



Waterford Mennonite Church | September 1, 2019

# ***buzz***

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## **Voices Together 2020: Glimpses of hymnal history**

The 1969 Mennonite Hymnal was published with some copies offered with shaped notes. Earlier in the century there were singing schools established which were connected with churches. A song leader would travel around giving a week or two of music classes in the evenings to teach people how to read music and sing using solphege. The shaped notes were one way to learn to sing, with each shape being a memorized solphege word, such as do, re, or mi. The singing schools also provided a social gathering for youth, in an age when many Mennonites were farming families. The singing school teacher would be hosted by a church family for their stay. Today musicians learning to read music do so without the shaped notes.

Keep your eyes on the Buzz in coming weeks, with more thoughts anticipating Voices Together, our new hymnal coming in 2020.

## **Endowment Fund Reminder**

Applications for The Waterford Mennonite Church Endowment Fund will be accepted until October 7, 2019. As a reminder, the fund exists to further the ongoing mission of the church by providing a vehicle for above budget gifts to be invested for the church's work. A complete copy of the Endowment Fund Guidelines can be found under the big bulletin board or at [www.waterfordchurch.org](http://www.waterfordchurch.org). Please feel free to talk to one of the committee members if you have any questions and submit the applications to Jeff Miller.

## **On Racism**

Douglas and I recently read the book, *America's Original Sin* by Jim Wallis. MLK said that the most segregated hour in America is Sunday mornings. Jim Wallis makes the point: "In the face of the implicit and often unconscious structures of racism, it's time for white Christians to be more Christian than white."

We also recently viewed the DVD "The Best of Enemies." Made in 2019, and set in the early 70's in Durham, NC, it is based on a true story and well worth your time. The "bonus features" add even more meaning to the film.

I know there are many at Waterford who are "on the ground" doing many things to address racism. I would like to be part of a group that becomes more aware of what we can do in Goshen, Ind. One avenue is serving with IHN, for sure! If you would like to explore this issue more, please contact me.

In case you think that racism does not exist any more, please take another look. I am happy to loan you my copy of Wallis's book, and you can borrow the DVD from the Goshen Public Library.

—Nancy Graber

## **Dear Friends at Waterford,**

Thank you for the warm welcome in your words of blessing and gifts of encouragement. We look forward to our time with you and the friendships that will develop. We welcome your prayers for us and will hold you in ours. May God bless us all in the coming days.

—Terry & Cheryl Zehr

## New Books in the Library: Christian Thought and Living



Cyzewski, Ed, *Flee, Be Silent, Pray: Ancient Prayers for Anxious Christians*. Anxious, results-driven Christians can never pray, serve or study enough. But what if God is calling us not to frenzied activity but to a simple spiritual encounter? What if we must merely receive what God has already given us?

Hamilton, Adam, *Making Sense of the Bible: Discovering the Power of Scripture Today*. The author addresses the hot-button issues that plague the church and cultural debate, and answers many of the questions frequently asked by Christians and non-Christians alike.

Hunt, Zach, *Unraptured: How End Times Theology Gets It Wrong*. The church's focus on escaping to heaven has it mired in decay. Teetering on the brink of irrelevancy in a world rocked by refugee crises, climate change, war and rumors of war, the church cannot afford to focus on the end times instead of following Jesus in the here and now.

Miller, James; *When You Know You're Dying: 12 Thoughts to Guide You Through the Days Ahead*. A book written just for the dying, each chapter is straightforward and specific: "Assert your right to make your own decisions." "Tell your story." "Dare to hope." The tone is supportive throughout, empowering the dying person to live fully until they die.

Vreeland, Derek, *By the Way: Getting Serious about Following Jesus*. Reclaiming discipleship as the heart of the Christian faith means seeing anew the gospel, the cross, the resurrection, transformation, and the community of faith.

## Thank You

Our family thanks everyone at Waterford Church who supported us with hugs, prayers, cards, food and tasks that we were too tired to do ourselves following Dereck's bike accident and death.

—Douglas and Janette Yoder

## Footprints on the Wall



Have you ever wondered how those footprints got all over the MYF room's wall?

1. Paint!

2. Place foot (notice the ladder)



3. Wash the foot.



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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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