**Book (and other) recommendations from TAA members**

* **Getting Involved with God (Rediscovering the Old Testament)**

by Ellen F. Davis, Associate Professor of Bible & Practical Theology at Duke Divinity School and she's also taught at other American seminaries. She's very

readable and makes things really accessible - a brilliant communicator.

* **The Red Hand Files** by Nick Cave.Online only <https://www.theredhandfiles.com>

#308 ‘Hope is optimism with a broken heart’. This means that hope has an earned understanding of the sorrowful or corrupted nature of things, yet it rises to attend to the world even still. We understand that our demoralisation becomes the most serious impediment to bettering the world. In its active form, hope is a supreme gesture of love, a radical and audacious duty, whereas despair is a stagnant rejection of life itself. Hope becomes the energy of change.

* **‘Nonviolent Communication – a Language of Life**’, by Marshall B Rosenberg.
* **‘Aramaic Jesus’ -** Neil Douglas-Klotz
* **The Five Gospels (What Jesus Really Said) -** The Jesus Seminar and **What Jesus Really Did -** The Jesus Seminar. Two verse-by-verse looks at the Gospels considered by scholars for their historical accuracy.
* Anything by Bishop John Shelby Spong (there are many) - a good starting point might be **Jesus for the Non-Religious** and also **The Sins of Scripture**
* **Meeting Jesus again for the First Time** - Marcus Borg

**Creed of consciousness**  Don MacGregor.

I believe in the God of Creative purpose, the compassionate consciousness

in which we live and move and have our being. Mother and Father of us all,

we are held in being by God, who dwells in us and all creation, and from

whom we emanate and emerge.

I believe Jesus the Christ was a son of God, a fully human being who

reached the depths of God-consciousness to become fully divine, and

forged a path for the rest of humanity, through the way of self-emptying

and compassion.

I believe in the Spirit of God, the divine energy working in the world to

bring all things to fullness and restoration.

I believe in the sacred nature of the Earth and every human being, and that

the spiritual journey is to be transformed by love, letting go of the selfish

nature, and entering into the compassionate consciousness that is God.

**A version of the Lord’s prayer**  Don MacGregor.

O Breath of Life, who flows in all creation,

May the light of your presence fill the universe,

Your way of being come, your desire done, in this and all realms of

existence.

Bring forth the nourishment we need for this day.

Forgive the failures that bind us, as we let go of our hold on other’s

failures.

And let us not be satisfied with the surface of life,

but deliver us from wrong paths.

For you are abundant life, creative unity and glorious harmony,

through all time and beyond. Amen.