

***Together at the Table,
Diversity Without Division***
By Bishop Karen P. Oliveto

Co-leaders: Pastor Mark
and Denny Stoneman

Bishop Oliveto is the first openly LGBTQ person to be elected Bishop in the United Methodist Church. She believes that the church can stay together, that people of different convictions can remain in communion with one another. Embracing unity without uniformity – a powerful challenge for any church. This book is extremely relevant today as our denomination faces this controversial issue

You are invited to join this study group that will meet at the home of Sharon and Al Doering, seven Monday evenings, 5:30 – 7:30, beginning September 17. A small supper will be shared each week, followed by discussion.

Ruthless Trust
By Brennan Manning

Dave Stinson, leader

Manning says, “Like faith and hope, trust cannot be self-generated. I cannot simply will myself to trust.” “Ill winds may blow, more character defects may surface, sickness may visit, and friends will surely die, but a stubborn irrefutable certainty persists that God is with us and loves us in our struggle to be faithful.”

Henry Nouwen said, “The root choice is to trust at all times that God is with you and will give you what you most need.” **That’s ruthless trust.** And this book works to create that kind of trust in God.

Every chapter is a gem. Come, read and discuss this book with us each week, beginning the last week in September.

We will meet as a small group in the Book Room off Fellowship Hall at 10:50 on Sundays after worship.

Doors into Prayer,
By Emilie Griffin

Joi Tennant, leader

“This little book is meant as a book about God and us: about God’s warm invitation to us, and our mysterious reluctance to accept.” Inside there are 51 “doors,” such as “*Surprises*”, “*Prayer as Wrestling*”, “*Longing*.” Our assignments are easy: read 8 or 9 Doors each week, one or two a day. We will then gather for discussion each week, including the fun of doing a **creative activity** that is aimed at opening us up a bit more to a prayer door we read about that week.

We will meet in the 1st floor S.S. classroom in Fellowship Hall that is closest to the stage, so that we can make a mess if we want to! I am planning on Tuesdays beginning Oct. 9 at 2:00 PM. But let me know if you wish we would meet at a different time.