

KCC's Ruth Cole Library – In the Beginning ...

KCC is fortunate to have both an adult library and a children's library. Here's how these wonderful libraries came to be: The KCC library was established in 1957 by Guild Reading Chairman Ruth Cole (*top left*), beginning with a nucleus of devotional books gathered by Ruth (Martin) Ehlers and the first Prayer Group in 1954. Ruth Cole was assisted in organizing the books by Faith Daskim, a member of the congregation who had worked for the Library of Congress. Ruth continued as church librarian for 31 years.



Ruth was succeeded by Sylvia Kellerlain (*second from top left*), a Navy librarian. In 1989 Sylvia was appointed librarian at KCC and she continued to build the library until her death in 1997. Joann Morrison, *third from top left*, then took up the role and served as KCC librarian for 15 years, from 1998 – 2012. Joann was an elementary school teacher and librarian for more than 30 years, first in Oakland and later in San Diego. Joann's successor is Penny Ward, who recently retired after a 40-year career working in university, medical school, public-health and hospital libraries.



The Ruth Cole Library has both fiction and non-fiction and is located on the east side of Lander Hall. The fiction section features best-sellers and classics. Other offerings include Arts & Poetry, Biblical Novel, Biblical Reference, Biography, Church History, Current Issues, Devotional Literature, History, and more. The children's library is located on the west side of Lander Hall.



Most books in the adult library are donated by church members, often in honor of friends or in memory of loved ones. In the early days, the reading chairman of each Circle would bring a few books to share at Circle meetings and a few new books would be purchased for the library from Circle funds.

Books may be checked out for three weeks by anyone in the congregation. The library employs a self-service system: simply remove the card from the book pocket, enter your name and the date, and leave the card in the box on the library table. Our hours? 9:00 – 11:30 on Sundays or during the week, anyone may ask at the church office to gain access to the library.