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Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni

Furman University

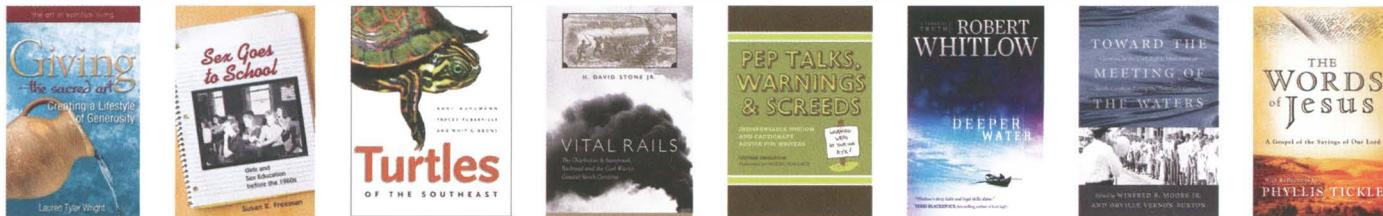
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Lauren Tyler Wright '00, *Giving — The Sacred Art: Creating a Lifestyle of Generosity* (Skylight Paths Publishing, 2008). *Publisher's Weekly* calls this book a “refreshingly candid volume on the transformative power of sharing one’s material, emotional and spiritual wealth” and adds that “readers of all faiths, or none, will find useful suggestions for incorporating giving into their lives.” The author, who was formerly associated with the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving at the Center of Philanthropy at Indiana University, lives in Jamestown, Ind., and is a researcher and seminar leader on the topic of generosity in faith communities.

Susan K. Freeman '93, *Sex Goes to School: Girls and Sex Education before the 1960s* (University of Illinois Press, 2008). Reviewer Karin Dubinsky says, “The originality of this book lies in its argument that sex educators were more progressive than previously understood, and that controversy about sex in the schools arose not in the staid, conformist 1940s and '50s but rather the liberal 1960s.” Freeman, an assistant professor of women’s studies at Minnesota State University in Mankato, writes that she seeks “to offer a deep understanding of the dynamic process of sex education, in part by shifting the vantage point to consider adolescents’ perspectives and contributions along with those of educators.”

Tracey Tuberville '93, Kurt Buhlmann and Whit Gibbons, *Turtles of the Southeast* (University of Georgia Press, 2008). This Wormsloe Foundation Nature Book is written with a special focus on conservation. It deals with more than 40 native

species of turtles and features more than 200 photographs. Seventy-five percent of turtle species in the United States can be found in the Southeast; the guide promotes a better understanding of their needs and challenges. Tuberville recently earned a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia and is an assistant research scientist at the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory in Aiken, S.C., where Buhlmann works as well. Gibbons is an ecology professor at the University of Georgia and is also affiliated with SREL.

H. David Stone, Jr. '88, *Vital Rails: The Charleston & Savannah Railroad and the Civil War in Coastal South Carolina* (University of South Carolina Press, 2008). The author, a physician in Florence, S.C., details the history of the railroad that played a key economic and logistical role in linking Confederate port cities during the Civil War — and was at the center of eight confrontations with Union troops. He recounts the railroad’s post-war financial problems and recovery to become part of an extensive coastal transportation system. John E. Clark, Jr., author of *Railroads in the Civil War*, says, “*Vital Rails* should attract the interest of economic, military, railroad and Southern historians as well as those interested in the histories of Charleston and Savannah.”

George Singleton '80, *Pep Talks, Warnings, and Screeds: Indispensable Wisdom and Cautionary Advice for Writers* (Writer’s Digest Books, 2008). An excerpt from this book appeared in the Summer 2008 issue of *Furman*. Featuring illustrations by David

Wallace, the book offers, in the author’s humorous, irreverent style, advice on the nuances of writing and of submitting work for publication. Singleton, who has published two novels and four short story collections, teaches creative writing at the South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville. Visit www.georgesingleton.com.

Robert Whitlow '76, *Deeper Water* (Thomas Nelson, 2008). Christy Award winner Whitlow, an attorney in Charlotte, N.C., has developed a strong fan base through his taut legal thrillers with a spiritual message. This is his eighth novel and the first in his planned three-part “The Tides of Truth” series. It chronicles the story of a law student’s “passionate pursuit of truth in matters of life and the law.” While researching her first case, she uncovers secrets that affect her relationship with her client and the senior partners in her Savannah, Ga., firm. The plot revolves around her suspicions about a conspiracy and whether her efforts to uncover the truth will force her to compromise her deep-seated convictions. Visit www.robertwhitlow.com.

Orville Vernon Burton '69 and Winfred B. Moore, Jr. '71, editors, *Toward the Meeting of the Waters: Currents in the Civil Rights Movement of South Carolina during the Twentieth Century* (University of South Carolina Press, 2008). The book emerged from a conference on civil rights held at The Citadel. The publisher says it “brings together voices of leading historians alongside recollections from central participants to provide the first comprehensive history of the civil rights movement as experienced

by black and white South Carolinians.” Burton has written several scholarly books, including last year’s acclaimed *The Age of Lincoln*. He is Burroughs Distinguished Professor of Southern History and Culture at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C. Moore is a professor of history and dean of humanities and social sciences at The Citadel.

Phyllis Tickle (M.A. '61), *The Words of Jesus: A Gospel of the Sayings of Our Lord* (Jossey-Bass, 2008) and *The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why* (Baker Books, 2008). A respected authority on religion in America, Tickle is a former contributing editor for *Publisher's Weekly*. *Library Journal* describes *The Words of Jesus* as “a thoughtful reflection on the meaning of Jesus’ words and the importance of various contexts for his followers,” and David Neff of Christianity Today Media Group says, “*The Words of Jesus* has something to enrage, engage and change everyone.” Of *The Great Emergence*, the publisher says the book “is rooted in the observation that massive transitions in the church happen about every 500 years.” Tickle believes we currently live in such a time. She examines the influences of such forces as Darwin, Freud, Einstein and technology on the church, “then sets her sights on where we’re going, leaving us with a vision of an exciting future for the church.” Visit www.phyllistickle.com.