

# buzz

July 26, 2015

## Dwelling in the Word —

### Deuteronomy 6: “Pay Attention! Now!”

It is hard to believe, but we are nearing the end of our “Year of the Bible” focus. As a faith community we have covered much ground as we have retold and relived God’s Salvation History, Heilsgeschichte.

We think it fitting to conclude our year with a “Dwelling in the Word” series during the month of August. In Deuteronomy 6, we read of a calling to pay attention to the greater story of God’s salvation history. Within that call is a sense of urgency to listen, to pay attention—not tomorrow, not next year, but now.

During our series we will sit with, study, dwell in, and pray through the words, blessings, and challenges present in Deuteronomy 6. This chapter includes the familiar Shema, which calls us to “Love the Lord with all our heart, mind, and strength.” During our series, we will hear faith stories of individuals from different generations. We will receive the faith statements of those celebrating of baptism, and

later in the series we will hear from adults as they reflect on their faith journeys throughout the decades. In addition to the ritual of baptism, we will give Bibles to kindergartners, first and sixth graders; bless young adults and their families as the young adults leave for college or service assignments; and offer a blessing for each of the life stages present within our congregation.

Together may we pay attention to God’s word, and may we be joyful as we respond to the calling and amazing invitation to join in God’s salvation history!

—Cindy Voth, on behalf of Worship Ministry Team and the Pastoral Team

Date	Preacher	Scripture Focus	Themes
August 2	Ron Guengerich	Deut. 6:1-9	Shema
August 9	Faith Testimonies	Deut. 6	Baptism Service (Nurture Hour at 8:45 a.m. and one worship service at 10 a.m.)
August 16	Ron Guengerich	Deut. 6:10-12, 20-25	How and why we tell the salvation story
August 23	Cindy Voth	Deut. 6:13-19	"Fear" as understood of standing in awe of God
August 30	Velma Swartz with others	Deut. 6	Hearing stories that have formed us

### Baptism schedule for August 9

On August 9, we will celebrate the public declaration of faith and baptisms of youth in our congregation. So that all can take part in this significant event in the life of the congregation, the schedule for this day will be as follows:

- 8:45 a.m.: Sunday school for all ages.
- 10 a.m.: Baptism worship service, beginning in the sanctuary followed by procession to the pond.

Please be in prayer for those youth who are considering this step of faith.

—Lyle Miller, on behalf of the Pastoral Team

### I’ll Take Mine With Butter, Please

One of Melanie’s and my favorite things to do is going “out to a movie.” We just love it. It is a special time for both of us. She loves the movie while I am more into the popcorn! I don’t know if there is a more addicting aroma to me than the smell of fresh-popped popcorn. I love it with hot butter and salt. Sometimes I suggest to her about going to a movie and she will ask me, “What’s playing?” “I’m not sure,” is my usual reply. To be honest, it doesn’t matter to me. I crave the popcorn.

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An interesting thing about popcorn is how it starts as a small kernel and then expands into a billowy puff. What makes this happen? Some Native Americans believed that a spirit lived inside the tiny kernel of corn and when heated, the spirit grew angry and burst out of its home. The more scientific explanation is that each tiny kernel contains a small drop of water and after reaching a temperature of 212 degrees, the water turns to steam. The pressure of this steam is about 135 psi and it explodes through the hull, after which the starch inside the kernel expands 40-50 times before it cools, leaving us the odd shape of that popcorn we love. Just add butter and salt (and a movie, too, if you like) and you are good to go.

If you have read any of my articles, you realize that somewhere buried in my verbage (although sometimes deep) is a point. Well, on September 13, we at Waterford Mennonite Church will begin a program called Fanning the Flames. It will be a church wide endeavor about encouraging believers to use the gift(s) that God has dispersed to them. In II Timothy 1:6, the apostle Paul encourages Timothy to "...fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you..." (NIV). Paul reminds Timothy that he has a gift and not to neglect it but use it, grow it and no longer let it be dormant. For some of us, this gift is like a small kernel of popcorn and with the warmth of encouragement the Spirit might explode out! (Did you get the point?) This fall looks to be an exciting time for the saints here at WMC as we engage this mission together. It is not too early to prepare your hearts for what God has in store for us.

—Greg Hire

## Thank You

Thank you to the congregation for the beautiful miniature rose bush that is adorning our patio—I enjoy it everyday. The visit from Ron before and after surgery, the kind words of encouragement through prayers, cards and phone calls have all been helpful and appreciated as I recover from recent back surgery.

—Barb Albrecht

## Church Library Additions

*Their Name is Today: Reclaiming Childhood in a Hostile World* by Johann Christoph Arnold. There's hope for childhood. Despite a perfect storm of hostile forces that are robbing children of healthy childhood, courageous parents and teachers who know what's best for children are turning the tide.

*Hutterite Diaries: Wisdom from My Prairie Community* by Linda Maendal. In Hutterite diaries, the author offers a rare glimpse into the daily routines and communal faith of her people, the Hutterian Brethren. The Bruderhof is nestled on the prairie of Western Canada.

*Joseph's Dilemma: Return to Northkill, Book 2* by Ervin Stutzman. Amish teen Joseph Hochstetler is taken captive by Native Americans during the French and Indian War. In this story of forbidden love, Joseph finds himself pressed between his unfolding romance with a young Indian woman and the tug of his heritage.

*My Calling to Fulfill: The Orie O. Miller Story* by John Sharp. In this engaging narrative, this book describes how Miller led Mennonite work in education, missions, peacemaking, post war reconstruction, mental health, and how he helped to mold every major Mennonite agency from MCC to MEDA.

*Called to be Amish: My Journey from Head Majorette to the Old Order* by Marlene C. Miller. In a rare memoir, Marlene recounts her unhappy and abusive childhood, how she throws herself into cheerleading and marching band, and how she falls in love with Johnny, the young Amish man who helps her with her ice skates.

*Dying to Lead* by Robert McKenna. Dying to Lead provides important language and thinking which advances leadership in new and important ways. This book with its emphasis on real life vignettes, biblical insight and personal reflection redirects back to the center of true Christian leadership.



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