



buzz

Introducing Neer Goswami

You've probably seen her in church, singing in the Christmas musicals or reading scripture, but you may not know anything about her. So let us formally introduce you to Neer.



An active young woman, Neer aspires to living with integrity, honesty, and perseverance. Her parents moved to the US 16 years ago from Bangladesh. At that time, the family consisted of Mother, Neela; Father, Sammy; and young son Ronit. Leaving Bangladesh was difficult for the Goswami family, but they were strongly motivated by the desire for quality education for their children. Neer was born here in October of 2008 completing the family. The family embraces the Hindu faith.

The Goswami family is a hard-working one with Neela working in Dietary at Greencroft Healthcare and Sammy working in human resources at NIBCO. Ronit graduated from Bethany Christian and is a Junior at Goshen College.

Neer's future education mirrors Ronit's, with plans to attend Bethany next year as a 7th grader and then hopefully on to Goshen College to earn a degree in nursing. She indicated that adding a Nurse Practitioner degree may also be in the plans. Along with academics, Neer also plays volleyball and plays the violin in the orchestra. With Neer's determination, goals, personality, and hard work I believe she is an asset to our church community, city and to our world. Welcome Neer Goswami.

Celebrating the Resurrection

Three Holy Week services were held outside this year as a way to be together in person after a year of meeting virtually only. A number of people participated in a Tenebrae service around the outdoor fire ring on a chilly Good Friday evening. Easter Sunday dawned bright and beautiful, welcomed by about 25 people at the Jackson cemetery. And many people came at 11:00 to visit the resurrection stations.

The following pages contain more photos from the joyful events.



Easter Services

Worship



Easter Sunrise Service

Left: Mikki, Eli, Elora and Helen Bowman watch the sun rise over the pond at Jackson Cemetery.

Below: Neil leads the group in a song.



Easter Gathering Activities

During the 11:00 hour, people joined in communion with those around them while others joined JD Smucker and John Zehr in singing favorite Easter hymns in the north parking lot.



Easter Nurture Hour



Some chose to add flowers to the cross, while others created giant bubbles, and others followed the Stations of the Resurrection on the wetland trail.

Left: Elora and Eli Bowman
Right: JoLee Stoltzfus

Thank you to Bob Hochstedler for building the cross to decorate with flowers.



Thanks to the pastors and Worship Ministry Team for their creativity in planning the Easter services and gatherings! **Thank you to all the music leaders:** Bob Brenneman, JE Misz, Rose Shetler, Steve & Kristin Snyder, JD Smucker and John Zehr.

Below: Anna and Andrew Smucker



Thank you to those who provided beauty — Pastors Velma Swartz and Cindy Voth for the communion table (below); Loanne Harms for the daffodils; and Mary Hochstedler for the lovely empty tomb planter (left).



Congregational Life

Children's Materials Spring Pick-ups, April 11 & 12

Mikki Bowman has put together a packet for each child that has a booklet we will be using during opening time in April/ May and Worship clipboard papers through summer.

The packets are located in the breezeway at church. Look for your child's/ children's names on the packets. Please pick up your packet either on Sunday, April 11 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. or during SNL that evening; or drop by Monday, April 12 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Recognition of Krista Daniels

Krista Daniels has been named Educator of the Year by the Elkhart County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD). Krista was recognized for having made an outstanding contribution to conservation in the county in 2020 at the SWCD's Annual Meeting on March 5.

Congratulations Krista!

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The *Waterford Buzz* is normally published weekly for members of Waterford Mennonite Church. Items for inclusion should be sent to the editor by 5 p.m. Monday preceding publication.

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Krista, at right, led a wetlands elective during the nurture hour at WMC in the summer of 2017 for adults and youth.