at the August meeting I thought a good topic for the Council Corner this month would be - Cross of Hope Council.

Do you know what the Church Council is? Do you know what the members do? Do you know who the current officers and members are? What does a typical meeting look like and how can you find out about what went on at the meeting?

Before I answer these questions, I want to look back a couple of years when several of the Council member's terms were ending. Because we couldn't meet in person, we contacted Church members by phone and via e-mail and encouraged them to join our Council. We were so fortunate to have a positive response and I believe the gifts and skills of those who accepted have been a blessing to Cross of Hope and an asset to the Council.

Now back to the questions,

What is the Church Council?

The Church Council has a general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

What does the Church Council do?

Some of the responsibilities of the Church Council as outlined in the Cross of Hope Constitution include:

- Support the Pastor
- Lead the congregation in stating its mission
- Participate in long-range planning
- Set goals and priorities and evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals
- Oversee and provide for the administration of this congregation to enable it to fulfill its functions and perform its mission
- Responsible for the financial and property of the Congregation
- Prepare and recommend the annual budget
- Serve a two-year term
- and much more

Who are the Council Members?

July 19th was the first Council Meeting following the Annual Congregational Meeting. Typically, this is the meeting where new officers are elected by Council Members. And that happened!

The new Executive members of the Council are:

Council continued from page 13

- President – Margie Reed
- Vice President – Pat Benchik
- Secretary – Janet Conlon
- Treasurer – Todd Bramley
- Pastor Adam Berndt

The Congregational Council voting members includes Pastor Adam, Tim Fuller, Kathy Gorman, Sharon Halstead, Sherrie Simek, Kristi Valdez

What happened at the August Meeting?

At the beginning of our meetings, Pastor Adam offers an opening prayer. However, he was at Rainbow Trail Confirmation Camp but that didn't stop his desire to be with us. Just as we were ready to start the meeting Pastor sent us a message saying that he just got finished with an all-day hike and was now praying for all of us. So special!

Each member also takes turns offering a devotional. Kathy Gorman provided us with awe inspiring food for thought. Pat Benchik offered a warm welcome to new member Sharon Halstead, on behalf of the Council and then each member provided their own introduction and support.

Attendance is taken, minutes from the previous month are reviewed and approved (if no changes) followed by the Treasurers Report.

Updates about the ECECD Preschool Grant (from the state) were provided. Projects completed include new turf, sand, playground woodchips, pea stone, awnings over doors and windows, new floors, new windows and shades. New teaching tools and accessories purchased for the classrooms. Additional playground equipment was ordered and should be installed early fall. What a gift from God!

Items and topics from a prepared agenda are addressed. Each agenda item is discussed. Action items are approved by voice vote.

Meetings end with a prayer by Pastor Adam.

If you would like to find out what goes on at a Council meeting, minutes are posted on the bulletin board outside the Church office.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact me at cohncouncil@crossofhope.org or anyone of the Council Team members.



Margie Reed,
Council President

When you need these services, please think of Rays of Hope sponsors.
We thank them for their continued support in offsetting the costs (by \$10 per month) associated with producing Rays of Hope each month.

A BETTER WAY, LLC
A Wellness & Educational Approach

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Confirmation Camp at Rainbow Trail



thrivent

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Cross of Hope School (Preschool-5th Grade)
Debra Alba
Director of School Ministry

6104 Taylor Ranch Road, NW
(505) 897-1832

email: esdirector@crossofhope.org
website: www.crossofhope.org



Register online now for the 2022-23 school year (Preschool - 5th Grade).
[Link to School \(PreK-5th\) Registration](#)

Cross of Hope Church and School
Congregational Council Team
cohcouncil@crossofhope.org

Pastor Adam Berndt, Margie Reed- President,
Pat Benchik- Vice President, Janet Conlon-
Secretary, Tim Fuller, Kathy Gorman, Sharon
Halstead, Sherrie Simek, Kristi Valdez

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smile.amazon.com/ch/85-0294144 to generate
donations for Cross of Hope
and check out our
[AmazonSmile Charity Lists](#)
to donate items we need
most.

Free to a Good Home

20 Gallon aquarium
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hood, light, and air
pump

2 Danios, 2 platys,
1 red-tailed shark, 2
neons, 1 angel fish,
and 1 placostomas.



I will deliver and help set up.
Call 412.801.1539. Pat Mohr-Kelly

CROSS OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

6104 Taylor Ranch Road NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Mission Statement

Cross of Hope is a Spirit-centered community that shares Christ's love through worship, education and outreach to develop and strengthen relationships with God.

 Rev. R. Adam Berndt, Pastor

505-897-0047 • office@crossofhope.org
www.crossofhope.org

Facebook Page: Cross of Hope Church

Worship Times:

On-Site Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday - 10:45 a.m.

Digital: Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Devotions: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.

August Book Readings

Recommended by Dee Gutierrez

Improving with Age: God's Plan for Getting Older and Better - Stuart and Jill Briscoe

Improving with Age addresses the triumphs and challenges of aging Christians and examines the uniqueness of skills and resources they bring to their church communities. Through Scripture and story, the Briscoe's assert that aging is not only normal, but it is a joyful and productive life season.

Growing in Wisdom and Faith: James - Elizabeth George

Where can women get the wisdom that will help them make the right choices in the many decisions of life? How can they develop a faith that won't waver or crumble when they're overwhelmed by life's trials and temptations? A study of the Book of James.

The Untethered Soul: A Journey Beyond Yourself - Michael A. Singer

What would it be like to free yourself from limitations and soar beyond your boundaries? What can you do each day to discover inner peace and serenity?