



buzz

48 Days Training Program

As mentioned in last week's BUZZ article, the "48 Days to the Work You Love" 6-week Seminar is designed to help participants learn more about themselves as they consider full or part-time work or volunteer opportunities that may fit them better than their current work involvements.

Although some people are lucky enough to have found a work situation that fits them very well, there are many more that struggle to find work involvement that really fits us. Some of our careers involve a progression of different jobs that move us toward greater fulfillment over time, yet many of us struggle to find work that truly utilizes our skills, abilities and personality strengths, along with our values, dreams and passions.

This seminar guides participants in exploring all of these variables along with other like-minded people in order to guide us closer to the place Frederick Buechner describes as, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

How did I (Conrad) become so interested in this topic, along with helping others pursue their vocation/calling?

Here's the short version...As a young boy I built special relationships with younger cousins and many other kids, where I enjoyed connecting, encouraging and empowering them in informal ways. As I grew older I continued these actions through teaching Bible School, actively serving others on trips to the Dominican Republic, and volunteering at a Baltimore inner city school and later also at an orphanage in Honduras. Right after college, I taught at an elementary school, which also led to leading a program for middle school and high school kids who got into trouble.

Now as a Director of Personnel at a company in Nappanee, I feel most energized when I find activities

within my daily work which empowers employees (in big and small ways) to live out their God-given potential more fully.

What excites me about this seminar is that I can share powerful resources I've come across, while learning from others at Waterford who also strive to live life to the fullest that God has in mind for us in our daily work (including what we do in our free time).

—Conrad Brenneman

"48 Days" SEMINAR Summary:

Six Monday evenings at Waterford Mennonite – 6:30-8:30 (January 23 - February 27)

Cost of Program materials – \$80 (Includes 2 books, workbook, and personality profile). See Conrad if cost is a problem.

For more details or to sign up, look for Conrad at a table near the library on the two Sundays of Dec. 11 and 18. This seminar will be limited to 12 participants, so reserve your place today.

Stephen Ministers Gather for Annual Retreat

The community room of the MCUSA offices, in Elkhart, provided the setting for the congregation's Stephen Ministers, Stephen Leaders and Pastor Velma to gather for their annual half-day retreat on Saturday, October 29. Joining them for the first time were seventeen Stephen Ministers and Leaders from College Mennonite and Berkey Avenue Mennonite congregations. The first part of the morning the entire group was blessed to hear Jep Hostetler provide input. Using his well-known humor, personal interactions with people in his life, and a few magic tricks, Jep shared ways Stephen Ministers might practice self-care in ways that decrease anxiety and bring joy to their personal lives, thus enhancing their care-giving skills.

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The three congregational Stephen Ministry teams then met separately to address their own agendas. WMC Stephen Leaders Liz Gingrich and Mel and Lorna Claassen reviewed activities of the past year and discussed plans for the future, including possible ways to serve the



larger community. WMC's breakout session ended with Pastor Velma leading a ritual of recommitment for our four Stephen Leaders and eight Stephen Ministers.

The entire group, representing the three congregations' Stephen Ministry Teams, ended their time by enjoying a catered lunch together. —WMC Stephen Leader Team

Mennonite Women

All women are invited to come to Mennonite Women (Sewing) on Thursday, December 8, beginning at 8:30 a.m. We will meet to quilt, knot comforters and knit prayer shawls. Join us for a time of fellowship and a noon meal together. Soup will be provided; come with other food to go with the soup. —Deloris Wyse



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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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