



buzz

Introducing Candidate of Choice for Pastor of Senior Ministries

By Timothy Burkholder, congregational chair

Ministry Leadership Council is pleased to introduce Terry Zehr as our candidate of choice for our Pastor of Senior Ministries. This comes after the good work completed by our Search Committee consisting of: Lorene Miller, chair; Rachel Brenneman; Elmer Wyse; Pastor Neil Amstutz; Ron Guengerich, congregational coach; and Suella Gerber, search guide. After carefully considering a number of qualified candidates, they were drawn to Terry and recommended him to Ministry Leadership Council who took action to recommend him to the congregation. With gratefulness to the Search Committee for their work and to God's guidance in the process, we are pleased to present Terry to the congregation and look forward to holding a candidating weekend August 10-11. Watch for more details as we plan for this.

Following is a brief bio about himself and his family that we have asked him to share:

Hello. My name is Terry Zehr and I am honored to be considered for the position of Pastor of Senior Ministries at Waterford Mennonite Church. By way of quick introduction, I am the oldest of four children of John and Betty Zehr (both deceased). I was born in central Illinois, but moved quite often to various parts of the country, as my father pursued educational and vocational opportunities. We ended up back in central Illinois where I graduated from Urbana High School in Urbana, Illinois. This was followed by college at Goshen College, receiving a degree in Psychology and Religion. Over the next 12 years more education followed, including a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Western Michigan University and a Masters of Divinity from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary.



During those years, to finance school and keep myself alive, I held down a diverse variety of jobs. The road to being a pastor certainly had many twists and turns for me, but looking back I can certainly see how God's hand was in much of it, using those things to prepare me for the task of pastoring and the type of person I would need to be in that role.

My wife Cheryl (Troyer) grew up in Smithville, Ohio. We were in the same graduating class at Goshen College but didn't really know each other until we met 10 years later. She is one of God's greatest gifts to me. Together we are parents of two boys, David who is a GC grad and lives and works in Washington D.C. for an international development organization; and Justin, a Bethany grad who has worked for the last four years at Menards in Goshen.

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MennoCon19

Waterford Mennonite was represented by 28 youth, 7 sponsors, 1 baby, 3 delegates, 1 pastor, 1 JYFer and 10 other adults involved with leading seminars and representing church organizations during the 2019 Mennonite Church USA biennial convention July 2-6.



Carlos Romero was given a farewell reception in recognition of his many years of service to Mennonite Education Agency (Photo from MennoCon website)



Waterford MYF



Félix Pérez Diener attends delegate sessions as Waterford's Youth Delegate (Photo from MennoCon website)



Jane Ross Richer shares her story of dreams with the delegate body (Photo from MennoCon website)

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Both boys were born in Kansas during my first pastorate at West Zion Mennonite in Moundridge which was for five and half years. But with no family around and our desire for our children to know their grandparents, we moved back to the part of the Midwest where our families lived. What followed in that time period was a very enjoyable 19+ year pastorate at Sunnyside Mennonite in Elkhart.

Another piece that has shaped the contours of my life is that I am a cancer survivor. Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia is what I have and thanks to God's grace and the gift of modern medicine, I have battled back from stage IV twice. It has certainly caused me to reflect on life differently, to see and rely on God in ways that were not known to me before and to look at end of life issues in a very real and personal way. But I have come to see CLL not as just a tangible reminder of my mortality, but as another opportunity, one of many, to experience God's goodness in the midst of life that at times can feel very uncertain. I am so very grateful for the ways that God has been steadfastly walking with me throughout my life, often in ways that have caught me by surprise.

I have tremendously enjoyed my time as I have met with the search committee and others in leadership positions during the interview process. It has, in a word, been fun and has helped to foster a growing desire in me to meet more of you on the second weekend of August. Until then, may God bless you.

—Terry

The youth group waits for instructions at their service assignment



Introducing Karen and Homer Schmucker

We have been married for 58 years and have 4 children, 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Our oldest son Rod lives in Brownsville, Tex., with his family; Tim lives in Albion, Ind.; our daughter Lanie, whose husband just passed away a few months ago, lives in Riverside, Ill., with her two children; and Lisa lives in Tucson, Ariz., with her family.

Homer had a business selling, transporting and putting together modular homes. I worked in the business and we are now both retired.

We both enjoy reading and spending winters in Brownsville, Tex.

We have attended North Main St. Mennonite Church in Nappanee ever since we were married, and seeing our church close has been difficult. So we are looking forward to a new chapter in our lives with you here at Waterford. You have made us feel very welcome and we thank you.

—Karen and Homer Schmucker

Thanks

To my church family,

Thank you for your thoughts, cards and many prayers during my hip surgery and the many days in Rehab. I appreciated them more than I can tell.

Blessings to each of you.

—Joan Walsh



Godly Play Workshop

If you are a grandparent, Sunday School Teacher, parent, Children's Time storyteller or interested person looking for a way to make Bible Stories come to life, we have an opportunity for you. Assembly Mennonite Church has been using the Godly Play approach for Sunday School for their young children and they are offering a workshop on August 10 to introduce this method of storytelling. This will be a full-day workshop.

Godly Play is an approach of creating an environment that enables children to encounter and worship God through the wonder of the Biblical Stories. Pastor Katie and I have used this approach in a variety of settings and never fail to be amazed and awed by the power of children worshipping together around the Bible stories. You may remember the article in The Buzz last winter as we shared of our experiences with the 3 and 4 year olds.

More information will be coming. Feel free to contact Pastor Katie, Mikki Bowman, or myself if this sounds interesting to you.

—Helen S. Bowman



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The *Waterford Buzz* is normally published weekly for members of Waterford Mennonite Church. Items for inclusion should be given to the editor by 5 p.m. Monday preceding publication.

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