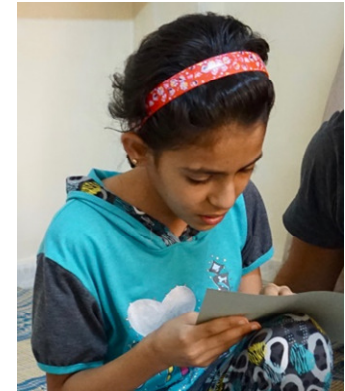


February Intergenerational Educational Event

Open Your Heart -

Read for Refugees

Books from the Reading List are on the Quilt Foyer Library Shelves. They can be checked out, or you can use your local library or order them from your favorite source.



Reading an excellent age-appropriate book about the experience of refugees helps us identify with them as brothers and sisters and brings their struggles into focus. It also helps us realize the crucial importance of the Friends' Testimony of Peace, and Friends' Advices, such as Equality; Social Justice; Peace; and Alternatives to War.

- **A donor has agreed to donate \$500, if fifty Gwynedd Friends members and attenders agree to read a book from the Reading List during February.** (See reading lists below.)
- Please complete the sign-up form and deposit it in the "I'm Willing to Open My Heart" box on the library table in the Quilt Foyer.

Open Your Heart – Read for Refugees
Reading List for Preschool through Elementary

Elementary

Age

The Colour of Home

8+

Mary Hoffman

Hassan feels out of place in a new cold, grey country. At school, he paints a picture showing his colourful Somali home, covered with the harsh colours of war from which his family has fled. He tells his teacher about their voyage from Mogadishu to Mombassa, the refugee camp and on to England. But gradually things change. When Hassan's parents put up his next picture on the wall, Hassan notices the maroon prayer mat, a bright green cushion and his sister Naima's pink dress - the new colours of home.

Drita, My Homegirl

8+

Jenny Lombard

A poignant story about the difficulties of leaving everything behind and the friendships that help you get through it. Fleeing war-torn Kosovo, ten-year-old Drita and her family move to America with the dream of living a typical American life. But with this hope comes the struggle to adapt and fit in. How can Drita find her place at school and in her new neighborhood when she doesn't speak any English? Meanwhile, Maxie and her group of fourth-grade friends are popular in their class, and make an effort to ignore Drita. So when their teacher puts Maxie and Drita together for a class project, things get off to a rocky start. But sometimes, when you least expect it, friendship can bloom and overcome even a vast cultural divide.

Four Feet, Two Sandals

7+

Karen Lynn Williams & Khadra Mohammed

When relief workers bring used clothing to the refugee camp, everyone scrambles to grab whatever they can. Ten-year-old Lina is thrilled when she finds a sandal that fits her foot perfectly, until she sees that another girl has the matching shoe. But soon Lina and Feroza meet and decide that it is better to share the sandals than for each to wear only one. As the girls go about their routines the sandals remind them that friendship is what is most important. With warm colors and sensitive brush strokes, this book portrays the strength, courage, and hope of refugees around the world, whose daily existence is marked by uncertainty and fear.

My Name is Sangoel

7+

Karen Lynn Williams & Khadra Mohammed

Sangoel is a refugee. Leaving behind his homeland of Sudan, where his father died in the war, he has little to call his own other than his name, a Dinka name handed down proudly from his father and grandfather before him. When Sangoel and his mother and sister arrive in the United States, everything seems very strange and unlike home. In this busy, noisy place, with its escalators and television sets and traffic and snow, Sangoel quietly endures the fact that no one is able to pronounce his name. Lonely and homesick, he finally comes up with an ingenious solution to this problem, and in the process he at last begins to feel at home.

Night of the Moon

5+

Hena Khan, Illus. by Julie Paschkis

Yasmeen, a seven-year-old Pakistani-American girl, celebrates the Muslim holidays of Ramadan, "The Night of the Moon" (Chaand Raat), and Eid. With lush illustrations that evoke Islamic art, this beautiful story offers a window into modern Muslim culture—and into the ancient roots from within its traditions have grown.

Stepping Stones**5+**

Margriet Ruurs

This unique picture book was inspired by the stone artwork of Syrian artist Nizar Ali Badr, discovered by chance by Canadian children’s writer Margriet Ruurs. The author was immediately impressed by the strong narrative quality of Mr. Badr’s work, and, using many of Mr. Badr’s already-created pieces, she set out to create a story about the Syrian refugee crisis. *Stepping Stones* tells the story of Rama and her family, who are forced to flee their once-peaceful village to escape the ravages of the civil war raging ever closer to their home. With only what they can carry on their backs, Rama and her mother, father, grandfather and brother, Sami, set out to walk to freedom in Europe. Nizar Ali Badr’s stunning stone images illustrate the story.

Lost and Found Cat**5+**

Doug Kuntz and Amy Shrodes

A mother and her 5 children must flee Mosul with

only the bare essentials – including their sweet cat, Kunkush. After a long difficult journey, they finally land in Greece. Wet and frightened Kunkush disappears into the forest. After searching for hours, the family must tearfully leave without their beloved cat. How will they ever be reunited? Based on an amazing true story.

Preschool - K (G rated)**Peace is an Offering**

Annette LeBox

A warm, comforting poem about finding peace in a community of neighbors. Join this group of neighborhood children as they find love in everyday things—in sunlight shining through the leaves and cookies shared with friends—and learn that peace is all around, if you just look for it. With rhyming verse and soft illustrations, this book will help families and teachers look for the light moments when tragedy strikes and remind readers of the calm and happiness they find in their own community every day.

Swimmy

Leo Lionni

Deep in the sea lives a happy school of fish. Their watery world is full of wonders, but there is also danger, and the little fish are afraid to come out of hiding . . . until Swimmy comes along. Swimmy shows his friends how—with ingenuity and team work—they can overcome any danger.

Whoever You Are

Mem Fox

Every day all over the world, children are laughing and crying, playing and learning, eating and sleeping. They may not look the same. They may not speak the same language. Their lives may be quite different. But inside, they are all alike. Stirring words and bold paintings weave their way around our earth, across cultures and generations. At a time when, unfortunately, the lessons of tolerance still need to be learned, *Whoever You Are* urges us to accept our differences, to recognize our similarities, and-most importantly-to rejoice in both.

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