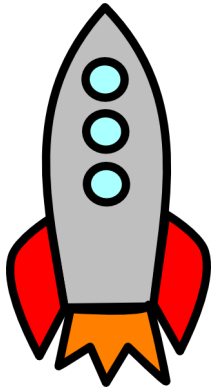




BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS!



The ELCA Youth Gathering will be collecting books for students in Pre-K through 6th grade.

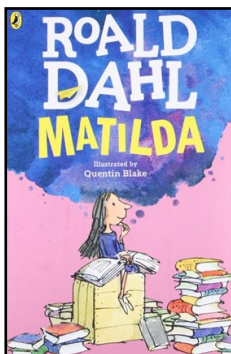


The Gathering has recognized the need to lift up literacy in Houston. Building a foundation of literacy starts before entering Kindergarten. Students who read at home become strong writers, critical thinkers, and more successful students than those who do not. Houston Independent School District estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. This means the students begin each school year at a disadvantage.

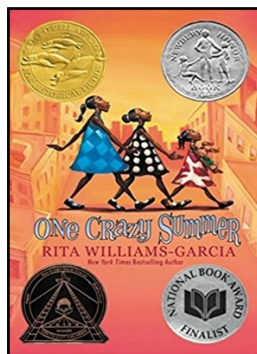
In joining the Gathering's Blast Off for Books campaign, you will help ensure bright futures for Houston's students. The books you donate will be distributed at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city as part of the Gathering's Service Learning experience. By putting books in the hands of Houston's economically disadvantaged students, you can help change lives.

Help us collect 100,000 books for the children of Houston.

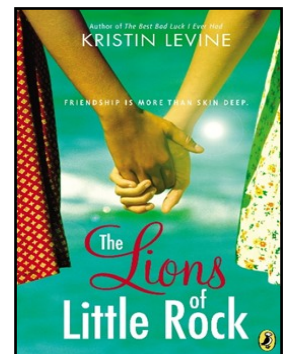
**The ELCA Youth Gathering book list includes the following titles.
Feel free to purchase a new or gently used book and bring to the church office
or drop off a donation and tell us which book you would like to sponsor!**



Matilda
By Ronald Dahl
\$8.75

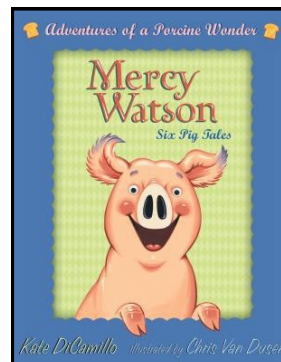
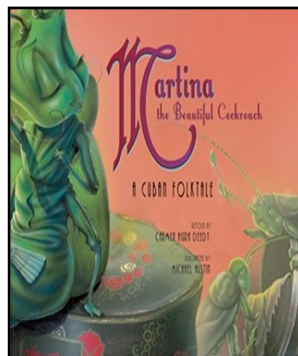


One Crazy Summer
By Rita Williams-Garcia
\$8.00



The Lions of Little Rock
By Kristin Levine
\$8.75

***Martina the Beautiful Cockroach
A Cuban Folktale***
By Carmen Agra Deedy
\$9.25



Mercy Watson
Boxed Set
By Kate DiCamillo
\$21