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July 2021

We Review the
Best of the Latest
Books
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[A Study of Navajo Concha Belts](#) by Donald Richards with Karen M. Richards (Schiffer Publishing)

The first comprehensive study of Navajo concha belts, [A Study of Navajo Concha Belts](#) is an extraordinary reference work and the most in-depth authority on the subject. Although most books about Southwestern Indian jewelry do include concha belts peripherally, this focused research by expert Donald P. Richards serves as an invaluable resource.

Richards is a native of Arizona. Having worked and traveled in more than 40 countries, he has developed an appreciation for the indigenous arts of peoples from around the world and specializes in Navajo concha belt research.

The breadth of information in [A Study of Navajo Concha Belts](#) covers not only the physical but the human history of these unique belts: influences on southwestern art styles; materials, tools, and techniques; maker and age identification; determining authenticity; concha belts depicted in art; and even modern methods to determine metal composition by X-ray fluorescence (XRF).

In addition to Navajo styles, [A Study of Navajo Concha Belts](#) also includes related styles from the Zunis, Hopis, Pueblos, and the Plains Indians, plus selected related Asian examples – all of which were collected from 51 sources in 14 states and 3 foreign countries.

It is always amazing to me when some historical fact or belief that we oil bought into, turns out to be questionable. Don Richards has made me look at the beliefs I have about the evolution of different Native art forms. It is a good thing to ask, 'Whys' and it's even more fun when you find something that 'doesn't make sense'! – Jackson Clark, Ton-Atin Gallery, Durango, Colorado.

Most important of all is the stunning display of numerous concha belts from all periods, many by the greatest concha belt artists and silversmiths. The resource value of being able to compare and identify stamps and styles of the 'greats' cannot be overstated. Personally, I simply cannot afford NOT to have this extraordinary reference front and center in my library. This book is a 'must-have' for all serious collectors and lovers of concha belts. – John Miller, collector, Fidalgo Island, Washington.

While many of these wonderful conchas are not signed, this book contains exceptionally photographed close-up shots of each concha, buckle, and belt. Through the text and photography of this book, Don and

Karen will help us be just as sure as Grandpa Joe was! What a wonderful map! – Joe Tanner, Tanner Indian Arts, Gallup, New Mexico

Although the internet is out there, I, as a Native American art dealer, like to have a definitive book on whatever it is (e.g, bracelets, saddle blankets, or concha belts) to show my customers. And I believe your book will be 'the definitive authority' on the subject. You have spent years to research, to have discussions, to track down and photograph historic belts, for the production of an educational book for the 'trade' and not particularly for the 'Sunday' antique show person. – Debra Sherman, Dancing Wolf gallery, Elbert, Colorado.

Because there is nothing like it on the market and may never be, libraries will purchase, as will collectors, galleries, and private dealers. – Anonymous consulting ethnologist, Baltimore, Maryland

This extensive belt catalog details 400+ individual belts, making [A Study of Navajo Concha Belts](#) an extraordinary, long-awaited reference for collectors, galleries, and private dealers. <>

Arts & Photography / Retrospective Guide

[Yayoi Kusama](#): A Retrospective by Yayoi Kusama, edited by Stephanie Rosenthal (Prestel)

[Yayoi Kusama](#) accompanies Yayoi Kusama's first major European retrospective exhibition, offering a comprehensive overview of the Japanese artist's influential oeuvre, which spans more than eighty years.

The companion to the groundbreaking new retrospective at the Gropius Bau, [Yayoi Kusama](#) examines Kusama's life and work through wholly original insights by leading experts. The book traces the development of Kusama's creative output from her early paintings and accumulative sculptures to her immersive environments, as well exploring her lesser-known artistic activity in Europe and Germany. It illuminates Kusama's commitment to political and social issues in Europe, the US and Japan. A diverse selection of images and archival documents are featured alongside texts by authors from different theoretical backgrounds. Essays discuss Kusama's accomplishments in the worlds of fashion, film, art marketing and publishing. They focus on her engagement with different artistic spheres and offer genre-specific observations about her performances, installations and painting series.

Editor Stephanie Rosenthal is director of the Gropius Bau in Berlin. Previously she was chief curator at the Hayward Gallery, London, as well as artistic director of the 20th Biennale of Sydney, which took place in 2016.

As shown in [Yayoi Kusama](#), the exhibition spaces Yayoi Kusama (b. 1929, Matsumoto) creates are works of art filled with objects, figures and activity. Inevitably, many of her ephemeral, site-specific creations disappear once an exhibition ends and live on only in photographs. This makes it all the more astonishing for her creations to be resurrected after decades, once again allowing viewers to experience the artist's work in an entirely new and immersive manner.

According to Thomas Oberender, Artistic Director of the Berliner Festspiele, today, with our sensitivity to the vulnerability of the biosphere significantly heightened by the coronavirus, climate change and the ongoing extinction of species, Kusama's history of organic, all-embracing shapes and works imbued with biological life forms becomes even more breathtaking. It is as if the artist has been able to look into the matrix of life, the network of grids and dots of vegetal structures. Kusama's hallucination of the world as a permeable surface and all-encompassing net expanding to an infinite depth and breadth is a dizzying adventure that opens up a world behind the world.

According to Rosenthal, the current retrospective at the Gropius Bau focuses on the artist's exhibition practice: from the 1950s onward, Kusama planned, organized and designed her own exhibitions. From the beginning of her career as an artist, Kusama worked intensively with various approaches to mise-en-scene and developed groundbreaking presentations. This retrospective presents reconstructions of her central exhibitions and engages with Kusama's creative work by involving visitors to the exhibition.

The publication [Yayoi Kusama: A Retrospective](#) offers a comprehensive overview of the influential oeuvre of Kusama which spans more than 80 years. Accompanying the Gropius Bau's exhibition, it traces the development of Kusama's work from her early, paintings and accumulative sculptures to her immersive environments. Eleven essays discuss Kusama's accomplishments, reflect on Kusama's own staging of her art and offer genre-specific observations.

As panoramic and fascinating as its subject, the monumental retrospective [Yayoi Kusama](#) guides viewers interested in Kusama towards a deeper understanding of her creative trajectory and of the breadth of her extraordinary career. <>

Business & Economics

[The Heart of Business](#): Leadership Principles for the Next Era of Capitalism by Hubert Joly, with Caroline Lambert, with a foreword by Bill George (Harvard Business Review Press)

[The Heart of Business](#) outlines how to unleash 'human magic' and achieve improbable results.

Hubert Joly, former CEO of Best Buy and orchestrator of the retailer's spectacular turnaround, unveils his personal playbook for achieving extraordinary outcomes by putting people and purpose at the heart of business.

Joly is the former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Best Buy Co., Inc. where he led the company's turnaround and transformed it into an industry leader, consistently rated one of the best places to work for. He is now a senior lecturer at the Harvard Business School. Writer Caroline Lambert, a journalist and former Deputy Asia Editor for *The Economist*, has collaborated on books with a wide range of change makers and thought leaders.

Back in 2012, "Everyone thought we were going to die," says Joly. Eight years later, Best Buy was transformed as Joly and his team rebuilt the company into one of the nation's favorite employers, vastly increased customer satisfaction, and dramatically grew Best Buy's stock price. Joly and his team also succeeded in making Best Buy a leader in sustainability and innovation.

In [**The Heart of Business**](#), Joly shares the philosophy behind the resurgence of Best Buy: pursue a noble purpose, put people at the center of the business, create an environment where every employee can blossom, and treat profit as an outcome, not the goal.

This approach is easy to understand, but putting it into practice is not so easy, says Joly. It requires radically rethinking how we view work, how we define companies, how we motivate, and how we lead. In [**The Heart of Business**](#), Joly shares memorable stories, lessons, and practical advice, all drawn from his own personal transformation from a hard-charging consultant to a leader who believes in human magic.

Hubert Joly is one of my business heroes.... A new age of business requires a new approach to leadership...To understand the new model, read this book. – Alan Murray, Fortune

Joly, former CEO of Best Buy, debuts with a striking call to action for managers of companies large and small to 'make business and the world better places.' – Publisher's Weekly

[**The Heart of Business**](#) is a modern business guide that demonstrates the power of purpose and people to unlock value for all stakeholders. It delivers invaluable firsthand insight from Hubert Joly's transformative journey at Best Buy and elsewhere and reminds us that strategy is nothing more than words on paper until it is activated by 'human magic.' Hubert's thoughtful message is an inspiring and highly compelling call to action for any leader. – Patrice Louvet, President and CEO, Ralph Lauren

I've had the good fortune of knowing Hubert for over a decade. [The Heart of Business](#) is a thought-provoking read on the notion that noble purpose is an essential driver of business success today. He reinforces this thesis with compelling anecdotes from his illustrious career and provides a practical guide to putting it into action. It is a timely and meaningful book that reminds us of the vital role companies can play in moving the world forward. – Shantanu Narayen, CEO, Adobe Systems

In [The Heart of Business](#), Hubert Joly shares his principles about business and leadership, how he came to shape them, and how he has been putting them to work over the years. Whether you are fresh out of business school or a seasoned CEO, this is a wonderful book to include in your reading list. – Indra Nooyi, former Chairman and CEO, PepsiCo

Hubert Joly proves that businesses don't need to choose between profit and purpose. But more than that, he shows us how it's done, with practical advice and clear examples. It's hard not to feel optimistic about the future of capitalism after reading this book. – Ginni Rometty, former CEO, IBM; Cochair, OneTen

Best Buy's turnaround under Hubert Joly's leadership was remarkable – a case study that should and will be taught in business schools around the world. Bold and thoughtful – he has a lot to teach. – Jeff Bezos, founder and CEO, Amazon

Hubert Joly is a refreshing voice on organizational transformation, and with [The Heart of Business](#) he now shares an equally visionary perspective on the next potential phase of stakeholder capitalism. This is must-read material for anyone looking to understand modern business as a force for global good, the changing nature of leadership, and why deep purpose needs to be at the heart of everything we do. – Alex Gorsky, Chairman and CEO, Johnson & Johnson

In his inspiring and transformative book, [The Heart of Business](#), Hubert Joly uses his years of experience at Best Buy to clearly show the importance of purposeful and human leadership and how to implement it. This playbook for 'unleashing human magic' will change hearts and minds not only on how companies are run but how business and capitalism are taught in business schools. This is a must-read and a defining book of our time. – Arianna Huffington, founder and CEO, Thrive Global

Through great storytelling and lessons from his own experience, Hubert invites us to think deeply about a company's purpose – to contribute to the common good and serve all its stakeholders in a harmonious fashion

by unleashing human magic – and offers a set of principles and practical advice on how to make this vision a reality. – Satya Nadella, CEO, Microsoft

After reviving multiple companies, Hubert Joly now takes on his biggest challenge: turning around capitalism itself.... Joly makes a compelling business-oriented case for why the future of capitalism depends on helping people flourish at work. – Roger W. Ferguson, President and CEO TIAA

A *Wall Street Journal* bestseller, named a *Financial Times* top title, [The Heart of Business](#) is a timely guide for leaders ready to abandon old paradigms and lead with purpose and humanity. It shows how to reinvent capitalism so that it contributes to a sustainable future. <>

Business & Economics / Agriculture / Sustainability

[Building Your Permaculture Property](#): A Five-Step Process to Design and Develop Land by Rob Avis, Takota Coen, & Michelle Avis (Mother Earth News Wiser Living Series: New Society Publishers)

When designing a regenerative permaculture property, too many land stewards suffer from option paralysis, a lack of integrated holistic design, fruitless trial-and-error attempts, wasted money, and the frustration that results from too much information and no context.

[Building Your Permaculture Property](#) offers a revolutionary holistic method to overcome overwhelm in the complex process of resilient land design. It distills the authors' decades of experience as engineers, farmers, educators, and consultants into a five-step process complete with principles, practices, templates, and workflow tools.

Authors are Rob Avis Michelle Avis, and Takota Coen. The Avis' co-own Adaptive Habitat, a leading-edge property design firm, and Verge Permaculture, a globally-recognized, award-winning education business. Coen is a permaculture educator, Red Seal Carpenter, second-generation organic farmer, and co-owner and operator of Coen Farm, an award-winning 250-acre permaculture farm.

[Building Your Permaculture Property](#) is about the Five-Step Permaculture Process, a problem-solving methodology that includes step-by-step exercises, templates, productivity, planning and workflow tools, developed and honed through decades of successful land management consulting and farming.

Building Your Permaculture Property helps readers:

- Clarify their vision, values, and resources.
- Diagnose their land and resources for strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.
- Design their land and resources to meet their vision and values.
- Implement the right design to enhance their strengths and improve their weakest resource.
- Establish benchmarks to monitor the sustainability and success of their development.

*A book to take the reader from thinking into action, **Building Your Permaculture Property** offers an excellent addition to permaculture theory and provides a key resource for all designers.... Offering a window on digital design tools, clever illustrations, and examples from the demanding world of cold prairie farming, the authors have created a well-marked pathway for the advanced learner to reach professional outcomes. – Peter Bane, executive director, Permaculture Institute of North America, author, *The Permaculture Handbook**

*As well as being a valuable tool for individuals in their permaculture journeys, **Building Your Permaculture Property** represents another step towards permaculture being recognized beyond its widespread misconception of being simply a fashionable form of organic gardening. It highlights the need for permaculture design thinking in creating resilient, regenerative, landscapes and communities. Through this work, Rob, Michelle, and Takota make a valuable contribution to the ongoing evolution of permaculture thinking and action. – David Holmgren, permaculture co-originator*

*Exactly what is needed in the regenerative agriculture, homesteading, and permaculture community right now. It is loaded with practical, non-ideological, and actionable material on how to approach building your permaculture homestead. The information here is completely guided by experience and facts, unlike a lot of content out there these days that is rooted in hopes and dreams and built on a lack of practical application. This book will certainly be my manual as I develop my off-grid permaculture homestead. – Curtis Stone, farmer, consultant, and author, *The Urban Fanner**

*Those just embarking on a project, and those in the thick of creation, will find value from **Building Your Permaculture Property**'s systems approach to regenerative design. Anchored in permaculture's basic tenets – earth care, people care, and future care – the book's five-step process is organized with templates to collect and manage information, helping the*

reader to identify design ideas that consider her values, resources, and personal vision. These mental tasks are enhanced by playful illustrations by Jarett Sitter and lessons learned on the ground from the Coen family farm. Highly recommended! – Catherine Wanek, co-founder, Builders Without Borders, author and photographer, *The New Strawbale Home* and *The Hybrid House*, and co-editor, *The Art of Natural Building*

If you are serious about designing a permaculture property, this book has to be in your toolkit. The authors offer an accessible and current guide to the complexity of good design based on years of practical experience. – Morag Gamble, Permaculture Education Institute

This book is doing a world of good by reorienting readers to the holistic nature of permaculture. More than just a gardening method, permaculture is rooted in systematic observation, design, practice, and feedback for re-design to create regenerative, biodiverse, and profitable landscapes. I enjoyed reading this book! – Zach Locks, director, The Ecosystem Solution Institute, author, *The Edible Ecosystem Solution* and *The Permaculture Market Garden*

... Interwoven with a good amount of philosophy and detail, [Building Your Permaculture Property](#) is a needed read for anyone who is serious about developing their property through a permaculture design. – Nicholas Gunner, founder and director, The School of Permaculture

The ideas in [Building Your Permaculture Property](#) support readers in building their ecologically regenerative, financially sustainable permaculture properties. The book is the essential guide for everyone looking to establish enjoyable and thriving permaculture property, anywhere in the world. <>

Cooking, Food & Wine

[Just Desserts](#): Good Things Come to Those Who Bake by Charlotte Ree (Running Press)

[Just Desserts](#) teaches readers everything they need to know – from cookies to bundt cakes – so they can make the most exciting recipes and be the best bakers in town.

Thirty recipes range from chocolate brownies, shortbread caramel slice, and chocolate chip cookies to layered berry pavlova and chocolate ganache bundt. The book's compact size makes it unintimidating and also a great gift, even if it's just for oneself.

Author Charlotte Ree is an avid baker and recipe developer with an Instagram presence of 28k followers. Based in Sydney, Australia, she develops recipes and content

for brands such as Marimekko, Kenwood, and Williams-Sonoma. When she isn't baking, Ree is usually traveling as part of her day job as communications manager for a book publisher.

Ree says her love for baking is topped only by her undying love of puns. This is a collection of 30 of her favorite and most popular cakes, biscuits, slices and desserts.

Ree says she is a no-fuss baker, and good, delicious, mouth-watering recipes really do not have to be complicated. Her recipes are easy and made to taste amazing more than just look pretty. [Just Desserts](#) aims to fill readers' baking arsenal with simple, tried-and-tested, trustworthy staples that they can bake day in, day out, to please even the pickiest of eaters.

She says she's not just baking to eat, she's really baking so that she can share her results with someone. There are many recipes in [Just Desserts](#) that take no more than 30 minutes to put together, and the joy and sheer satisfaction one feels when gifting a classic, simple, easy-to-bake cake to someone will encourage readers to bake more, and will have people knocking at their doors.

She advises bakers to read through a new recipe in its entirety before they begin baking, to make sure they have all of the ingredients and equipment and have allocated the time needed. Baking is a science, so readers will want to follow the method to a tee to ensure they end up with a cake that is risen, moist and delicious.

This pocket-sized baking book, [Just Desserts](#), is awash in charm, color, and puns for bakers: readers can have their cake and eat it too! <>

Education & Teaching / Online

[Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction](#): How to Engage Adult Learners by Linda Dale Bloomberg (Teachers College Press)

The Spring of 2020 saw educational institutions around the world abruptly convert to online teaching formats. While this transition may be unfamiliar – and even uncomfortable – the skills and techniques needed to engage and empower online learners can be learned and mastered to serve the current and ever-expanding need. [Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction](#) focuses on combining multimodal teaching strategies with innovative technology to help adult learners engage more meaningfully. The book distills decades of research in adult learning and education to provide strategies that directly and practically apply to online environments. Linda Dale Bloomberg identifies five core areas for focus: principles of adult learning, engagement through presence, diversity and inclusion, community

building, and enhancing learner empowerment; thereby demonstrating how to prepare for the online learning environment, design and deliver engaging course content, and effectively evaluate the learning experience.

Bloomberg has published extensively on online pedagogy, serves on online teaching advisory boards, and holds the positions of associate director of faculty support and development and full professor in the School of Education at Northcentral University.

Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction features:

- A holistic approach that addresses and integrates every key dynamic to ensure the design, development, and delivery of optimal online learning experiences.
- Content readily applicable across disciplines and institutional types.
- Firm grounding in research, theory, and best practices related to social presence, engagement, inclusive pedagogy, Understanding by Design (UBD), Universal Design for Learning (UDL), reflective practice, and principles of adult learning and development.
- Comprehensive checklists with overviews of key action items and associated steps involved in course design, development, and delivery.
- Reflection, a cornerstone of deep learning, and reflective questions in each chapter.

The shift to online learning, which is typically multimedia based, requires adjustments to the teaching practices associated with traditional learning environments, thereby placing new and increased demands on instructors. Core competencies for online teaching include organizational and time-management skills and the ability to facilitate collaboration and teamwork, build community, pose questions effectively, and present and engage fully with learners in virtual environments. Indeed, understanding the pedagogy of online education is foundational.

Intended to be a practical and useful resource, this **Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction** incorporates and highlights effective practices for online course design and teaching that are grounded in principles of adult learning, and illustrates how to understand and adopt pedagogical techniques and approaches that are targeted specifically for online learning environments.

Whether readers are instructors who are contemplating teaching online, are relatively new to online teaching, or have been engaged in the field for some time and seek to enhance their practice, **Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction** offers key principles for understanding the online learning experience as well as actionable strategies for engaging and supporting learners.

Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction addresses in detail all of the components that make up the online learning experience and provides an in-depth overview of the knowledge and skills needed to engage with, support, and teach an increasingly diverse on-line learner population. The focus throughout is conceptual

understanding as it relates to the practical aspects of online instruction. A key component of the book is to encourage instructors to view themselves as reflective practitioners who are invested in their own development as teachers. Because reflection is a cornerstone of deep learning, reflective questions are included throughout the chapters, serving as prompts to think more deeply about the impact of their teaching, thereby opening the way for new insights and awareness regarding improved practice.

Introduction: Going the Distance – An Overview of Online Learning

The introduction provides an overview of some of important contextual information to familiarize readers and get them started. To begin, teachers need to develop an understanding of the total online learning experience, including the current landscape of the online learning environment, the challenges inherent in online learning, and methods of online instruction. Additionally, details are provided regarding the demographics and attributes of online learners, as well as the role of the online instructor, including competencies and pedagogical strategies not necessarily applicable to traditional educational contexts.

Part I: The Art of the Start – Design and Develop Online Instruction

A positive culture for online learning begins with excellence in preparation of instructional design and development. Instructors want and need practical strategies; access to and ease in using the technology; and the ability to design, develop, and customize instructional materials. The first part of the book addresses all aspects of course design and development throughout planning and implementation.

Part II: Traveling the Educational Journey – Deliver Engaging and Empowering Learning Experiences

Online instructors face new and often unexpected challenges when delivering online instruction. Whether one is teaching in fully online or hybrid environments, instructors must master the tools of technology, and serve as content specialist and facilitator of learning. Moreover, instructors work with an increasingly diverse population of learners. A central aspect to promoting learner engagement, and in turn ongoing success, is the establishment of teaching presence. In this part of [**Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction**](#), readers explore best practices to intentionally enhance teaching presence in order to deliver engaging and empowering learning experiences.

Part III: Taking Stock – A Review of Multimodal Engagement

As the growth of online programs continues to rapidly accelerate, there has been an increased concern about quality, success, and retention. While models for understanding persistence in the face-to-face learning environment are well established, there is a need for establishing effective frameworks or taxonomies for evaluating online learning experiences in light of the unique characteristics of the

online environment and the online learner. Ongoing and current research indicates that attrition rates are significantly higher than in face-to-face programs. As such, the development of models to explain and assess learner engagement in the online environment is imperative so that progress can be appropriately monitored and addressed. This is the final reflection checkpoint allowing teachers to think about lessons learned, and consider more deeply their role as online instructors and how and in what ways they will continue working to ensure instructional excellence and impact.

In my role as an academic strategist, I am often asked to recommend a guidebook for faculty transitioning to online instruction. Dr. Bloomberg provides an outstanding practical framework for designing and delivering engaging online experiences, supported by the latest research. Comprehensive without being ponderous, practical without being simplistic – I will be recommending this book frequently to my colleagues. – John E. Neal, vice president, university relations, 2U

Linda Bloomberg's latest book, [Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction](#), could not come at a more important time in education. Dr. Bloomberg not only addresses the 'how to' of designing instruction but emphasizes the most important elements of building relationships – both instructor-to-student and between students. Addressing equity and bias sets her book apart from others, and her expertise, commitment, professionalism, and passion for teaching come through in her writing. This book should be a must-read for all online faculty members! – Rebecca Wardlow, dean, College of Education, United States University

An engaging, relevant roadmap that is a must-read for any online instructor. This book is a practical guide to the pedagogy of online teaching that will help instructors to be present and to foster authentic interactions with their students. – Allison Moore, online adjunct instructor, Grand Canyon University

[Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction](#) is a resource for helping adult learners deal with online learning and teachers design and deliver online course content.

Most of 2020 and going into 2021 was less about distance learning, and more about crisis teaching. Going forward, instructors have the opportunity to be much more purposeful and intentional in their approach, and this is where [Designing and Delivering Effective Online Instruction](#) will prove indispensable. <>

[The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia](#) by
Hermann Winde, translated by Russell C. Kleckley (Pickwick
Publications)

Beginning with the immigration of the "Georgia Salzburgers," religious exiles from Europe, **[The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia](#)** tells a story of faith and struggle that is deeply embedded in the religious and cultural life of the American colonial South. Previously unpublished and untranslated, this work, Hermann Winde's dissertation, laid the foundation for a limited group of scholars and specialists who have continued to develop that story for over four decades.

Hermann Winde (1935-) following his ordination in 1963, served several congregations in East Germany and in 1977, became assistant to the Bishop of the Protestant diocese of Gorlitz. He has lectured in churches, seminaries, and universities in the United States.

As told in **[The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia](#)**, the story of the early Lutheran church in Georgia is not an isolated tale of an insulated people. The story reaches deep into the history of colonial Georgia where it intertwines with the colony's founding and its struggles to grow and thrive in the decades leading to the American Revolution and beyond. The story also reaches far and wide across the Atlantic Ocean where it is inextricably linked to people and events in Germany, England, and the mountains and valleys of the Austrian Alps. The story begins with a small group of Protestant religious exiles expelled from the territory of Salzburg in the eighteenth century. It passes through the towns and farmlands of south-western Germany. It is nurtured by the spirit and care of German Lutheran Pietism centered in Halle. It takes a decisive turn through London where it converges with the plan to create a colony to give opportunity to England's poor and protection to England's already established colonies against Spanish forces in Florida.

According to editor and translator Russell C. Kleckley, **[The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia](#)**, the story of early Lutheranism in Georgia cannot be told without taking into account the stories of these other places and events, even as it provides a link that connects and illuminates them. The story is not only a chapter in American Lutheran religious history, it is a chapter that adds insight that otherwise would be lost into the social, political, and economic histories of Georgia, colonial America, and the early United States. It is a story that informs awareness of the critical English-German connection in the eighteenth century, of Halle Pietism and its extensive reach across the globe, and of the Protestant expulsions from the territory of Salzburg in the 1730s, among countless other associations.

In 1960, Winde, a young doctoral candidate at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, completed a ThD dissertation with the title, "Die Frühgeschichte der Lutherischen Kirche in Georgia," that chronicled that story in its depth as well as its breadth. Winde's aim with his dissertation was to produce "a new, comprehensive representation" that outlined "the core of early Lutheranism in Georgia, its theological stance, and piety." Digging deeply in the original sources preserved mainly at the Missions-archiv of the Francke Foundations (Franckesche Stiftungen) in Halle and the archives at the University of Tübingen, among other places, Winde was able both to expand and correct previous knowledge. The lasting impact of Winde's dissertation continues to this day.

While many studies over the years have drawn on Winde's work, none have replaced its significance. Much information remains in his study that can be found in no other work of any language. Yet Winde's dissertation remains important not only as a source but as a resource. It provides an introduction to the relevant archival material. It also points to an array of secondary resources from earlier generations of scholarship that remain significant and useful but are often overlooked.

This translation and edition of [The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia](#) makes Winde's important contribution more widely accessible, to scholars and general audiences alike, for those with interests ranging from the story of the Salzburger exiles in Georgia and the Ebenezer community, to the history of Georgia to early American history more generally, Lutheranism in the American South, and the trans-Atlantic world of the eighteenth century.

[The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia](#) revises the format of Winde's original dissertation but leaves the content intact with only a few minor changes. Where changes or insertions have been made, those alterations are indicated by brackets.

We have long needed this book, and it is finally available. The colonial history of Lutherans in Georgia is a fascinating story, and Winde has scoured the sources to bring this history to light. In this book we see the complexity and variety of Lutherans in this area, and their struggles to transplant a European religious culture into North America. A great book to have! – Mark Granquist, Lloyd and Annelotte Svendsbye Professor of the History of Christianity, Luther Seminary

Hitherto unpublished and available only in typescript copies, Winde's

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scholarship on German settlements in British America. – James Van Horn Melton, Professor of History, Emory University

Hermann Winde's work is indispensable for anyone studying the history of the Salzburger emigrants, the Lutheran Church, and the former colony of Georgia, as it presents events using the original sources – unpublished letters, diaries, and reports – from the archives in Halle and Berlin. Russell Kleckley's excellent translation therefore fills a long-standing gap in the English-language research landscape. – Jurgen Groschl, Archivist, Francke Foundations, Halle, Germany

[The Early History of the Lutheran Church in Georgia](#) makes Winde's important work available to a wider audience, both to scholars and to readers with a general interest in the topic, who will continue to benefit from Winde's scholarship. Both the detail that emerges through Winde's primary sources and the breadth of the connections he makes across colonial Georgia's geographical and cultural landscape will continue to appeal to scholars and general readers alike as they enter the world of Georgia's first Lutheran communities. <>

History / Vietnam War

[A Short History of the Vietnam War](#) by DK (A Short History Series: DK)

We are fighting a war with no front lines, since the enemy hides among the people, in the jungles and mountains ... – General William C. Westmoreland, 1967

Written and produced in association with the Smithsonian Institution, [A Short History of the Vietnam War](#) is a definitive but accessible guide to one of the longest and most controversial conflicts in US history.

With eyewitness accounts of both soldiers and civilians, the book offers an account of the key events as they unfolded – from "Operation Passage to Freedom" to the evacuation of the US embassy in Saigon – set against the wider geopolitical context of the Cold War.

Readers journey through the Vietnam War; exploring detailed accounts of the men and women that were there. They tell their stories of struggle, sacrifice, and bravery through the iconic events that defined the conflict.

In this retelling of America's bloodiest conflict, readers discover:

- An informative read, written in an engaging style.

- A clear and compelling account of the conflict, in short, self-contained events from the Battle of Ia Drang to the Tet Offensive and The Khmer Rouge.
- Biography spreads that highlight major military and political figures.
- Features on everyday life in the war.
- Image spreads that display weapons, spy gear, and other equipment that defined the war.
- Maps and feature boxes on major events during the conflict.

[**A Short History of the Vietnam War**](#) showcases every aspect of the fighting and the wider political landscape from both the side of the Viet Cong and the US military. Text, diagrams, and maps help readers visualize the conflict.

From weapons and aircraft to armored vehicles and spy gear, readers explore the machinery used in the war. Biographical entries give a fuller insight into the minds of key figures and the decisions they made, including Henry Kissinger, President Richard Nixon, and Pol Pot, among others. Profiles of key military and political leaders, and thought-provoking features – from the treatment of wounded soldiers to the Peace protests in the US and the ‘war at home’ – bring the suffering, sacrifice, and heroism to life.

[**A Short History of the Vietnam War**](#) is part of the *Short History Series*. Combining expert historical insight, eyewitness accounts, and archive photography, this series seeks to summarize key historical events and provide a wider context to what was happening around these events. Titles include *A Short History of World War II*, *A Short History of the American Civil War*, and *A Short History of Flying*.

The book was developed in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution Consultants include the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum and the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. Contributors include David Anderson, Jeremy Harwood, Abigail Mitchell, Joe Dunn, David Hatt, John Prados, Jacob F. Field, Meredith Lair, Joe Yogerst, R.G. Grant & Donna Lowery.

*[**A Short History of the Vietnam War**](#) takes readers on a carefully crafted journey through the maze of events that became the war in Vietnam. Remarkably thorough, and extraordinarily well-illustrated, this engaging book provides a well-written analysis through an American lens but does not hesitate to tell the story, no matter how difficult or painful. It is an excellent and highly readable synopsis of a very complicated era and a very complicated war. – F. Robert van der Linden, Ph.D., Curator of Aeronautics, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum*

[**A Short History of the Vietnam War**](#) is a gripping and informative visual guide to one of the bloodiest conflicts in US and world history, a perfect read for military history enthusiasts. Richly illustrated with a wealth of original artifacts, weaponry, photography, and maps, this compelling combination of images and narrative provides an accessible account, episode by episode. <>

Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in World War II by Daniel James Brown (Viking)

They came from across the continent and Hawaii. Their parents taught them to embrace both their Japanese heritage and the ways of America. They faced bigotry, yet they believed in their bright futures as American citizens. But within days of Pearl Harbor, the FBI was ransacking their houses and locking up their fathers. And within months many would themselves be living behind barbed wire.

From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Boys in the Boat*, **Facing the Mountain** is a gripping World War II saga of patriotism, highlighting the contributions and sacrifices that Japanese immigrants and their American-born children made for the sake of the nation: the courageous Japanese-American Army unit that overcame brutal odds in Europe; their families, incarcerated back home; and a young man who refused to surrender his constitutional rights, even if it meant imprisonment.

Award-winning author Daniel James Brown has taught writing at San José State University and Stanford University.

Facing the Mountain is an unforgettable chronicle of wartime America and the battlefields of Europe. Based on Brown's extensive interviews with the families of the protagonists as well as deep archival research, it portrays the kaleidoscopic journey of four Japanese-American families and their sons, who volunteered for 442nd Regimental Combat Team and were deployed to France, Germany, and Italy, where they were asked to do the near impossible.

But **Facing the Mountain** is more than a war story. Brown also tells the story of these soldiers' parents, immigrants who were forced to shutter the businesses, surrender their homes, and submit to life in concentration camps on U.S. soil. Woven throughout is the chronicle of a brave young man, one of a cadre of patriotic resisters who stood up against their government in defense of their own rights. Whether fighting on battlefields or in courtrooms, these were Americans under unprecedented strain, doing what Americans do best – striving, resisting, pushing back, rising up, standing on principle, laying down their lives, and enduring.

Masterly. An epic story of four Japanese-American families and their sons who volunteered for military service and displayed uncommon heroism... Propulsive and gripping, in part because of Mr. Brown's ability to make us care deeply about the fates of these individual soldiers...a page-turner. – Wall Street Journal

The story of the fearless men of the 442nd Regiment feels especially relevant, with Asian Americans once again under attack. – New York Post

[Facing the Mountain](#) is more than just the story of a group of young men whose valor helped save a country that spurned them, it's a fascinating, expertly written look at selfless heroes who emerged from one of the darkest periods of American history – soldiers the likes of which this country may never see again. – NPR.org

Brown combines history with humanity in a tense, tender and well-researched study of the lives disrupted and disregarded by misperceptions and misinformation. **[Facing the Mountain](#)** is 'not a story about victims,' as Brown writes. Rather, 'It's a story of victors, of people striving, resisting, rising up, standing on principle, laying down their lives, enduring and prevailing. – San Francisco Chronicle

[Facing the Mountain](#) proves that the savagery of war isn't restricted to foreign battlefields. Many went to war – those who remained incarcerated endured the wrath of their fellow countrymen. It is said that to be an American we should strive to live life worthy of the sacrifices of those who came before us. Our bearing with each other is dependent on it. – Lt Col Michael J. Yaguchi, USAF (ret), Commander, Nisei Veterans Committee

Daniel James Brown has done it again. His rich, nuanced recreation of the dark years when thousands of our fellow citizens were incarcerated because of their ancestry is a must-read contribution to the history of the 20th century. It's also uplifting. I'll never look at the World War II story in the same light. – Timothy Egan, author of *The Worst Hard Time*

A must-read. You will not be able to put it down. – Scott Oki, former VP Microsoft, Founder, Densho

This book's breadth and depth are unparalleled as it poignantly traces the Japanese American thread in the rich fabric of America. We meet compelling individuals, witness war's horrors and celebrate moments of triumph of the human spirit. The author vividly describes communities confronting prejudice with resilience and patriotism, surviving and ultimately having the opportunity to thrive. – Terry Shima, T/4, 442nd Regimental Combat Team

Riveting. **[Facing the Mountain](#)** is a book that is as much about the present as it is about the past. In it are vital lessons about courage, truth, justice, and an abiding love of country. Drawing on impeccable historic research, the narrative movingly shines the light of history on prejudice and discrimination and the unfinished struggle for a more just future. – Ann Burroughs, President & CEO, Japanese American National Museum
Brown chronicles in this bravura account the experiences of Japanese American soldiers and their families during WWII.... The result is an illuminating and spirited portrait of courage under fire. – Publishers Weekly,

starred review

A deep and richly detailed examination of indelible decisions and events that tarnished the legacy of America's role in WWII, the internment of Japanese Americans.... A compelling and impressively redefining work on an often over-simplified and always consequential subject.... This should also be read by all who are pondering the true meaning of patriotism. – Booklist, starred review

[Facing the Mountain](#) is another New York Times bestseller from Brown. With vivid descriptions and a gripping, true story, all the skills of a master storyteller are once again on display. <>

Home & Garden / Design / Self-Awareness

[Beauty by Design](#): Refreshing Spaces Inspired by What Matters Most by Ginger Curtis (Harvest House Publishers)

Walk through the door and begin the personal journey of creating a sanctuary that reflects who you are – that unique combination of who God made you to be and how you shape life by what matters most. – from the book

Award-winning designer Ginger Curtis in [Beauty by Design](#) uses her personal experience to inspire readers with this truth: 'You are worthy of beauty.' Readers are advised to watch beauty emerge as they create visual moments, let in color and light, select meaningful treasures, and allow the smallest details to shine.

Curtis is the founder of Urbanology Designs in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area of Texas and has twice been awarded First Place Designer of the Year by the Interior Design Society. Curtis says that every time she hosts a project tour live on Instagram, shares a post of her red-haired, snuggly little ones assisting her in the kitchen, or takes her followers into the homes of her design clients, she is welcoming everyone to the most intimate parts of her life and the inspirations for her work.

She says her business exists today because of the desires planted in a young girl's heart. And [Beauty by Design](#) exists because those desires continue to bloom to encourage readers to find beauty and strength in their everyday lives.

From day one, she wanted her business to be personal. And what is more personal than joining an individual or family on a tour of their sanctuary while discovering ways to make that space even more fully 'them'? She started offering a service to clients called a walk-through. They pick a day for her to show up and journey through their home as they open doors, drapes, and closets so she can better understand their needs. She asks them questions about light, color, and style likes and dislikes as they walk from

room to room. She shares what a sense of home has meant to her from childhood and through the years, and they open up about what matters most to them. Sometimes they apologize because belongings are scattered on the floor or the living room has furniture they purchased on impulse but have never embraced. She is quick to reassure them that they never need to apologize for anything. Areas in which people hope to improve exist inside their four walls and inside themselves.

Regardless of what life throws at one, the journey is about noticing the new beauty emerging in the challenges and trials, the detours and dreams. There's so much to manage, figure out, and deal with. But one of the insights that her life and profession have taught her is this: Just as great design is not created in a single decision but by bringing many wonderful details together, life is not defined by one or two huge decisions as much as it is shaped by daily details. By tending to their homes and families and investing in their dreams and priorities, people can cultivate the beauty they desire.

[Beauty by Design](#) encourages readers through their own transformation. Curtis structures the chapters around the concepts that she believes are most important in design and in life. From foundational elements to fun accessories and one-of-a-kind touches, the book talks about it all. Concept by concept [Beauty by Design](#) explores readers' spaces and hopes. This journey will surprise and delight. <>

Literature & Fiction / Historical / World War II

[Commandos](#): Set Europe Ablaze (Book 1) by Richard Camp (Casemate Publishers)

[Commandos](#) is written by Colonel Dick Camp, a Purple Heart recipient, who served 26 years in the U.S. Marine Corps before retiring in 1988. Upon retirement he served as the Deputy Director, U.S. Marine Corps History Division and as the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, Vice President for Museum Operations at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico.

In [Commandos](#) it is the summer of 1942.

Defeatism hangs in the air. Britain stands alone. Winston Churchill is determined to strike back and has ordered the formation of a special operations force, dubbed 'Commandos,' with the mission to 'set Europe ablaze.'

U.S. Marine Captain Jim Cain and his Gunnery Sergeant Leland Montgomery are surprised to receive orders to the British Commando training center in the Scottish Highlands. There they are put through the brutal specialized training that will hone their fighting skills. Pitiless forced marches, dangerous live fire exercises and hazardous assault courses to build their physical endurance, and a strong sense of brotherhood develops

between the British soldiers and the two Marines. Lucky to be quartered in the spacious home of the Commandos' commanding officer, Cain has the pleasure of meeting his daughter, Loreena. Bright and stunning, Loreena is secretive about her work in London. Before Cain can learn more about her, the training course is interrupted and the commando squad is sent on a special mission to destroy a German radar station on Nazi-held Alderney, off the coast of France.

While the site is defended by a squad of second-rate garrison soldiers who are no match for the highly trained and motivated commandos, a reaction force of infantry, led by a German combat veteran, joins the fight. The action is fierce and bloody and there are heavy losses on both sides. The surviving raiders withdraw to Royal Navy motor torpedo boats, but a marauding squadron of Schnellboots (E-Boats) lies in wait in [Commandos](#).

Noted military historian, prolifically published author, and Marine combat veteran, Colonel Richard Camp, USMC, has written a tantalizingly exciting tale in this work of historical fiction. – Fred H. Allison, Maj USMC (Ret), PhD, Former Head of Oral History, Marine Corps University, History Division
Training descriptions are realistic and the eventual commitment of the training group to actual combat includes a rousing description of a Nazi villain/coward, the raid on a coastal island with heroics and loss. – Scott Brooks-Miller, Former Marine and Vietnam Veteran
The exciting and riveting actions of this totally outstanding book are told in a remarkably clear and inspiring fashion! – Major General Ted Hopgood, Jr. USMC (Ret.)

[Commandos](#) is a moving tale of war told as only a veteran of war can tell it. <>

Outdoors & Nature / Conservation / Art

[Guy Harvey's Underwater World](#) by Guy Harvey (Stackpole Books)

[Guy Harvey's Underwater World](#) is a large-format book showcasing Guy Harvey's around-the-world fishing and diving adventures. Drawing from meticulous notes, photographs and his signature artwork, Harvey weaves together stories, scientific discoveries and insights into the behavior of dozens of gamefish species to give readers an up-close picture of his time on and in the water. Chapters highlight expeditions to the Bahamas, Caribbean, Belize, Cuba, the Caymans, Bermuda, the Yucatan and Mexico, Canada, Alaska, Costa Rica, Australia and the Galapagos.

Harvey is a world-class angler, diver, photographer, and artist whose contributions to conservation and scientific research are as recognized as his accomplishments in sport and art. Harvey is a unique blend of artist, angler, diver, scientist, conservationist, and

explorer. He grew up in Jamaica, a 10th generation Jamaican of English heritage, and at an early age developed a love for the ocean. He earned a degree in marine biology at Aberdeen University in Scotland and a doctorate in Fisheries Biology from the University of the West Indies. An avid SCUBA diver for over fifty years and a skilled underwater photographer, Harvey pioneered a technique for diving with and photographing free-swimming billfish. A self-taught artist, his work, including his large-scale murals, is exhibited in major galleries, universities, airports, cruise lines and Sea Worlds.

Considering the lifelike detail in his wildlife paintings and drawings, it's hard to believe that Harvey has dedicated himself to any other pursuit than his art. But he is also an explorer, entrepreneur, conservationist, and, before any of these roles, marine biologist. Harvey's lifelong passion for science is why all his adventures are recorded with great specificity in his handwritten journals, and why his artwork is so rich with authenticity. It is those journals, as well as a treasure trove of never-before-seen photography and artwork, that bring [Guy Harvey's Underwater World](#) to life. Serving as a sequel to *Portraits from the Deep*, covering the two decades since that book's publication in 2002, [Guy Harvey's Underwater World](#) invites readers to see the wild through his words, lens, and brushstrokes.

Traversing the globe from the Alaskan wilderness to the Great Barrier Reef, and featuring a diverse cast of characters from world-renowned scientists to his two children, [Guy Harvey's Underwater World](#) is his most personal work to date, revealing both the private moments and public achievements of a Renaissance man who is family first and nature a close second.

In the world of wildlife art, many forms are used to pursue and present inspirational pieces to the imagination of the viewer. The goal of these works is not only to capture the hearts and minds of those who admire, but to compel the spectator to leave their seats and mentally immerse themselves into the field of action.

According to Bill Boyce in the foreword, above and beyond his amazing ability to capture artistic subject matter in any variety of these mediums, it's Harvey's ability to walk the walk and talk the talk in all economic, scientific and political circles that places Harvey in a league of his own. He is a gifted communicator who leverages his influence to make measurable differences in a world where such progress happens slowly, in increments that often appear insignificant. Without powerful visions and voices such as Harvey's, progress in fisheries conservation might never be attained at all.

In [Guy Harvey's Underwater World](#), Harvey captures nearly 20 years' worth of memories, scientific exploits and accomplishments. But more than that, he captures the magic that ties them all together. People. Friends. Colleagues. Family. Harvey gives readers

intimate accounts of these travels, and within them, hopes to inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

Harvey has lived the life anglers dream and [Guy Harvey's Underwater World](#) is the beautiful book with the fascinating stories, not to mention the amazing photographs and art work, that documents that dream. <>

Politics / Reconciliation

[Bridge Builders](#): Bringing People Together in a Polarized Age, 1st edition by Nathan Bomey (Polity Press)

In these turbulent times, defined by ideological chasms, clashes over social justice, and a pandemic intersecting with misinformation, Americans seem hopelessly divided along fault lines of politics, race, religion, class, and culture. Yet not everyone is accepting the status quo.

In [Bridge Builders: Bringing People Together in a Polarized Age](#), journalist Nathan Bomey paints a forensic portrait of Americans who are spanning gaping divides between people of difference.

Bomey is a reporter for *USA Today* based in the Washington, D.C., area and the author of two previous books, *Detroit Resurrected: To Bankruptcy and Back* and *After the Fact: The Erosion of Truth and the Inevitable Rise of Donald Trump*.

From clergy fighting racism in Charlottesville to a former Republican congressman engaging conservatives on climate change and Appalachian journalists restoring social trust with the public, these countercultural leaders all believe in the power of forging lasting connections to bring about profound change. Though the blueprints for political, social, and cultural bridges vary widely, bridge builders have much in common – and we have much to learn from them. In [Bridge Builders](#), Bomey dissects the transformational ways in which bridge builders are combating polarization by pursuing reconciliation, rejecting misinformation, and rethinking the principle of compromise.

In [Bridge Builders](#) Nathan Bomey pulls off the difficult feat of combining large ideas with very specific practical recommendations. The most obvious point to make about modern America involves the many ways it is divided. The subtler and more important truth involves the possibilities for connection and renewal. Bridge Builders lays them out. – Deborah and James Fallows, authors of Our Towns

The country may seem hopelessly polarized - but Nathan Bomey proves we aren't as far apart as we think. At a time when the politics of division and hate dominate the news cycle, his [Bridge Builders](#) shows how we can

come together despite our differences. It's the book America needs right now. –

about publicly defending the rights of Muslims, Hindus, Jews, and atheists to do the same.

Author Andrew T. Walker, an emerging Southern Baptist public theologian, in [Liberty for All](#) argues for a robust Christian ethic of religious liberty that helps the church defend religious freedom for everyone in a pluralistic society. Whether explicitly religious or not, says Walker, every person is striving to make sense of his or her life. The Christian foundations of religious freedom provide a framework for how Christians can navigate deep religious difference in a secular age. As people practice religious liberty for their neighbors, they can find civility and commonality amid disagreement, further the church's engagement in the public square, and become the strongest defenders of religious liberty for all.

Walker is associate professor of Christian ethics at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and executive director of the Carl F. H. Henry Institute for Evangelical Engagement in Louisville. He previously served as senior fellow in Christian ethics at the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. The book has a foreword by noted Princeton scholar Robert P. George.

[Liberty for All](#) offers a public theology of religious liberty. Religious liberty, tragically, is now a casualty of culture wars in the West. Walker talks some about cultural challenges toward the end of [Liberty for All](#), but that is not what this book is primarily about. Rather, it acknowledges a few essential truths: (1) because humanity is made in God's image, each human is religious and truth seeking in nature, regardless of whether they understand themselves as 'religious'; (2) we live in a pluralistic era, and the biblical story line expects religious difference to occur in this temporary 'secular' age; (3) religious liberty and freedom of conscience promote human and societal flourishing; (4) the Bible does not command any formal, institutional union between a religious body and government; and (5) Christianity is the best arbiter for religious liberty because it has theological resources to help readers grapple with some of the most difficult societal challenges.

[Liberty for All](#) provides an in-house explanation for how Christians ought to understand religious liberty. Christians may walk away from this book with an appreciation for how religious liberty functions integrally in Christian thought. If Western culture cuts itself off from its Christian roots, religious liberty and freedom of conscience will be public goods less recognizable and less valued. If the West hopes to remain politically and religiously free, it must appreciate and retrieve a principled account of religious freedom that owes its most secure foundation to Christian social thought. Secularism does not have the explanatory power within itself to make sense of religious liberty and, in fact, without the checks and balances offered by a transcendent worldview, will prove to be inimical to religious liberty.

Liberty for All delivers a robust treatment of the concept of religious liberty, a notion not merely political, merely modern, or merely American, but one, as Walker expertly shows, that gets at the heart of what it means to bear God's image, to exercise moral agency, and to live with love toward all neighbors. – Karen Swallow Prior, author of *On Reading Well*

In a time when the term 'religious liberty' has become a byword for bigotry among some, Walker pushes back against this narrow-minded prejudice and argues for why honoring and defending freedom of religious conscience is essential to the public good. This book appears as a lighthouse in a gathering storm. – Rod Dreher, author of *The Benedict Option*

Freedom of worship is indeed an inalienable right, not because of the substance of one's religious beliefs but because of the substance of one's status as God's image bearer. As hostility toward the Christian faith increases, few ideas are worth contending for with such urgency as the claim that liberty is indeed for everyone. – Katie McCoy, assistant professor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

For a generation raised on the angry soundbites of Twitter and carefully curated news programs, this book will be challenging but, when read carefully and thoughtfully, transformative. – Carl R. Trueman, author of *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*

Walker explains how religious liberty makes sense as an authentic expression of a Christian worldview and is indelibly tied to the biblical story. He has established himself as one of the preeminent Baptist public theologians of our time. – Michael F. Bird, academic dean and lecturer, Ridley College, Melbourne, Australia

After reading **Liberty for All**, Christians may come away with a greater understanding of the reality of diversity and how Christians are expected to confront such diversity in light of the gospel. <>

Religion & Spirituality / Christianity

Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial: Lessons from Advertising for the Pulpit by O. Wesley Allen, Jr. & Carrie La Ferle (Preaching and... Series: Westminster John Knox Press)

At first glance, preaching and advertising seem worlds apart. One tries to proclaim love of God and neighbor; the other tries to sell you something that you may or may not need. Yet both must compete with other ways we receive and process information in an increasingly distracted world. While most of the time preaching simply tries to

muddle through this situation, advertising knows that it must continually relearn how to reclaim its audience's attention – and keep it.

Believing that preaching can benefit from advertising's laser focus on how to make its message stick, O. Wesley Allen, Jr. and Carrie La Ferle in [Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial](#) have written this first-of-its-kind book on what preachers can learn from advertising. Allen is Lois Craddock Perkins Professor of Homiletics at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. Ferle is the Marriott Endowed Professor of Ethics & Culture at the Temerlin Advertising Institute, Southern Methodist University.

Examples of these lessons in [Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial](#) include:

- Sharpening one's analysis to understand the congregation better.
- Encoding a message so that listeners can decode it for their individual lives.
- Understanding how the form of the sermon leads to greater or lesser effectiveness.
- Building the sermon around imagery and narrative.

[Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial](#) is part of the *Preaching and... Series*.

While homiletical scholarship has long drawn on the full range of biblical and theological disciplines as well as a variety of philosophical and rhetorical disciplines, this series attempts to push the interdisciplinary dialogue in new ways. For each volume, the PCPE brings together as coauthors two scholars – a homiletician and an expert from another, nontheological field to bring that field into conversation with homiletics in a way that offers both new insights into preaching as a task and vocation and new strategies for the practical elements of sermon preparation and delivery.

[Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial](#) brings together the first two 'odd bedfellows' of the series, as the authors refer to homiletics and the study of advertising. Preaching and marketing/advertising serve significantly different purposes, but the sermon and the ad share a same central concern: how to get a message heard in today's noisy and changing communication environment so that it might have its intended impact on its intended audience.

The question driving [Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial](#) is what can preachers, who shape sermons (monological speeches that last anywhere from twelve to forty-five minutes), learn from the best of advertisers (who must communicate their message in thirty seconds or less). Granted, preaching and advertising are odd bedfellows. In one sense their purposes can even seem to be opposed. Whereas advertising celebrates culture and promotes the values of commercialism and materialism, the gospel proclaimed in Christian pulpits is often critical of and countercultural to and promotes values that challenge a materialistic worldview. Moreover, advertising and preaching employ radically different media.

In another sense, however, the purposes of preaching and advertising are aligned: both are communicative endeavors aimed at persuading the audience to consider new options for their lives. As such, they both also share some similar hurdles to jump over in order to present those new options effectively, hurdles not present for advertisers and preachers of the past.

[Preaching and the Thirty-Second Commercial](#), because of this new idea of bringing together ideas from different fields, offers unique, surprising, and creative insights for preaching. <>

Religion & Spirituality / Teachers / Interfaith

[The Teachers of Spiritual Wisdom](#): Gaining Perspective on Life's Perplexing Questions by Duncan S. Ferguson, Jamal Rahman, & Mary Petrina Boyd (Wipf and Stock)

[The Teachers of Spiritual Wisdom](#) calls attention to the harsh reality that people today are living in troubled times. The authors are especially conscious of climate change and COVID-19; they underline that these challenges impact all people. In light of this reality, in [The Teachers of Spiritual Wisdom](#) they use ten primary questions that all human beings ask, consciously or unconsciously, and then amplify each of the ten primary questions with nine additional subquestions. They then draw upon one of the great teachers of spiritual wisdom (Buddha, Moses, Jesus, Muhammad, etc.) with a brief quote and then write a short 'wisdom' response to the question. By 'wisdom' they mean a body of accumulated reflection about the character and meaning of life. Spiritual wisdom suggests an outlook or attitude that enables people to cope, a deeper way of knowing and learning the art of living in rhythm with the soul. The three authors use their life experience of coming from different religious and cultural outlooks.

The three authors are Duncan S. Ferguson, Jamal Rahman, and Mary Petrina Boyd. Ferguson is a retired professor and Presbyterian minister. Rahman's roots are in the South Asia and he is currently serving as an Imam in Seattle. Boyd is a retired Methodist minister and has served as the senior pastor in several congregations.

Ferguson, Rahman and Boyd in the preface to [The Teachers of Spiritual Wisdom](#) say they have often thought back across the years of their lives and wondered just how they arrived at their current place in life. And they say they have had wonderful moments of sharing the flow of their lives with family and friends. In this sharing, they have felt supported and encouraged, and these experiences have given them more clarity and understanding about their journey. There have been many factors in shaping their lives including their historical and cultural heritage, their family situation and friendships, the years of education, the career paths they have taken, and their

own internal voices, not always heard clearly, which they try to decipher daily. In talking together, they have found that each of these moments of sharing has expanded their self-understanding and, they believe, make their entries more thoughtful and diverse.

There were several common themes in their sharing and one of them, which they had in common, seemed very important. It was the place of wisdom given to them by those who cared for them, by their reading and education, and by their common quest to live more honestly and compassionately. Wisdom has instructed them and been their great teacher. Their lives have been transformed as they have applied these insights to their way of being and their way of acting.

The authors say they prepared [The Teachers of Spiritual Wisdom](#) containing some of the wisdom of the ages, and their goal is to let it speak to readers in helpful and nurturing ways. They say they came to this task with their own religious beliefs and practices, and these are reflected in their writing. Much of what they share is spiritual in nature. They understand religion and spirituality as a way of engaging in depth of thought, feeling, and action, and as a way to encounter and relate to Transcendence. They seek a deeper level common to all those who seek union with the divine, a higher and more personal knowledge of Transcendence. It may be encountered in one form by external worship and be formulated in the creeds of a particular religious tradition. Often it will be encountered in apophatic ways, through prayer and meditation. As they share from their spiritual heritage in [The Teachers of Spiritual Wisdom](#), they do so committed to respecting the views of each other and all who are sincere in their commitments to a spiritual way of life. Their approach has aspects of their own heritage, yet as far as possible is inclusive and non-sectarian, drawing upon the human family's great wisdom traditions.

A Muslim, a Presbyterian, and a Methodist address life's most enduring questions: Who am I? Why am I here? Why should I contribute? And what about suffering, injustice, death, and beyond? Coalescing Hebrew and Christian Testaments, the Quran, and teachers throughout history, Ferguson, Rahman, and Boyd turn years of friendship, conversation, and experience into a must-read, intercultural exploration of what matters most! – Corey Schlosser-Hall, executive director, Northwest Coast Presbytery

Highlighting sacred scriptures and time-tested wisdom from ancient and contemporary Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions, this book offers a practical guide and support for the reader to address the core questions of life.... The authors share their personal insights and experience and invite us back into remembrance of our divine essence, while encouraging us to apply and invoke these essential teachings as a guiding light to navigate the challenges of these times. A valuable

resource for individuals and communities alike who are seeking to bring spiritual wisdom into practical daily life. – Cynthia Brix, cofounder of Gender Equity and Reconciliation International and coauthor of Women Healing Women, and William Keepin, author of Belonging to God: Spirituality, Science, and a Universal Path of Divine Love

The modern world continues to ask us challenging questions about what it means to be human and what it means to live together. The authors have crafted a valuable guide for both individuals and faith communities to explore these questions in an accessible and personal way. For people who have wondered who, how, and why, this book needs to be at the top of your reading list. – Richard Fuss, Langley United Methodist Church

With humility before the most perplexing questions of their lives, the authors of [The Teachers of Spiritual Wisdom](#) share some of what they have learned hoping it might provide insight and guidance for others. In sharing their honesty and diversity, they enrich readers' lives. <>

Religion & Spirituality / Theology / Collections

[Desire, Darkness, and Hope](#): Theology in a Time of Impasse: Engaging the Thought of Constance FitzGerald, OCD edited by Laurie Cassidy & M. Shawn Copeland (Liturgical Press Academic)

For some decades, the work of Carmelite theologian Constance FitzGerald, OCD, has been a well-known secret, not only among students and practitioners of Carmelite spirituality, but also among spiritual directors, spiritual writers, retreatants, vowed religious women and men, and Christian theologians. FitzGerald, who is the stimulus for these theological articles, is widely recognized as a contemplative theologian. This is manifest in both how she writes and what she writes.

The collection, [Desire, Darkness, and Hope](#), sets out to introduce the work of Sister Constance to a wider and more diverse audience – women and men who seek to strengthen themselves on the spiritual journey, who yearn to deepen personal or scholarly theological and religious reflection, and who want to make sense of the times in which we live. To this end, [Desire, Darkness, and Hope](#) curates seven of Sister Constance's articles with probing and responsive essays written by ten theologians.

Contributors include: Susie Paulik Babka, Colette Ackerman, OCD, Roberto S. Goizueta, Margaret R. Pfeil, Alex Milkulich, Andrew Prevot, Laurie Cassidy, Maria Teresa Morgan, Bryan N. Massingale, and M. Catherine Hilker, OP. Editors are Laurie Cassidy, a

theologian and spiritual director currently teaching in the Christian Spirituality Program at Creighton University and M. Shawn Copeland, professor of systematic theology emerita at Boston College, an internationally recognized and award-winning scholar.

Brian McDermott in the foreword to [Desire, Darkness, and Hope](#) says that in recent years, he has come to know first-hand how Sister FitzGerald operates as a writer. Everything she publishes gives evidence of profound wrestling with God, of careful pondering over that agonía, and of the great labor of finding the least inaccurate way of interpreting the experience, first for herself and then for others. But the evidence is indirect, it is hinted at, because Sister FitzGerald does not display her own religious experience for all the world to see. What arrives on the page is the fruit of the dialogue of her experience with her appropriation of Scripture and Tradition in its broadest sense. This is what ensures that her writings will be of perennial interest to scholars and seekers. But behind the prose is an author who tests the truth of what she writes on the anvil of her own heart. Her actual thinking and writing of each article is a way of the cross for her, a sharing in the paschal mystery.

Of course, Sister FitzGerald's primary guides are St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross. The Carmelite world and beyond recognizes in her a true and reliable interpreter of their classic texts, the fruit of years of study and of instructing young nuns in formation, and many years of involvement in the Carmelite Forum, which met for many years in South Bend, Indiana.

*For decades, pioneering contemplative theologian Constance FitzGerald has been creatively exploring how the wisdom of the Carmelite tradition can help address our contemporary experience of impasse and darkness, and our deepest desires for personal and social transformation, in the face of so many current crises. Gathered here are seven of her most important essays, together with contributions from a variety of theologians, who draw upon her insights as they grapple with such issues as the COVID-19 pandemic, economic injustice, environmental degradation, violence and dehumanization, systemic racism, and the oppression of women and minorities. Sometimes provocative, always thought provoking and change-oriented, this anthology is a rich resource for all those 'urgently longing' for a timely reintegration of theology, contemplation, and the struggle for social justice. – Steven Payne, OCD, author of *The Carmelite Tradition: Spirituality in History**

In this generous book we encounter a secret treasure: the wide, wise heart and mind of a great lover of the divine and of humanity. Shawn Copeland and Laurie Cassidy have done theologians, 'nones,' and lovers everywhere an enormous service by introducing Constance FitzGerald and her cloud of witnesses to a broader audience. May their light shine

long and brightly. – Dr. Wendy Farley, Graduate School of Theology,
Redlands University

What a rare marvel this book is. While emphatically celebrating the God awareness, spirituality, and theological prowess of Carmelite contemplative theologian Sister Constance FitzGerald, the theologians, activists, and spiritual directors engage FitzGerald's understanding of desire, darkness, hope, passion, and impasse, and prayer – all in her yearning for and union with God – through their insightful and formidable contributions. In their critical engagement with Constance FitzGerald's theology, the intentionally diverse contributors at once are inspired, challenged, and stretched to respond, relate, react, and reimagine how they encounter God and witness about God to their sisters and brothers amid the virulent 'dark night of the world.' These essays are a timely invitation to the reader into the spiritual life of FitzGerald as she offers hope and wisdom in these disconcerting times. – Maurice J. Nutt, C.S.S.R.,
Convener, Black Catholic Theological Symposium

This volume is an invaluable contribution to the deepening reflection in the theological academy on the role of the Christian (especially the Carmelite) mystical tradition in the project of engaging the most important issues of personal and social transformation in our time. It makes available seven of the now classic studies of that tradition by Carmelite scholar, Constance FitzGerald, O.C.D., which are each engaged by scholars with expertise in the areas in question. – Sandra M. Schneiders, I.H.M.,
Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University

The contributors to [Desire, Darkness, and Hope](#) give eloquent witness to the fruitfulness of Constance FitzGerald's oeuvre by showing how her theological work has stimulated their own theological reflection. <>

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Religion & Spirituality / Theology / Collections

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