NOW-SEPTEMBER 22, SUNDAYS
Study and Discussion of Fear of the Other
10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall

There is a distinctively Christian way to engage the so-called “outsider” and “stranger.” Tolerate one another. Wait. Isn’t that supposed to be love one another? It’s one thing to genuinely love people who are more or less the same as we are, but what about those who are not only strangers, but also people who live completely different lives? Join retired Pastor John McMullen for this discussion of Bishop Will Willimon’s book that invites you to look more closely at the gospel’s command to love—because to genuinely love those considered to be “other” may be the hardest thing for people of faith to do.

SEPTEMBER 4-NOVEMBER 20, WEDNESDAYS
Disciple I Fast Track
7:00-8:30 p.m. FLC Room 104

This 24-week study, led by Dr. Brad King, offers a twist on the classic Disciple Bible Study, which is an excellent overview of the entire Bible. This class meets for a total of 24 weeks, 12 weeks in the fall and 12 weeks in the spring, and is for anyone ready to commit and delve deeper. Perhaps you have recently started coming (or coming back!) to church, and you want to know God and the Bible better. Perhaps you are looking for a group to connect with over a longer study. Perhaps you are interested in becoming a leader at FUMC. Disciple is a great place to start. The cost is $30 for two study manuals.

SEPTEMBER 8-29, SUNDAYS
Gender and Sexuality in the Household of God
1:30-2:30 p.m. FLC

Though many lay claim to the “biblical” stance on family, gender, and procreation, the Bible does not provide clear or consistent advice on any of these issues. It does, however, provide a great deal of insight into the ways that early Christians understood Christ’s message to shape loving relationships and behaviors. Join Dr. Brad King for a lecture series on discerning the impact of scripture on our most important social concepts and relationships.

REGISTER at fumcaustin.org/grow.
SEPTEMBER 3-17, TUESDAYS

Study and Discussion of *The Far Away Brothers*
6:30-7:30 p.m. FLC Room 104

Join Pastor Cathy Stone as we read *The Far Away Brothers: Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life* by Lauren Markham, the story of identical twin brothers who escape El Salvador’s violence to build new lives in California—fighting to survive, to stay, and to belong. With Markham as our guide, we will weave faith and current immigration policy and statistics into our conversations about this unforgettable testament to the migrant experience.

Our October book will be *Dear Church: A Love Letter From a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.* by Lenny Duncan.

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SEPTEMBER 8-22, SUNDAYS

Study and Discussion of *The Song of the Bird*
6:00-7:00 p.m. FLC Room 102

Everyone loves stories; and in this book, bestselling author Anthony de Mello shares 124 stories and parables from a variety of traditions both ancient and modern. Each story resonates with life lessons that can teach us inescapable truths about ourselves and our world. This book uses the familiar yet enduring medium of the story to illustrate profound realities that bring us in touch with the problems and concerns of daily life, as well as with our common spiritual quest. Join FUMC member Lucius Bunton for this very insightful class.

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OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 26, TUESDAYS

Study and Discussion of *What is the Bible?*
6:30-8:00 p.m. FLC Room 103

Author Rob Bell goes deep into the Bible to show how it is more revelatory, revolutionary, and relevant than we ever imagined and offers a compelling argument for why we need to look at it in a fresh, new way. This book provides insights and answers that make clear why the Bible is so revered and what makes it inspiring and essential to our lives. The author addresses the concerns of all those who see the Bible as God’s Word but are troubled by the ethical dilemmas, errors, and inconsistencies in Scripture. Join FUMC member Curt Ashmos for this thought-provoking class.

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REGISTER at fumcaustin.org/grow.