The Rev. J. Barney Hawkins IV, Ph.D, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, the Arthur Carl Lichtenberger Professor in Pastoral Theology and Continuing Education, Director of Lifetime Theological Education, at Virginia Theological Seminary, recommends the following books as part of the Bishop Payne Library’s monthly series highlighting a faculty member’s "picks":


This translation by Henry Chadwick is a classic. I read the Confessions every other year—whether I need to or not! St. Augustine seems so modern. I love his question: “What was God doing before Creation?”


Some would say that Holmes’ monograph is dated. I would disagree. *Ministry and Imagination* came out the year after I was ordained a priest. It still makes sense for those of us who are wearing “the habit of priesthood.” Holmes is not interested in ministry as “business as usual.” His voice still matters.


This monograph looks at ancient poetry and latter inspired writings used in daily devotions in our English-language tradition. You will meet John Donne, Thomas Traherne and other wise men and women. Poetry in the modern era is well presented—including William Carlos Williams and Jean Toomer. New to me was much of the twenty-first century poetry. One poet included was born in 1982!


Please excuse the self-promotion! This monograph is part of the publishers’ Companions to Religion series. The contributors consider the history; structures of and themes in the Communion; and each of the provinces. It is a handy reference book as one travels the geography of faith which is the worldwide Anglican Communion.