



Waterford  
Mennonite Church

August 8, 2021

# buzz

## Library

### Waterford Mennonite Church Library Donated Books

**Foxe's Book of Martyrs:** Stories of men and women who faced torture and martyrdom rather than deny their vision of truth and of God.

**Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations,** by Gil Rendle & Alice Mann. The authors cast planning as a "holy conversation," a congregational discernment process about three critical questions: Who are we? What has God called us to do or be? Who is our neighbor? They equip congregational leaders with a broad and creative range of ideas, pathways, processes, and tools for planning.

**Falling Free: Rescued from the Life I Always Wanted,** by Shannon Martin. This book charts the Martins' pilgrimage from the self-focused wisdom of the world to the topsy-turvy life of God's *more* being found in *less*. Martin's practical subversive book invites us to rethink assumptions about faith and good life, push past insecurity and fear, and look beyond comfortable, middle-class Christianity toward a deeper, richer, and ultimately more fulfilling life.

**The Little Book of Restorative Justice: Revised and Updated,** by Howard Zehr. Here Zehr proposes workable principles and practices for making Restorative Justice possible in this revised and updated edition of his bestselling, seminal book on the movement. Restorative Justice, with its emphasis on identifying the justice needs of everyone involved in a crime, is a worldwide movement of growing influence that is helping victims and communities heal, while holding criminals accountable for their actions.

**The Bible and the Environment: Towards a Critical Ecological Biblical Theology,** by David Horrell. This book presents a way of productively reading the bible in the context of contemporary ecology.

**Tending to Eden: Environmental Stewardship for God's People,** by Scott Sabin. In this practical guide for creation care, Sabin offers: Theological foundations for environmental stewardship, practical strategies, case studies of contemporary ministry groups, and sidebars by leading voices in the Christian Church who are passionate about environmental stewardship.

**Grace Matters: A Memoir of Faith, Friendship, and Hope in the Heart of the South,** by Chris Rice. This book follows a naïve white college student from Vermont, who was transformed into an insightful man of faith who helped form a thriving interracial community in Jackson, Mississippi. Pooling their resources, this dedicated group of black and white Christians joined forces to realize the vision of the Sermon on the Mount. In so doing they not only enriched their own lives but also those of their inner-city neighbors.

**Bible in Spanish.**

—Submitted by Diane Bodiker

### Mennonite Women

Mennonite Women (sewing) will begin meeting again at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 12 in the MYF room. We will not be having a potluck meal, but anyone who plans to stay through lunch is invited to bring their own sack lunch. Come and join us for fellowship, knotting comforters, quilting or making prayer shawls.

## Community Life

### Congregational Meeting

You are invited to participate in our August congregational meeting which will be held on Wednesday evening August 18, at 6:30.

This will be held once again via Zoom. Zoom has seemed to work well for congregational meetings. Attendance has been higher than in-person meetings often were. The Gifts Discernment ballot will require an action. The other agenda will primarily be reports on a number of important congregational topics. See the agenda listed here:

- ✦ Reporting on the vote for the candidate for Pastor of Senior Ministries
- ✦ Information on where we are in the LGBTQ discernment process
- ✦ Gifts Discernment vote - ACTION
- ✦ Pavilion update - Aaron Lehman
- ✦ Welcoming Spaces 3.0 report on funding and planning – Lyle Miller
- ✦ Discussion around evolving COVID status in Elkhart County. You will be invited to share how it feels being back in the building using the “chat” or Q&A functions.

Thanks for your commitment to Waterford.

### Vote on Pastoral Candidate

The vote for Deron Brill Bergstresser as Pastor of Senior Ministries will be on Sunday, August 15. The vote is open to all members of Waterford Mennonite Church.

Absentee ballots are due by Sunday, August 15, and will be available this Sunday on the table by the office for those who will not be able to attend that day.

## Mission

### MCC School Kits

Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families who struggle to afford basic school supplies. School kits often are requested after disasters and help bring normalcy to children whose families have been forced to flee their homes.

#### Contents (NEW items only)

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small **all metal** pencil sharpener, one or two holes. (Plastic case pencil sharpeners are not accepted because these are poor quality and do not last as long.)

**All metal** sharpeners can be found online at Amazon.com or Bazic.com or in the art supply section of retail stores like Staples. **If you cannot find all metal sharpeners** please pack the kits without them and we will add the sharpeners.

Pick up bags for school kits and a list of contents needed on the benches under the literature rack, or make your own bag by following the instructions at <https://mcc.org/get-involved/kits/bag>.

You can take the filled bags to the Depot or bring them back to the church and they will be taken to the Depot for you.

#### Waterford

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#### Staff Team

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• Janet Shoemaker

*Coordinator of Administrative Ministries*

• Mikki Bowman

*Director of Children's Ministries*

##### Facilities Ministry

• Jan Oostland

*Facilities Manager*

• Courtney Shetler

*Custodian*

• Irma Perez

*Custodian*

##### Pastoral Ministry

• Neil Amstutz

*Pastoral Team Leader*

• Katie Misz

*Pastor of Family Life*

• Velma Swartz

*Interim Pastor of Senior Ministries*

• Cindy Voth

*Pastor of Community Life*

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

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