

# Coffee Talk

Women's Book Group that meets the first Monday of each month at Church of the Redeemer

## SELECTIONS FOR OUR 2025 - 2026 SEASON

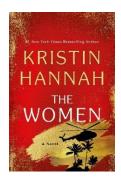
#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 9:30 a.m.



#### A Fall of Marigolds by Susan Meissner

A beautiful scarf, passed down through the generations, connects two women who learn that the weight of the world is made bearable by the love we give away.... Meet two women touched by tragedy in this compelling, emotional novel from the author of *As Bright as Heaven* and *The Last Year of the War*.

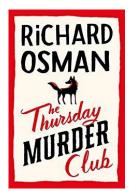
### MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025 9:30 a.m.



#### The Women by Kristin Hannah

An intimate portrait of coming of age in a dangerous time and an epic tale of a nation divided. *Women can be heroes*. When 22-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. She was Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

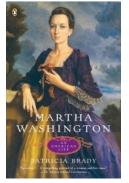
#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025 9:30 a.m.



#### Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet up once a week to investigate unsolved murders. But, when a brutal killing takes place on their very doorstep, the Thursday Murder Club find themselves in the middle of their first live case. Elizabeth, Joyce, Ibrahim and Ron might be pushing 80 but they still have a few tricks up their sleeves. Can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer before it's too late?

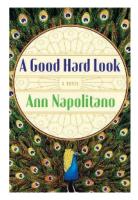
#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025 9:30 a.m.



#### Martha Washington: An American Life by Patricia Brady

Martha Washington, the invisible woman of American history, at last gets the biography she deserves. Patricia Brady resurrects the wealthy, attractive, and vivacious young widow who captivated the youthful George Washington. Here is the able landowner, the indomitable patriot (who faithfully joined her husband each winter at Valley Forge), and the shrewd diplomat and emotional mainstay, bringing Martha Washington into sharper and more accurate focus, shedding light on her marriage, her society, and the precedents she established for future First Ladies.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026 9:30 a.m.



#### A Good Hard Look by Ana Napolitano

Forced by illness to leave behind a successful life in New York, literary icon Flannery O'Connor has returned to her family farm in the small town of Milledgeville, Georgia. With her health and time both limited, all she wants is to be left alone to write. But Flannery's plans are soon upended by Melvin Whiteson, a banker from Manhattan who has recently married the town belle. Through their unusual and clandestine friendship, both will come to reflect on the decisions they have made and the paths they have chosen.

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026 9:30 a.m.



#### My Father's House by Joseph O'Connor

September 1943: German forces occupy Rome. Gestapo boss Obersturmbannführer Paul Hauptmann rules with terror. Hunger is widespread. Rumors fester. The war's outcome is far from certain. Diplomats, refugees, and escaped Allied prisoners flee for protection into Vatican City, at one fifth of a square mile the world's smallest state, a neutral, independent country within Rome. A small band of unlikely friends led by a courageous Irish priest is drawn into deadly danger as they seek to help those seeking refuge.

#### MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026 9:30 a.m.



#### Here One Moment by Liane Moriarty

Because on this ordinary, short, domestic flight, something extraordinary happens, people learn how and when they are going to die. For some, their death is far in the future—age 103!—and they laugh. But for six passengers, their predicted deaths are not far away at all. How do they know this? Not a single passenger or crew member will later recall noticing her, "The Death Lady" board the plane. She wasn't exceptionally old or young, rude or polite. She wasn't drunk or nervous or pregnant. Her appearance and demeanor were unremarkable. But what she did on that flight was truly remarkable,

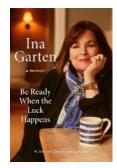
#### MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026 9:30 a.m.



#### The Briar Club by Kate Quinn

Washington, D.C., 1950. Everyone keeps to themselves at Briarwood House, a down-at-the-heels all-female boardinghouse in the heart of the nation's capital, where secrets hide behind white picket fences. But when the lovely, mysterious widow Grace March moves into the attic, she draws her oddball collection of neighbors into unlikely friendship: poised English beauty Fliss; police officer's daughter Nora, who is entangled with a shadowy gangster; frustrated baseball star Bea; and poisonous, gung-ho Arlene.

#### MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026 10:30 a.m. (LUNCHEON AT CAROLINE RYAN'S)



#### Be Ready When the Luck Happens by Ina Garten

Ina Garten presents an intimate, entertaining, and inspiring account of her remarkable journey. She brings her past and her process to life in a high-spirited and no-holds-barred memoir that chronicles decades of personal challenges, adventures (and misadventures) and unexpected career twists, all delivered with her signature combination of playfulness and purpose.

#### MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026 9:30 a.m.



#### Run With the Horseman by Ferral Sams

Porter Osborne Jr. is a precocious, sensitive, and rambunctious boy trying to make it through adolescence during the depression years. On a red-clay farm in Georgia he learns all there is to know about cotton chopping, hog killing, watermelon thumping, and mule handling. School provides a quick course in practical joking, schoolboy crushes, athletic glory, and clandestine sex. But it is Porter's family - his genteel, patient mother, his swarm of cousins, his snuff-dipping grandmother, and, most of all, his beloved though flawed father - who teach Porter the painful truths about growing up strong enough to run with the horsemen.

#### Your COFFEE TALK Book Group Leadership Team:

Julie Baiter: 941-360-6815, baiterj@yahoo.com

Gussie Haeffner: 941-650-9483, ghaeffner@comcast.net

Caroline Ryan: 813-505-4207, herletters@aol.com