In honor of National Library Week, Public Services Librarian, Karen Madigan recommends the following books as part of the Bishop Payne Library’s monthly series highlighting a faculty/staff member’s “picks”:

This was a valuable Lenten read as Bishop Tutu and his daughter Mpho present a path to forgiveness that can benefit us all, whether we need to forgive or are in need of forgiveness. Tutu starts by discussing why we should forgive including how it frees us from the burden of the anger to experience a life that is more in keeping with the example that Christ gave to us. He then reveals a fourfold path to forgiveness. Part three tells us how to forgive ourselves. This book is a resource that I want to read over and over as I find myself in need of forgiving another person or myself.

Two Bible scholars, one a practicing Episcopalian and one a prominent Anglican clergyman discuss their views on who Jesus is for us today (book jacket). Borg was a member of the Jesus Seminar while Wright is a critic of the Seminar’s work. These two scholars debate issues in Christology which include Jesus’s divinity through the second coming. Both are men of faith whose views are helpful to those of us who wonder at different points in our faith lives how to balance the many portraits of Jesus that are found in the Scriptures as well as in the works of modern theologians.

From the cover jacket we find out that at least one third of the people that we know are introverts. I confess to being one of them. Cain points out the differences between introverts and extroverts through the use of research in the areas of psychology and neuroscience, pointing out the positive qualities that introverts bring to the business and academic worlds. She includes stories of successful introverts, including Eleanor Roosevelt and Warren Buffett. This is a good read for everyone whether we are introverts looking to understand how to use our personality traits as strengths or whether we are extroverts looking to understand an introverted friend or loved one.

When you take the time to sit down and relax, this is a recommended read for those who enjoy murder mysteries. It is the first in a series of titles that feature Owen Archer. Set in the fourteenth century, Archer works for the Lord Chancellor of England and Archbishop of York to resolve two deaths that occurred at the monastery in York. While masquerading as an apprentice to a local apothecary, he becomes familiar with the people of the town while solving murders by poisoning.