



buzz

Amish Fundraiser Meal for Mother's Day

Interested in having an Amish meal delivered to your home (Goshen and surrounding area) on Mother's Day eve, May 9, (between 4-6 p.m.)?

Waterford Mennonite's Pathfinders Sunday school class is hosting a fundraiser that will have the triple benefit of supporting two individuals/families (details further below) while providing you with a great meal that mothers/others won't have to cook! Eat the meal Saturday night or save and reheat on Mother's Day.

Cost is \$15 per individual meal or \$50 for a family meal that will provide food for 2 adults and 2 children. Gluten/dairy-free option available upon request.

The meal includes grilled chicken (boneless thighs), mashed potatoes with gravy, dressing/stuffing, green beans, salad (side of poppyseed dressing), bread, and pie. The gluten/dairy-free option includes grilled chicken, dairy-free mashed potatoes (no gravy), green beans, salad (no dressing/supply your own), and fresh fruit plate (no bread or stuffing substitute).

To order, email Kevin Miller at kevin.lorene@gmail.com by Tuesday, May 5. Include in your order the number of meals, address for meal delivery, and phone (in case delivery person has questions). Pay delivery driver in cash (exact amount) or by check made out to Samaritan Trust.

The meal will be provided by Wilma's Kitchen and provide some income to Wilma and her family. Wilma is a young Amish widow with six children at home—the oldest has little or limited verbal communication and mobility. Wilma has had to suspend her in-home meal business indefinitely due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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Congregational Meeting, May 17

"When we all get together, what a day of rejoicing that will be ..."

Yes, that old hymn lyric could apply to many things these days, and most certainly wasn't written with a congregational meeting in mind! Yet in May it is still important to find a way to have one of our two regular congregational meetings. Since we can't physically "all get together," like in so many other areas of life, we must try a new electronic alternative.

Our congregational meeting will be conducted via Zoom on Sunday May 17 @ 1:00 p.m. We will have the capacity to include as many persons as wish to join this meeting. And here's the best news of all for this meeting: *You don't have to leave your house and come to church to participate!* You can still have your regular Sunday lunch plans (however those have changed in a pandemic), join us for the meeting, and have the rest of your Sunday afternoon and evening free.

The three primary agenda items for the meeting are as follows:

- Voting to approve the 2020-21 budget recommended by Ministry Leadership Council
- Voting to affirm Anne Lehman as a new member of Ministry Leadership Council, effective immediately
- An update on the Welcoming Spaces 3.0 campaign

One especially nice feature of this Zoom meeting, made possible by Jason Herrmann's business connections, is instant polling, which will allow members to vote electronically during the meeting and to have our vote results right away. The meeting

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An invitation to receive and give mutual aid

A non-Mennonite friend says that if he were a Mennonite pastor, an aspect of our faith tradition he would most actively promote is our historical commitment to mutual aid. This testimony is one of the tenets of Anabaptism that drew him to Eastern Mennonite Seminary two decades ago.

The COVID pandemic has highlighted the opportunity for many of us to think about mutual aid in ways that are immediately in front of us. We read stories of those being forced to choose between working to earn a paycheck and staying at home to protect their health. We may have had our hours at work reduced, while many expenses continue. And we may have been affected ourselves.

Recently, the COVID-19 Mutual Aid Response sent a letter inviting us to think about several questions:

Has my income changed? If so, how?

Have my expenses changed? If so, how?

And what has been the net effect of those changes, both emotionally and financially?

Depending on your reflection, there may be several responses. If you are feeling the stress of financial challenges, please seek assistance. One such option is to call LSS Financial Counseling at 877-909-0039 for a free, confidential session with a trained financial counselor. Another is to reach out to a pastor, class shepherd, or a trusted friend in the congregation to explore assistance from our Sharing Fund.

If you are not feeling financial stress, this may also be a time to extend mutual aid to others, perhaps from the tax rebate that many of us have recently received as a result of the CARES Act. Consider a gift to the congregation's Sharing or Jubilee Funds or to an organization that provides assistance to those in need. If you would like to help, but are unsure where it is most needed, consider giving to the congregation's COVID-19 Mutual Aid Fund, where a response team will make distributions based on current needs.

—Lyle Miller, on behalf of the COVID-19 Mutual Aid Response Team (Sharing Fund Advisor Michelle Horning, Interim Treasurer Carlos Romero, Pastor of Community Life Cindy Voth)

Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund committee met on April 28 via Zoom to review the two applications received this spring. The committee awarded the following amounts:

Semillas Community Organization Immigration Support: Funds will be used to help provide bonds to allow reunification of immigrant families separated at the Southern border.

Center for Healing and Hope: Funds will help provide diabetes care through the Diabetes Alliance Program and to provide gift cards for food for people in need due to layoffs in the area.

Please feel free to contact one of the Endowment Fund Committee members to learn more about these exciting projects. October 1 will be the due date for the next set of proposals. Applications can be downloaded at www.waterfordchurch.org under resources/endowment fund application.

We are grateful for the opportunity to share resources with others to help build the Kingdom of God.

—WMC Endowment Committee: Neil Amstutz, Douglas Graber, Ruby Hochstedler, Jeff Miller, Rachel Stoltzfus, Lyz Zimmerman



MYF thanks you for your support!

The MYF held multiple fundraisers this year and wants to say THANK YOU for your incredible support. The Service Auction raised \$16,427.55. What a blessing! Additionally, the Ecuador Youth Team raised an additional \$11,585 towards the Ecuador trip. There is no doubt about it, Waterford cares about its youth. You have shown this with your financial generosity, as well as all the ways you mentor youth, pray for youth, call youth to leadership, and volunteer as sponsors and teachers. The money raised for the Ecuador trip will be used towards future youth service and learning trips. We are excited to see how God will use these gifts in the years to come.

— Pastor Katie Misz



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· Katie Misz
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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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Amish Meal (cont. from page 1)

Some of the proceeds will also benefit Carlos Ramos, a member of the Pathfinders Sunday school class. His hands and parts of both legs were amputated as the result of meningitis about five years ago. Since returning to live with his family in Honduras a couple of years ago, Carlos has been unable to come back to the U.S. and is currently living in Mexico City with a Mexican visa. Since earning enough money to fully support himself is difficult, a few members of Waterford Mennonite Church have formed Samaritan Trust, which raises funds and seeks donations to help support him.

—Kevin Miller

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agenda, including documents for the proposed budget and a Gifts Discernment ballot, will have been emailed out by May 1 to all on the church's email address list.

Those not having email will receive these by regular mail. There will be an absentee voting option for those expecting to not participate in the Zoom meeting. Absentee ballots must be received by the church office (electronically or by regular mail) by Friday, May 15. A Zoom invitation link will be emailed out to the congregation the week before the meeting.

—Neil Amstutz, on behalf of Ministry Leadership Council: Rachel Stoltzfus, Cynthia Bontrager, Jason Herrmann, Carlos Romero, and Becky Bateman

Thank you so much for your generosity of monetary gifts over the past weeks. With the offerings through Sunday, April 26, the giving toward the April 30, 2020 fiscal year end totaled \$812,394. We are blessed to have surpassed last year's total giving, which was 809,220. As of this publishing date, we are finalizing year end expenses and transactions, but are optimistic that expenses will also be below budget and close to our total giving. Watch for updates in future Buzz newsletters.

