



Waterford Mennonite Church | July 28, 2019

buzz

Introducing the Kauffman Family

Jeremy, Christy, Madeline, Seth and Sophia moved to Goshen last summer. For the last 15 years, they lived in Walnut Creek, Ohio where Jeremy worked at a Mennonite retirement community and Christy was a hair stylist at a local salon.

Prior to moving to Ohio, Christy and Jeremy lived in Goshen and attended Belmont Mennonite. Jeremy grew up in Goshen, attending Bethany and Goshen College. Christy, who was from West Liberty, Ohio, came to Goshen to attend college.

Jeremy works for Mennonite Health Services, where he provides consulting services to retirement communities across the country. Christy works for Goshen Community Schools as a paraprofessional, assisting in a kindergarten classroom at Prairie View Elementary.

Their three kids all attend schools in Goshen. Madeline will be a third year student at GC, where she is studying social work. Seth will be a junior at Goshen High School. He participates in cross-country, three choirs and the musical. Sophia will be in 8th grade at Goshen Middle School, participating in soccer and the school musical.

When moving back to Goshen, the emphasis for the family was to find a church committed to the broader Mennonite Church and demonstrated a commitment to the youth of the congregation. After visiting several churches, it was apparent that Waterford “fit the bill.” Many individuals in the church have made the transition easier with their hospitality and welcoming spirit.

MCC School Kits

School Kits school supplies are beginning to be displayed in stores, so it’s time to prepare a school kit for Mennonite Central Committee. Teachers and artists recommend Crayola colored pencils. The colors are brighter and smoother than cheaper brands. School kits are distributed in a useful double drawstring cloth bag (11 3/4 x 16 3/4 in). These will be available on a table under the mail boxes. Thank you for limiting your generosity to the items listed below:

Contents for School Kits – new items only, no used

- 4 spiral or perforated-page notebooks (8.5 x 10.5 inches with 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 metal one or two hole pencil sharpener (These are found at Hobby Lobby and Michael’s and are approximately 1 inch x 1 inch)





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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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Eat. Pray. Dream. Event July 31

For the past year the Waterford HOPE Team has been meeting with Waterford congregation members who have a great interest in supporting and helping immigrants wherever possible. These Eat. Pray. Hope. events have been informative and enjoyable as we spend time discussing many topics, listening to informative programs, sharing fellowship meals, and praying together. After meeting in this way for a year, the group *Compañeros* want to find ways to be more effective and active to support immigrants. Our next meeting has been renamed Eat. Pray. Dream. This will be an evening of brainstorming and dreaming about what some next steps might look like for members of our group. It could look different for each of us. Some may want to take more action while some may want to continue as we have been. Anyone in the congregation who is interested in justice for our immigrant brothers and sisters is invited and encouraged to attend. Bring ideas, dreams or reflections of previous meetings, as we work to dream new ways to follow Christ in this way. We'll meet at the church on July 31 at 6:00 p.m. Tamales will be provided. Please bring finger foods to round out the meal.

– *Bill Swartzendruber*

If there is no Crying, the Church is Dying

A number of years ago, at a Catholic church in South Bend where several churches were invited, there was at least one Mennonite church and a Missionary Baptist Church represented. In the back of the church, a child started crying very loudly. No one on the platform made any comment about this child until Rev. Washington, from the Missionary Baptist Church, stood to speak. He said, "If there is no crying in the church, the church is dying." We have seen several churches in our area close. I think if you examined most of those churches, you would find a lack of young families and children. A small group of older persons could not keep the church alive.

We have been enjoying the birds outside of our windows. We enjoy the occasional songs of the birds. How do we feel about the chatter or crying of small children in our services? Can we appreciate them as much as the chirps of birds outside our window? We should all be thankful for the young families and small children in our services. If there is crying, we know our church is not dying. Jesus called them to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God." Luke 18:16

–*James Christophel*

Upcoming events to note

August 4 – Baptism Service with communion

August 11 – Senior Ministry Pastoral candidate, Terry Zehr, will be with us. There will be a Fellowship Meal hosted by Gelassenheit class, with a Q & A session following the meal

August 14 – Congregational Meeting

August 18 – We will return to two services