

## Summertime: More Time to READ!

There are always new and exciting books to browse through in the church library. Thanks for your wonderful donations to the library to make it possible to purchase books to keep the library fresh and alive. If you wish to make a monetary book donation in honor/memory of a friend, loved one or special occasion, sign up at the binder at the Information Center.

It is appropriate to share the book Stand Strong In College as our youth head off to college in August. The youth and future of tomorrow need to “be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord (Psalms 31:24).” College is a fun and an exciting time, but also one that presents teens with many challenges. How can Christian teens prepare for the academic, social, emotional, and spiritual challenges they may face in college? Author, Alex McFarland offers teens help by asking the questions they need to consider for an unshakable faith. Prepared, they can enter college with the ability to identify false worldviews and discern God’s voice. Teens will become proficient at interpreting campus content and circumstances from a consistently biblical perspective.

Pilgrim’s Progress, first published in 1678, John Bunyan’s classic allegory of the difficulties of Christian life has never been out of print. The new edition beautifully illustrated is aimed at readers age 9 years old and up. The pilgrim is the everyman character Christian, whose long and difficult journey takes him from his home in the City of Destruction, through the Slough of Despond, Valley of the Shadow of Death, and other fantastical locations. Although few of today’s readers may attempt Bunyan’s lengthy original, this volume provides an appealing opportunity for readers young and old to get acquainted with Bunyan’s classic story.

In the fiction book, John 3:16, character Roman Paulson finds that after the loss of his wife, life revolves around his son, Billy. As a football hero at the University of Nebraska, Billy has a promising life ahead of him. As Billy’s coach begins encroaching on Roman’s relationship with his son, especially when he brings God into Billy’s life, Roman starts to fear he’ll lose Billy forever. Nothing could prepare Roman for what is about to happen. Roman isn’t the only one whose life has been turned upside down. He’s one of five people whose lives are about to intersect on a bright, fall day, when one of them will hold up a sign at a football game with a short message: *John 3:16*. This simple act of faith will have the power to change lives forever.

---Bev Etzelmueller, Church Librarian