



Minnesota Christian Writers Guild

Instruction—Inspiration—Fellowship

Volume 26 Number 9

May 2014

Celebrate 60 Years!

May 12, Jonathan Friesen — “Writing for the Generations”



Many things change as we age; our basic human needs do not. Still, how we interpret the world and what strikes us as important shifts dramatically as our years increase. As writers, our task becomes a challenge: How can we present unchanging truths in ways that will seem relevant to each new generation? Come celebrate the 60 years the Guild has honored Christ and affected lives as Jonathan Friesen shares

the core messages that resonate with readers of all ages.

Jonathan Friesen is an award-winning author, international speaker, storyteller, and writing coach. He’s the author of seven novels including *Aquifer* (Blink/HarperCollins) and *Mayday* (Penguin). Jonathan has numerous award-winning articles to his credit. His personal experience with

Tourette’s syndrome and epilepsy inspired him to write the highly acclaimed novel *Jerk, California*, winner of the American Library Association’s 2009 Schneider Award—“Best Book for Teens.” Jonathan has served on the board of the Minnesota Tourette Syndrome Association.

Jonathan spent sixteen years teaching in regular education, special education, and university settings, and now travels the country sharing his expertise and heart for the hurting with audiences of all ages. Engaging and passionate, Jonathan’s presentations have touched students and educators, parents and professionals across North America.

When he’s not writing, speaking, or traveling, Jonathan hangs out with his family on a small farm in central Minnesota. To learn more about Jonathan Friesen, visit his Web site at www.jonathanfriesen.com.

Celebrate 60 years of MCWG members writing for the generations. Let us know you can attend by sending a message to info@mnchristianwriters.com.

Upcoming Guild Meetings

September 8, 2014 — Save the date!

Speaker and topic to be announced.

2014 MCWG Writing Contest: NEWS ARTICLES
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED: May 12th

2013-14 Theme Verse

2 Corinthians 3:2-3 ESV

*You yourselves are our letter of recommendation,
written on our hearts, to be known and read by all.*

*And you show that
you are a letter from Christ delivered by us,
written not with ink*

*but with the Spirit of the living God,
not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.*

Successful Spring Seminar

Seminar attendees learned “All About eBooks and More!” on Saturday, April 12th, while they enjoyed Andrew MacKay’s disarming manner and delightful presentation. He offered practical suggestions for navigating new technology, when to hire experts, and how to specifically identify your audience. One attendee commented, “For one who had only done academic writing, it has been a whole new education!” Many thanks to Seminar Director Amy Lindberg for coordinating the event and lunch.



Visit our Website

www.mnchristianwriters.com

Contact us: info@mnchristianwriters.com

 “Like” us on Facebook: [MinnesotaChristianWritersGuild](https://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaChristianWritersGuild)

MCWG Board Elections



Bev's PEN ~ By Beverly Snyder

Promote, Encourage, Network

Time of Refreshment

Minnesota Christian Writers Guild Board Officers are elected for two-year terms, and may serve two consecutive terms in the same position. This year elections will be held for the positions of President, Membership Secretary, and Seminar Director. After prayerful consideration, the 2013-2014 Board recommends the following people for each position. Election by majority vote will held at the May 12th meeting.

For President: **Beverly Snyder** enjoys writing newsletters and articles while exploring creativity in many areas. Sharing the world of Christian books, authors, and publishing invades every part of her life, from afternoon teas with book clubs to overseas missions or interaction with family. Beverly has been part of the Guild for about eight years and has served as Publications Secretary and Vice President.

For Membership Secretary: **Jason Sisam**, one of the pastors at Life Church in Eden Prairie, is known for storytelling that brings hope and redemption. He carries a passion to see this generation live a surrendered life to Jesus Christ and walk in the calling God has placed on their lives.

For Seminar Director: **Joyce Ellis** has published more than a dozen books and hundreds of articles as a freelance writer, editor, and speaker for more than 40 years. She speaks to women's groups and retreats across the country and internationally, makes frequent missions trips to Guatemala and other countries, and frequently teaches on college campuses and at conferences.

Plan to attend, celebrate, show support, and heartily thank Delores Topliff, Cheryl Andrix and Amy Lindberg for their faithful and dedicated service to the Guild.

After such a long, lingering, intense winter I found myself in serious need of the sun. So I grabbed *Refreshed!*, the beautifully reformatted Minnesota Christian Examiner, and headed for the deck. The colors were bright. The articles interesting. The inspirational magazine certainly lives up to its new name. Curiosity piqued, I looked up the word in a Bible concordance. One verse led to another. Soon I too was revitalized.

I thought back over this year's Guild season as I read the apostle Paul's words to a beloved friend. We learned so much from our speakers and presenters: Scott Noble, Jane Kise, Nancy Carlson, Chris Atkins, Amy Lyon, Charlene Patterson, Andrew Mackay, Joyce Ellis, Sharon Hinck, and Vernal Lind, with Jonathan Friesen in May. Even more, we gained from each other. Each month I have been blessed by members and visitors who attend meetings and share their writing and lives. Together we serve Christ.

Nothing is as refreshing to me as God's Word. So as the Guild looks toward the warm days of summer, may Paul's words recharge your soul, enlarge your heart, and encourage your writing and walk with God.

I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the saints.

Philemon 4-7

2013-2014 Officers

President

Delores Topliff 763-315-1014
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Vice President

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Membership Secretary

Cheryl Andrix 952-467-3788

Publications Secretary

Beverly Snyder 763-494-9211
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Seminar Director

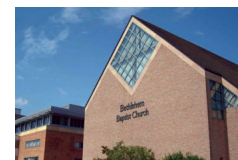
Amy Lindberg 952-807-7795
Email: hans1956@umn.edu

Treasurer

Marianne McDonough 952-949-3139

Meeting Schedule

Meetings are the second Monday of each month, September through May, 6:30-9 p.m. in the lower level Youth Room at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 720 13th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55415. The meeting room is handicap accessible.



Parking for Guild Meetings

Bethlehem Baptist Church is located in downtown Minneapolis, between South 7th and 8th Streets. Free parking for Guild members/visitors is accessed off South 8th St. When full, parking is available across 7th Street for a nominal cost. Entrance doors adjoin the main parking lot. If attendant at main doors is unavailable, please call Delores Topliff at 612-356-8281.

Come early. Share a ride.