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## Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

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## Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

**JOHNNIE MAC WALTERS** '42, *Our Journey* (Stroud & Hall, 2011). The author, a retired lawyer and former commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, offers this memoir. Starting with his formative years near Hartsville, S.C., he recounts his time at Furman, his military years and his legal career. He describes the journey he and his family took from the corporate world to Washington, D.C., where from 1971–73 he was commissioner of the IRS. A highlight of the story is his description of dealing with the Nixon White House during the early stages of the Watergate scandal — and his refusal to politicize the IRS. Fred B. Ugast, retired chief judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, says Walters' "candid recital of the difficult decisions he made during his tenure at the Department of Justice and the Internal Revenue Service, during the political turmoil of the 1970s, reflects his lifelong principles of integrity and honesty." Walters and his wife, Donna, live in Greenville.

**STEWART SIMMS** '69, *Words Not Spoken: Understanding the Pastor's Silent Hurts* (Yorkshire Publishing, 2011). The publisher says, "Ministry can be both a great blessing and a source of frustration. Although it is a joy to serve God, things can happen that wound a pastor deeply. With whom does the pastor confide? Who is the pastor's pastor? Sometimes because of embarrassment or fear he tells no one, which can lead to serious consequences." Simms, who is pastor of Beech Haven Baptist Church in Athens, Ga., explores these issues and offers suggestions about how ministers can cope.

**DAVID BROWN** '74, *Dirt Roads and Daydreams* (Wasteland Press, 2011). "Fifteen years ago I was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor," the author writes. "I have been very fortunate and have survived what is usually a fatal diagnosis. I simply continue to live one day at a time, humbly thankful for the gift of continued life. I retired in the summer of 2008 and spent my first year of retirement reflecting on my life. In the process I identified five important things that have sustained me through the easy and not-so-easy times: faith, family, friends, fun and free enterprise. *Dirt Roads and Daydreams* is a collection of true stories and reflections about my Five F's." Brown lives in Johns Creek, Ga. Visit the author's website at [www.dirtroadsanddaydreams.com](http://www.dirtroadsanddaydreams.com).

**SCOTT WILCHER** '81 (M.A. '88), *The Orphaned Generation: The Father's Heart for Connecting Youth and Young Adults to Your Church* (UpStream Project, 2010). The author, who lives in Chesapeake, Va., coaches and trains youth and young-adult ministry leaders, and also conducts parenting seminars in churches and schools. His book examines why young people are leaving the church and how churches can address the problem. Roy Smith of the Norfolk (Va.) Area Baptist Association says, "This should be required reading for each student ministry, who should then share a copy with the senior pastor, who should share a copy with every adult in the congregation." Visit <http://scottwilcher.com>.

**DAVID JORDAN** '82, *Subversive Words: Biblical Counterpoints to Conventional Wisdom* (Pure Heart Press, 2011). Bill Leonard of Wake Forest University Divinity School says, "David Jordan contrasts 'conventional wisdom' with 'biblical wisdom'

through an insightful survey of both testaments. Readers are asked to explore the implications of 'Gospel subversion' for their own lives and their response to contemporary culture." LeDayne McLeese Polaski '89 of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America says, "This book is scholarly and accessible, open and rewarding. Calling on a wealth of scholarship, personal stories and pastoral insight, David has a remarkable ability to make the ancient texts relevant to our modern times." Jordan is a minister in Charlotte, N.C. Visit [www.fromjordansstormybanks.com](http://www.fromjordansstormybanks.com).

**C. MELISSA SNARR** '92, *All You That Labor: Religion and Ethics in the Living Wage Movement* (New York University Press, 2011). The book analyzes and evaluates the contributions of religious activists in the living wage movement. The author, associate professor of ethics and society and associate dean for academic affairs at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, interweaves sociological observations with ethical assessment, examines how religious activists contribute to the economic and political needs of low-wage workers and their allies, and offers further resources for the ongoing development of worker justice movements. Kim Bobo, executive director of Interfaith Worker Justice, says, "As an activist scholar, Snarr bridges the gap that often exists between the academy and activists. *All You That Labor* encourages and challenges the movement in a refreshingly honest, yet respectful, manner."

**ELLEN CULBERTSON ABRAMO** '00 (illustrator) and Dana Orr, *Fruitful Friends: Filled with the Spirit* (Fruitful Friends, 2011). This children's book is based on Galatians 5:22-23. ("But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness,

goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.") It teaches about the nine fruits of the Spirit through a rhyming story and the use of brightly colored illustrations. Abramo and her husband, Don (also Class of '00), are co-principals at Fruitful Friends, LLC, along with Orr and her husband. Based in Gilbertsville, Pa., the children's ministry and publishing company provides support to families and Christian educators. Visit [www.fruitfulfriends.com](http://www.fruitfulfriends.com).

### FROM FACULTY

**AKAN MALICI** and Stephen Walker, *U.S. Presidents and Foreign Policy Mistakes* (Stanford University Press, 2011). The publisher says, "Mistakes, in the form of bad decisions, are a common feature of every presidential administration, and their consequences run the gamut from unnecessary military spending, to missed opportunities for foreign policy advantage, to needless bloodshed. The authors analyze a range of presidential decisions made in the realm of U.S. foreign policy — with a special focus on national security — over the past half century, creating a road-map of the decision process and a guide to better foreign policy decision-making in the increasingly complex context of 21st-century international relations." Philip E. Tetlock of the University of Pennsylvania says, "This book does a superb job of integrating historical, game-theoretic, and psychological approaches, and of deepening our understanding of how to avoid miscalculations that can cause grievous harm on a massive scale." Malici has taught political science at Furman since 2005. Walker is an emeritus professor at Arizona State University.