



Waterford Mennonite Church | October 20, 2019

buzz

Mennonite Women USA: Choosing Sisterhood

Who: Mennonite Women USA welcomes every woman and girl to participate in this movement.

What: We challenge each Mennonite woman and girl to invite a person who is markedly different from herself to become her sister. Sisters commit to growing in healthy and honest relationship with one another and choose together how they will develop their friendship and trust.

When: Now. For such a time as this. Only tangible, visible unity between women assumed to be strangers or enemies will tear down the increasingly hostile walls between us. We pray that Choosing Sisterhood will demonstrate Christ's power over the dividing walls between native-born and immigrant; black, brown, and white; those with safety nets and those with few; Republican and Democrat; Mennonite and Muslim; young and old; rich and poor.

Where: If you cannot think of how to connect with a woman or girl unlike you, you are an important part of this movement! Ask a friend with connections to a diverse community—such as an immigrant neighborhood, a different religious group, or a women's prison or shelter—to help you find a sister.

Why: Each and every woman has tremendous potential to use her relationship-building skills for good. When we get to know one another across long-standing divides, we begin to break down the walls of fear that have marginalized and oppressed people groups for generations. Choosing Sisterhood engages women's God-given power to shape relationships that make a difference.

How: Develop your sisterhood through activities that feel right for both of you. Commit to a weekly walk or coffee. Write letters to one another once a month. Get to know each other's families and faith communities. And, be sure to tell MW USA about your new sisterhood. We will provide you with podcasts, seminars, and other activities to encourage and support your sisterhood. Your stories will support other sisters as they too discover the transformative power of relationship across divides.

—Mennonite Women, USA



Voices Together 2020: Language Changes

If Men Go To Hell, Who Cares? This is the title of one of my favorite hymns of the past. A female teacher showed this to me years ago and we had a good laugh. It probably was not written as a joke. Rather, I am guessing it was written as a reminder that Christ died for our sins, and the power of the Resurrection is for everyone who accepts Christ into their lives. But the language is of another time period. If I had a friend who came up to me and said "I don't really care. Men can go to hell," I would look at them for a while and ask what they mean. Over the years our way of speaking, and language use has changed along with the meaning of what is implied. The lesson here is that new hymnals are needed as our cultural and generational use of language changes. Hymnals are locked in time, but our lives are changing.

—JD Smucker



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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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Helping Tanzania Find a Better Tomorrow Through Education.

Tanzania Education Aid (TEA) is a non-profit organization which aims to promote education through provision of educational grants to deserving young men and women in the community around Shirati Tanzania.

Shawn Stutzman, of our congregation who grew up in Tanzania, serves as a member of the TEA board. The area around Shirati has long been connected with the Mennonite church since 1934 when the first Mennonite missionaries arrived there. There is a hospital there started by the Mennonites in 1953 which is also a nurse training school.

TEA works closely with a local board in Shirati to identify deserving students in the surrounding community who need financial assistance in order to be able to attend school. In addition to directly helping with school expenses for students, other projects have included building a library and stocking it with curriculum-relevant books and materials which are now available for community use. TEA is now in the process of building a hostel for students who live farther away and need housing to be able to safely attend school. Donations to TEA are always welcome and tax deductible.

On Saturday October 26 at 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., TEA will be holding a fundraiser dinner at Waterford Mennonite Church. The dinner will feature authentic Tanzanian food prepared by Tanzanians living in the Goshen area. Adult tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Students and children \$10. Ages 0-4 eat free.

Contact Shawn Stutzman 574-361-2095 for tickets or more details.

Address Changes

Mary Gingerich is now at The Courtyard,
Room 321:

2400 College Ave
Goshen, IN 46528-5010

Rosie Hershberger has been moved to
Oasis in Greencroft Healthcare, Room 726:

1225 Greencroft Dr
Goshen, IN 46526

Leona Yoder has moved to Millers Merry
Manor in Wakarusa:

303 N. Washington St
Wakarusa, IN 46573-9590

The MYF held a
pumpkin-carving
contest on
Wednesday
night. Here
are some of the
contestants and
their artwork.

