

**SMPC**  
**Food for Thought Book Group**  
**2017-2018**  
**6:30 p.m., Session Room**  
**Contact: Kathy Paquette, khesspaquette@aol.com**

**September 7, 2017**

***The Hundred Story Home: A Journey of Homelessness, Hope and Healing*** NF By Kathy Izard

Kathy Izard was a graphic designer, wife, mother of 4 daughters and volunteer at Charlotte's Urban Ministry when an unlikely meeting with formerly homeless author, Denver Moore, changed the course of her life. Inspired by Denver's challenge to do more than serve in this soup kitchen, Kathy quit her job to take on what seemed like an unimaginable task in her second half of life—to build housing for Charlotte's homeless.

**(Sunday, October 1, 2017 - author, Kathy Izard visits SMPC at 5:00 p.m.)**

**October 5, 2017**                      **"All You Need is Love"**

***Etched In Sand: A True Story of Five Siblings Who Survived an Unspeakable Childhood on Long Island*** NF by Regina Calcaterra

Regina Calcaterra is a successful lawyer, New York State official, and activist. Her painful early life, however, was quite different. Regina and her four siblings survived an abusive and painful childhood only to find themselves faced with the challenges of the foster-care system and intermittent homelessness in the shadows of Manhattan and the Hamptons.

**November 2, 2017**                      **Celebrating Family**

***The Silent Sister*** F by Diane Chamberlain

Riley MacPherson has spent her entire life believing that her older sister Lisa committed suicide as a teenager. Now, over twenty years later, her father has passed away and she's in New Bern, North Carolina cleaning out his house when she finds evidence to the contrary. Lisa is alive. Alive and living under a new identity. But why exactly was she on the run all those years ago, and what secrets are being kept now?

**December 7, 2017**                      **World War 2 Remembrance**

***Lilac Girls*** F by Martha Hall Kelly

NY socialite Caroline Ferriday is busy at the French consulate and a new love. Her world is changed when Hitler's army invades Poland in September 1939 and sets its sights on France. Kasia Kuzmerick, a Polish teenager, senses her youth disappearing as she is drawn deeper into her role as courier for the underground resistance. German doctor, Herta Oberheuser, is hired for a government medical position and is trapped in a realm of Nazi power. The lives of these three women are set on a collision course....

**January 4, 2018**

**Poverty Awareness**

***Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*** NF by J. D. Vance

From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, an account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. *Hillbilly Elegy* is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about from the inside.

**February 1, 2018**

**Chinese New Year is February 16, 2018**

***Girl Who Wrote in Silk*** F by Kelli Estes

Inara Erickson is exploring her deceased aunt's island estate when she finds an elaborately stitched piece of fabric hidden in the house. As she peels back layer upon layer of the secrets it holds, Inara's life becomes interwoven with that of Mei Lein, a young Chinese girl mysteriously driven from her home a century before.

**March 1, 2018**

**"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22.39)**

***Man Called Ove*** F by Fredrick Backman

Ove is a curmudgeon—the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short temper. Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. One November morning a young couple with two daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox. It leads to a tale of unexpected friendship.

**April 5, 2018**

**The Act of Forgiving**

***The Coincidence of Coconut Cake*** F by Amy Reichert

A chef and a food critic who brings down her restaurant meet and begin a romance. In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Lou works to build her French restaurant, Luellas, into a success. British transplant Al stays employed by writing scathing reviews of restaurants in the newspaper under a pseudonym. When a tip sends him to Luella's, little does he know he's arrived on the worst day of the chef's life.

**May 3, 2018. National Nurses Month**

***Small Great Things*** F by Jodi Picoult

Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with 20 years experience. During her shift, she begins a routine checkup on a newborn and is told that she's been reassigned to another patient. The parents are white supremacists and don't want Ruth, who is African American, to touch their child. The hospital agrees to the request, but the next day, the baby goes into cardiac distress while Ruth is alone in the nursery. Does she obey orders or does she intervene?

**June 7, 2018 Learn about Anne Morrow Lindbergh (Born June 22, 1906)**

***The Aviator's Wife*** F by Melanie Benjamin

When Anne Morrow travels to Mexico City to spend Christmas with her family, she meets Colonel Charles Lindbergh, fresh off his 1927 solo flight across the Atlantic. Enthralled by Charles's fame, Anne is certain the aviator has scarcely noticed her. Charles sees in Anne a kindred spirit and a fellow adventurer. The two marry and in the years that follow, Anne becomes the first licensed female glider pilot in the US. Despite her major achievements, she is viewed merely as the aviator's wife.

**July. No Meeting**

**August 2, 2018 Summertime!**

***Waves of Mercy*** F by Lynn Austin

Geesje de Jonge left the Netherlands at age 17 to live in Michigan. Fifty years later, in 1897, she's asked to write her experiences as the town celebrates its anniversary. She uncovers hidden memories. At a nearby resort on Lake Michigan, Anna Nicholson is trying to recover from a broken engagement to a Chicago banker. Anna begins to question who she is and if she wants to return to Chicago. When she befriends a seminary student who works at the hotel, she asks him the questions that have been troubling her.

**September 6, 2018 Alzheimer's Awareness**

***The Things We Keep*** F by Sally Hepworth

Anna Forster is 38, but her mind is slipping away. She knows that her family is doing what they believe to be best when they take her to Rosalind House, an assisted living facility. She knows there's just one other resident who is her age, Luke. She does not expect the love that blossoms between her and Luke. Eve Bennett, a single mother, works at Rosalind house. When she meets Anna and Luke, she is moved by the bond the pair has forged. When an incident leads Anna's and Luke's families to separate them, Eve finds herself questioning if she is willing to help them.