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Fall 2004

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Friends of the Bethel University Library

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Among Friends

Volume 5 | Number 1

Autumn 2004

“Extreme Makeover: Library Edition”

It was a busy summer at the Bethel University Library! The computer lab/instruction classroom now has an updated feel with new tables, chairs and partitions. An Information Commons has been developed to provide better service to students and faculty. Areas for group study have been reconfigured. A new “Quiet Study Area” has been designated on the Library’s 4th floor. The Library’s online catalog, CLICnet, has a new interface. Staff and patrons are using a new group of periodical databases from the vendor EBSCO. “New and Improved” seems to be the phrase of the day!

In celebration of these numerous changes, the theme for this year’s Homecoming Open House is “Extreme Makeover: Library Edition”. (Thank you, Jeannine Bohlmeyer, for the idea!) Everyone is invited to attend! Please join us for tours of the Library! Hear more about the changes! Register for door prizes! Enjoy refreshments!

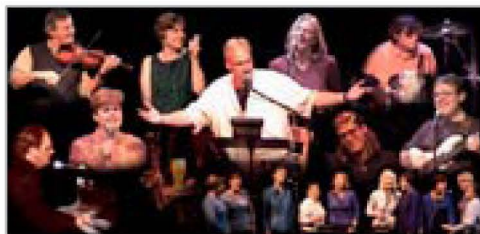
Homecoming Open House
Saturday, October 16
10:00-11:30

Mark Your Calendars!

Benson Great Hall will never be the same! The Friends of the Bethel University Library are sponsoring a wonderful evening of humor and music on Friday, February 11, 2005. Will Healy and the cast of “Over and Back” from Northfield, MN will be presenting one of their delightful shows as a fund raiser for the Friends of the Library. Tickets will go on sale in January through the Benson Great Hall Ticket Office (651-638-6333).

Throw off the mid-winter cabin fever blues and invite your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and anyone else that you know to this memorable evening!

Over AND Back



www.overandback.org

Friends of the Bethel University Library is an alliance of people dedicated to improving the resources of the library.

***Among Friends* is published twice a year.**

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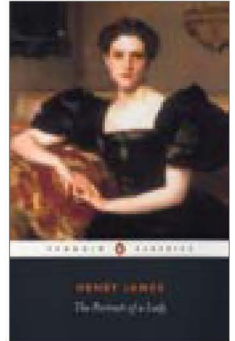
Layout: Matthew T. Malette

For more information contact
Earleen Warner at 651-635-8750 or
e-warner@bethel.edu or visit the
Bethel University Library's Web site at
<http://library.bethel.edu>

Bethel University Library
3900 Bethel Drive
St. Paul, MN 55112

Dear Friends,

I trust that you had a refreshing summer and are ready to say “yes” to planning and executing our fall Homecoming event! Opportunities abound and all hands are welcome. For my family and me, we look forward to summer because it means time to voraciously read anything that we want. During the past four summers, I have picked an author and tried to read as much of their work as possible. This summer I chose Henry James, an American author who wrote in the late nineteenth century and turn of the twentieth century. He wrote on many topics, and composed lengthy novels and short stories. When I read I like to know what other people are thinking about the book, so I was delighted when my colleague and fellow Friend, Thomas Becknell, agreed to read *The Portrait of a Lady* this summer. I was also delighted to discover that Bethel University Library has online access to the *Henry James Review*, a periodical devoted to scholarly discussion of James' work. Cool!



Do you read out loud? I am convinced that reading aloud is a wonderful way to enjoy literature. My daughter Kathryn (age 7 1/2) announced in early June that our read aloud time this summer would be devoted to C.S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Her first grade teacher had read the first book in the series, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, to her class near the end of the term and Kathryn said, “It wasn't



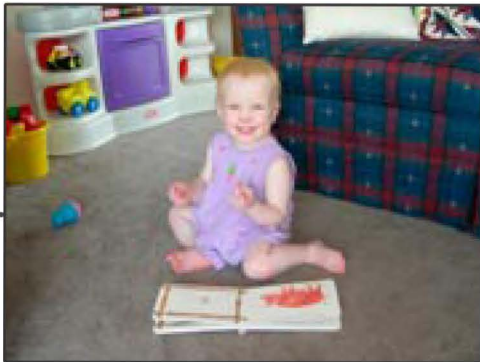
BETHEL UNIVERSITY *Library*
Your portal for academic resources

scary at all.” We are on book six (there are seven in the series) and whatever book we are reading is our current favorite. This is my pitch to all readers out there to find someone to read aloud to before Homecoming. I’m going to be polling you for read aloud recommendations!

My husband reads too, but mostly things that the rest of us don’t understand because they are in Latin or German and discuss the loftier points of Christian theology. He reads aloud mostly to himself.

I am looking forward to seeing you in October! Thank you again for all your time, encouragement and financial contributions to the important work of the Friends of the Bethel University Library.

Thank you,
Diana Magnuson



.....
Allision Magnuson (18 months) with one of her current favorite books: *The Very Busy Spider* Eric Carle
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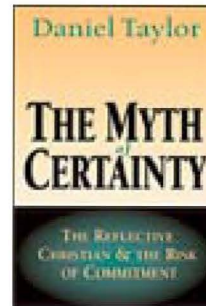
Faculty Highlights

Looking for a good book with substance? You may want to consider reading the work of Bethel University’s talented faculty. Following is a sampling of some of their books:

Ashcroft, Mary Ellen & Holly Bridges:
The Journey Beckons: Reflections on the Way of the Cross

Bakke, Jeanette A.:
Holy Invitations: Exploring Spiritual Direction

Becknell, Thomas & Mary Ellen Ashcroft:
The Pursuit of Wisdom: 125 Prayers From Timeless Voices



DeYoung, Curtiss:
Coming Together: The Bible’s Message in an Age of Diversity

Spickard, Paul R. & Kevin M. Cragg:
Global History of Christians

Johnson, William C. & AnnMae J. Johnson:
Our Life in Tomorrow: Creating the Future

Taylor, Daniel:
The Myth of Certainty: the Reflective Christian & the Risk of Commitment

Wiese, G.J.:
Spiritual Reality

Amazing eBooks

By Diana Magnuson

We have all read “a book,” but have you ever read an “eBook?” While preparing my syllabus for fall semester I discovered that one of the books I’m using is available in electronic form. What an exciting resource for me and my students!

eBooks are available for online perusal 24 hours a day (unless they are checked out for the four hour check out period). This book form allows the reader to electronically view a book’s table of contents and index, search for terms within the book, save notes about the book, print pages from the book, use a dictionary while viewing the book, and create a list of favorite titles.

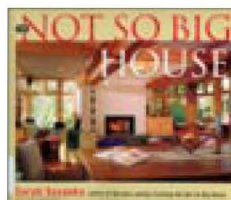


Bethel University Library presently has access to over 10,600 eBooks, as well 3,407 publicly accessible eBooks, such as Dickens’ *David Copperfield*. The Friends of the Bethel University Library hope to use some of our funds to purchase additional eBooks. Access to these materials has the potential to enhance learning for our students and professional development for our faculty. Electronic media will never completely replace hard copies of all books (just like my 18 month old twins, we all like the touch and feel of books too much!), but access to thousands of full-text materials will only enhance library offerings.

You Made It Possible!

By Carol Hansen

On Sunday, August 29, the Express section of the St. Paul Pioneer Press featured a local architect named Sarah Susanka, one of the most influential architects working in America today. I was really excited to read about her since I loved her book, *The Not So Big House*, which I bought for the Library with funds from the Friends. This book



is a perfect example of what your generosity does for us--allows us to buy quality materials that we could not buy otherwise, but that really enrich our collection.

The Not So Big House was an instant sensation among our own staff members who could not put it down! In fact, two of them decided to think seriously about architecture and went to the University of MN to check out that program!! That’s what you call impact! Even without such dramatic events, this book will feed Bethel students for years with good ideas and a philosophy that makes sense. It’s extra-curricular, but it’s life-enriching. Thank you, Friends!

Another really wonderful book purchased with Friends money during the past year is *Downtown: a History of Downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul in the Words of the People Who Lived It*, Foreword by Dave Moore. It’s full of pictures from the Minnesota Historical Society and personal reminiscences that paint vivid portraits of life here in the 19th and 20th centuries. I started reading sections of it for this article and spent way too much time with it, absorbed in the account of the great mill explosion of 1878, the delight of the trolleys, and even Gordon Parks’ account of working at the Minnesota Club in the 1930s and taking fashion photographs at Frank Murphy’s.

(On his first assignment, he double exposed all but one photograph. So he enlarged and framed the one good shot and mounted it on an easel. Mrs. Murphy was suitably impressed, and the rest is history.)

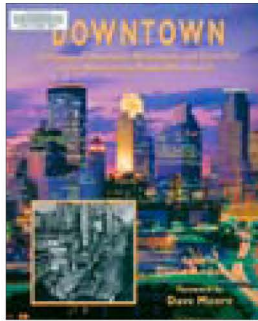
Such a book will be useful to students from a number of disciplines--history, sociology, anthropology, even social work. Best of all, it's a wonderful read that will delight the lucky ones that pick it up for one reason or another. I'm already enriched by it, and I have you Friends to thank for it.

Don't forget that your membership entitles you to use all of our resources, so come in, sit a spell, and take these treasures home for awhile.

There are many other good titles that your gifts have purchased for us. Following are just a few: *Growing Up With God: Using Stories to Explore a Child's Faith and Life* (delightful); *The Kitchen Boy: a Novel of the Last Tsar* (highly recommended); and *Starting a Nonprofit at Your Church* (never know when that might help someone).

But one outstanding title that everyone should add to their list of "must reads" is *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Ann Fadiman. Remember Clifton

Fadiman? Most of us will. Ann is his daughter and his true heir with words. In *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, she tells the poignant story of a little Hmong girl with severe epilepsy and her

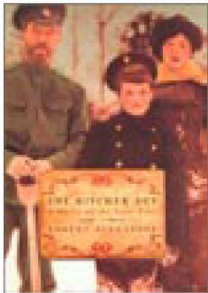


family's encounter with well-meaning Western medicine. Through personal involvement, excellent storytelling, and memorable characters, it's an even-handed account of true culture clash that made this reader think long and hard about my assumptions. My perceptions of the Hmong people have been greatly enlarged, and I loved the book. What more could you ask? Everyone should read it, and thanks to our loyal Friends of the Library, many students will have that chance. Yours truly are the gifts that keep on giving!

Library Footnotes



Lyndi Finifrock, Bethel alumna and recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Library and Information Studies, has joined the staff as a new Reference Librarian



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Students, faculty and staff are appreciating the new Information Commons which offers the services of reference, technology assistance, and writing help all in one location



***3900 Bethel Drive
St . Paul, MN 55112***

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED