Read ‘n Relate is a women’s book club offered at both the North and South Campuses. Each gathering includes prayer, a brief devotion, and meaningful discussion of secular books from a Christian perspective. Both groups read the same titles, which participants select by vote. See below for details about upcoming selections.

**North Campus, Lounge, Mary Bjorgaard** – 3:30pm the first Thursday of the month
**South Campus, Hebrews, Karen Silbernagel** – 11:00am the second Monday of the month

September—The Loves of Theodore Roosevelt by Edward O’Keefe
October—Spirit Crossing by William Kent Krueger
November—My Friends by Fredrik Backman
December—The Man Who Died Twice by Richard Osman
January—Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt
February—Theo of Golden by Allen Levi
March—The Proving Ground by Michael Connelly
April—The Shadows We Hide by Allen Eskens
May—The God of the Woods by Liz Moore
June—Select titles for next year

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**September — *The Loves of Theodore Roosevelt***

The Loves of Theodore Roosevelt explores how the remarkable women in Theodore Roosevelt’s life, including his mother, sisters, and wives, profoundly shaped his character, values, and political success.

- Historical biography
- Themes: leadership, marriage, loss, resilience

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**October — *Spirit Crossing***

Spirit Crossing follows Cork O’Connor as the discovery of a young Ojibwe woman’s grave uncovers connections to a highly publicized missing-person case in northern Minnesota.

- Crime/mystery with Native spiritual elements
- Themes: justice and marginalization, violence, identity, social justice
- This book includes some violence typical of detective fiction and a spiritual worldview that differs from Christianity.

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**November — *My Friends* (Backman)**

My Friends follows a young woman uncovering the extraordinary story behind a famous painting and the bond that changed lives forever.

- Adult contemporary novel
- Themes: friendship, loneliness, healing
- This book includes abuse, death and suicidal ideation, substance use, “off page” domestic violence, some mild language depending on translation/version, and bullying.

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**December — *The Man Who Died Twice***

Richard Osman’s Thursday Murder Club must untangle a deadly web of stolen diamonds, espionage, and murder while proving that age is no barrier to solving crimes.

- cozy mystery with a humorous tone
- Themes: friendship and loyalty, loss, aging, identity
- This book includes violence and mild language.

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**January — *Remarkably Bright Creatures***

Remarkably Bright Creatures follows an unlikely bond between a lonely widow and a remarkably intelligent octopus who helps uncover long-buried secrets.

- Gentle literary/contemporary novel
- Themes: grief, connection, second chances

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**February — *Theo of Golden***

A novel about a mysterious stranger whose quiet acts of generosity transform a small town, reminding its residents of the power of kindness, connection, and being truly seen.

- Written by a Christian author
- Themes: redemption, grace, small-town restoration

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**March — *The Proving Ground* (Michael Connelly)**

The Proving Ground follows Mickey Haller as he takes on a powerful AI company in a high-stakes courtroom battle where justice, technology, and human lives hang in the balance.

- Crime/legal thriller
- Themes: ethics of technology, justice, moral accountability, grief, personal purpose
- This book includes violence, death and loss, suicide, and mild to moderate language.

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**April — *The Shadows We Hide***

The Shadows We Hide follows journalist Joe Talbert as he investigates the murder of the father he never knew, uncovering dark truths that could put his own life at risk.

- Crime + family secrets
- Themes: trauma, identity, moral complexity, redemption and forgiveness
- This book includes violence including sexual violence, death and suicide, abuse, substance use, language, and emotional distress.

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**May — *The God of the Woods***

Set in the Adirondacks, The God of the Woods unravels the disappearance of a teenage girl, exposing long-buried family secrets, privilege, and the destructive power of silence.

- Literary mystery with darker tone
- Themes: class, secrecy, generational trauma
- This book includes violence, child endangerment/death, abuse, moral ambiguity, mental illness, substance use and abuse, and moderate profanity.