

Mt Zion Book Club Schedule 2026-2027

(as of 9/4/2026)

Meets at 7:00 pm in the Hearth Room, Mt Zion Lutheran Church, 12012 W North Ave, Wauwatosa, WI. To participate on Zoom, use meeting ID 841 6597 2335 / passcode 12012. All meetings are open to the public. We usually meet on the fourth Monday of each month except August and December—see specific dates below. Future books are chosen based on suggestions. Please email your suggestions to Douglas Johnson (marydouglasjohnson@gmail.com) by May 10, 2027.

September 28, 2026

The Measure by Nikki Erlick

Hosts: All members (potluck)

From suburban doorsteps to desert tents, every person on every continent receives the same box. The contents of this mysterious box tells you the exact number of years you will live. In an instant, the world is thrust into a collective frenzy. Enchanting and deeply uplifting, this is an ambitious, invigorating story about family, friendship, hope, and destiny that encourages us to live life to the fullest.

October 26, 2026

The Mad Girls of New York by Maya Rodale

Host: Candy Loesl

In 1887 New York City, Nellie Bly has ambitions beyond writing for the ladies pages, but all the editors on Newspaper Row think women are too emotional, respectable, and delicate to do the job. But then the New York World challenges her to an assignment she'd be mad to accept and mad to refuse: go undercover as a patient at the insane asylum for women.

November 30, 2026

(moved to the 5th Monday to deconflict with Thanksgiving)

Counting Miracles by Nicholas Sparks

Host: Mavis Roesch

Tanner Hughes was raised by his grandparents, following in his grandfather's military footsteps to become an Army Ranger. His whole life has been spent abroad, and he is the proverbial rolling stone: happiest when off on his next adventure, zero desire to settle down. But when his grandmother passes away, her last words to him are find where you belong. She also drops a bombshell, telling him the name of the father he never knew—and where to find him.

December 2026 – no meeting

January 25, 2027

The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Host: Lynn Koenig

A reclusive Hollywood icon tells her life story: from making her way to Los Angeles in the 1950s to her decision to leave show business in the '80s, and, of course, the seven husbands along the way, she unspools a tale of ruthless ambition, unexpected friendship, and a great forbidden love. Glamorous, emotional, and full of surprises. Discussion topics: ambition, bisexuality, fame, and the stories we tell about ourselves.

February 22, 2027 (Tosa's All-City Read book discussion)

Culpability by Bruce Holsinger

Hosts: All members

When the Cassidy-Shaws' autonomous minivan collides with an oncoming car, each family member harbors a secret that implicates them in the accident. This propulsive family drama is also a fascinating exploration of the moral responsibility and ethical consequences of AI, exploring a world newly shaped by chatbots, autonomous cars, drones, and other nonhuman forces in ways that are thrilling, challenging, and unimaginably provocative.

March 22, 2027**Theo of Golden** by Allen Levi**Host: Alys Herranen**

One spring morning, a stranger arrives in the small southern city of Golden. Theo visits the local coffeehouse, where ninety-two pencil portraits hang on the walls, portraits of the people of Golden done by a local artist. He begins purchasing them, one at a time, and putting them back in the hands of their “rightful owners.” With each exchange, a story is told, a friendship born, and a life altered.

April 26, 2027**Host: Joan Paul****The Little Old Lady Who Broke All the Rules** by Catharina Ingelman-Sundberg

Martha Andersson may be seventy-nine-years-old and live in a retirement home, but that doesn't mean she's ready to stop enjoying life. So when the new management of Diamond House starts cutting corners to save money, Martha and her four closest friends won't stand for it. Fed up with early bedtimes and overcooked veggies, this group of feisty seniors sets about to regain their independence, improve their lot, and stand up for seniors everywhere. Their solution? White collar crime.

May 24, 2027**Life: A Love Story** by Elizabeth Berg**Host: Jean Morack**

As ninety-two-year-old Florence "Flo" Greene nears the end of her life, she writes a letter to Ruthie, the woman who grew up next door to her, describing the items Flo is leaving Ruthie in her will. But as it goes on, telling surprising stories about those “little” things Flo will leave behind (What could possibly be the worth of a rubber band kept in a matchbox tied up in red ribbon?), an unforgettable portrait of the life she has lived emerges.

We will pick books for next year at this meeting.

June 28, 2027**The Berry Pickers** by Amanda Peters**Host: Yvonne Kops**

July 1962. A Mi'kmaq family from Nova Scotia arrives in Maine to pick blueberries for the summer. Weeks later, four-year-old Ruthie, the family's youngest child, vanishes. She is last seen by her six-year-old brother, Joe, sitting on a favorite rock at the edge of a berry field. Joe will remain distraught by his sister's disappearance for years to come.

July 26, 2027**The German Wife** by Kelly Rimmer**Hosts: Mary & Douglas Johnson**

Berlin, 1930—When a wave of change sweeps a radical political party to power, Sofie von Meyer Rhodes's academic husband benefits from the ambitions of its newly elected chancellor. Although Sofie and Jürgen do not share the social views growing popular in Hitler's Germany, Jürgen's position with its burgeoning rocket program changes their diminishing fortunes for the better. But as Sofie watches helplessly, her beloved Berlin begins to transform, forcing her to consider what they must sacrifice morally for their young family's security, and what the price for their neutrality will be.

August 2027 – no meeting