



Sue's Book List

for Confirmation & Reception 2025

Sue Tait, Diocesan Resource Librarian

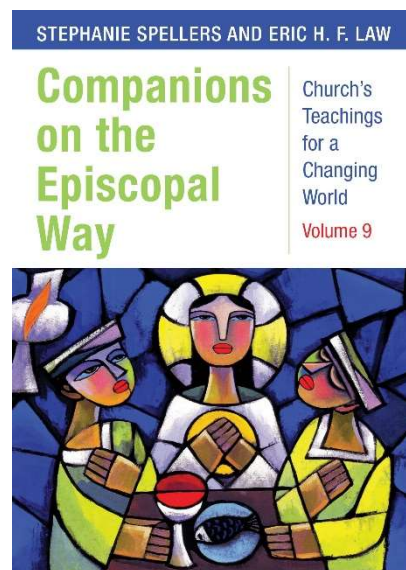
Library-by-Mail or in-person

Diocesan House is open Mondays through Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You are invited to browse our Resource Center collection and select books to check out on the spot. If you would prefer, we will be glad to send materials to you by mail. Contact Sue Tait with questions or for assistance at 206-325-4200, extension 2043 or resource@ecww.org

Search the online catalog, make your selections, and Sue will mail the items to you. Go to: <https://books.ecww.org/>

Always Open : Being an Anglican Today. By Richard Giles. 2004 – is “Membership for Anglicans is therefore more about incorporation into a community than conformity to a set of credal formulae or observance of a set of rules....Christianity is caught....unless we can catch a vision of how good it is simply to be around the altar of God with his people, then no amount of instruction will convince us otherwise....The head can always catch up with the heart, but the reverse process takes a lot longer....” (p.109). You may not agree with Giles at every turn, the church may be more nuanced now, twenty years after he wrote, but this is a thought-provoking discussion and presentation.

Church's Teachings for a Changing World (series) – From time to time the Episcopal Church has issued a teaching series to introduce readers to aspects of Anglicanism. You may be familiar with The New Church's Teaching Series, and now there is Church's Teachings for a Changing World, which looks at various aspects of the Episcopal Church, opening the door to further questions. For instance, Gathered for God looks at liturgy and music, Church Meets World speaks of justice, ferment and the social teachings of Jesus.



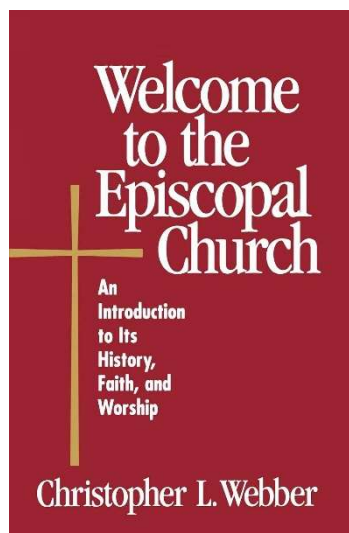
Episcopal Handbook. Revised edition. 2015 – Noting that Episcopalians like to be prepared, this is a sort of survival handbook for newcomers through short descriptions of things that people frequently want to know: what does the Episcopal Shield mean? How and why does one cross oneself? Who were some famous Episcopalian women? What do those terms mean? And much more.

Jesus was an Episcopalian (and you can be one too!): A Newcomer's Guide to the Episcopal Church. By Chris Yaw. 2008 – Yaw disabuses us of the idea that Jesus was really an Episcopalian right away, but he goes on to say, “But he was very interested in doing the kind of work that Episcopalians are up to: healing, fixing, re-building, praying, teaching, preaching, loving and making disciples out of a new generation of people who are searching for God.” His book tells us about it.

Ultimate Quest: A Geek's Guide to [the Episcopal] Church. By Jordan Haynie Ware. 2017 – The author is a gamer, a geek, and she is also an Episcopal priest. She says, “Geeks and the Church belong together. Christians thirst for adventure, have a sense of destiny, and desire to participate in something bigger than oneself as much as any gamer.” Here is her guidebook, to what she labels as The Ultimate Quest. Seen through this lens, non-gamers as well as gamers may well find new insights. The Quest and those who are on that way are treated with the utmost respect.

Welcome to a Life of Faith in the Episcopal Church. By Megan Castellan. 2019 – Imagine that you have just walked into an Episcopal Church, with no previous history or knowledge of what you are seeing and experiencing, but filled with curiosity. Who are those people leading the service? Briefly,

what do they believe? What is their origin story? This introduction is comprehensive, accessible and short. It is also part of a series. The books cover aspects of Episcopal belief, life, liturgy, and music and provide a springboard for a deeper inquiry if you desired. Books in this series all begin with the words “Welcome to...”



Welcome to the Episcopal Church: An Introduction to its History, Faith, and Worship. By Christopher L. Webber. 1999 – An earlier title in the “Welcome to...” series, this book acknowledges that “Welcome” is more than a greeting, it is acknowledging each other's stories. In this introduction Webber makes sure to point out that in our history, beliefs, governing structure we take a variety of perspectives and voices into account. He offers suggestions for further reading.

Your Faith, Your life : an invitation to the Episcopal Church. Revised edition. By Jenifer Gamber and Bill Lewellis. 2017 – Adults were “jealous” of the book that Gamber wrote for teens: **My Faith, My Life: A Teen’s Guide to the Episcopal Church**, so this is the adult version, on a deeper level, but including the same information and more. It is both a reference book but also an invitation to reflect on personal transformation that is used widely in confirmation classes across this country. Gamber provides an introduction to the Episcopal Church, highlighting interesting facts, inviting the reader to explore the bible, the Book of Common Prayer or the hymnal by answering questions, and suggests ways to dig deeper into topics of interest. She speaks of confirmation as claiming one’s faith, and urges confirmands to prepare themselves in order to do so, but of course this is a lifelong enterprise which begins here.

Note from the librarian: As you move through this Confirmation/Reception series you may want to know more about specific topics such as liturgy or church history or spiritual practices, or any number of other things. We have books on all those subjects, plus many on Episcopalians in the world, the way we govern ourselves, theological controversies and on and on. If there is an area in which you would like to delve further, please contact me at resource@ecww.org. Or, you can explore our online catalog at <https://books.ecww.org> and then select the tab for online catalog. I look forward to introducing you to our Resource Center collection.

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