

1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Coordinator:  
**Arlene Allsup**



**BOOK CLUB:** We meet the last Thursday of each Session. We read a nonfiction book one month and a fiction book the next month. The book is suggested and selected by the group and will be moderated by the person that suggested the book title. Our group is open to everyone, even if you have not read or have previously read the book. Please feel free to join the group for any of the meetings. Keep Reading!

**December 12, 2024**

**"The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store", by James McBride**

It opens with the discovery of a skeleton in a well in a small town. This introduction to the Chicken Hill area of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, sets up a sense of mystery as the narrative jumps back nearly 50 years to explore the town, its secrets and its people.

Chicken Hill is a vibrant community of immigrants, Jewish and black people, resulting in a mix of characters with intertwined lives and shared histories. This novel tells their stories with affection, humor, and occasionally some level of vexation with the world when a deaf boy in town is left without a mother and the state looks to take him into their custody.

It's a story about people who are struggling and their ambitions, successes and disappointments. In this compassionate, life-affirming and often funny novel, McBride explores what it means to be in a community and to live in the margins of "white" American.

