



November 14, 2021

# buzz

## Introducing Colton and Shelby Eby



We have been attending Waterford for almost a year after moving to Goshen from Saint Henry, Ohio. We're enjoying getting to know new faces at Waterford.

Colton grew up in Fisher, Ill. and then went to Hesston College and Bluffton University, majoring in Youth Ministry. He now works in youth programming at Amigo Centre (which is why you likely won't see us at church much during June and July).

I (Shelby) grew up in Pettisville, Ohio. I attended Hesston College and Bluffton University, majoring in Spanish Education. I taught Spanish while we lived in Ohio and I'm now teaching K-6 English Learners at Osolo Elementary School.

Colton and I met at Hesston College and will soon celebrate our third wedding anniversary. Together, we enjoy making music, playing games, travel/hiking, and disc golf. You can often find us up at Amigo or disc golfing at the various courses around Goshen.

Thank you, Waterford, for your warm welcome this past year. Although we initially started attending online, we have been struck by the kindness and care from you all as we've gotten to know you.

## Stephen Ministers Gather for a "Mini"-Retreat



Back Row: Mel Claassen, Rachel Brenneman, Gary Shetler, Bill Minter, Liz Gingrich; Front Row: Helen Bowman, Kay Miller, Marge Gingrich, Lorna Claassen

Reconfigured classroom space in the nurture wing of the church building provided the setting for the congregation's Stephen Ministers, Stephen Leaders, and Pastor Cindy and Pastor Deron to gather for a morning "mini"-retreat on Saturday, October 30th. Pastor Deron lead the group in an opening body prayer practice focusing on the natural world, its human communities, our church community, and on participants themselves.

Pastor Cindy introduced the morning by having participants respond to how the characteristics of the autumn season are apparent to our senses; and figuratively apparent in the lives of each Stephen Minister's care receiver and, finally, in each participant's personal life and faith journey.

See **SM Retreat** on back

## SM Retreat (cont. from front)

Participants were invited to choose and experience several faith practices with an autumn theme that were set up at locations in the church building, or outdoors. Afterwards, the group gathered to reflect on their experiences with these faith practices and how they might be of value to Stephen Ministers' care receivers. Cindy ended by introducing an opportunity about how Stephen Ministers might use their training in attentive listening to support the life of the broader congregation.

The retreat closed with tokens of appreciation provided to the Stephen Ministers. Gary Shetler was specially recognized for his service to the congregation as a long-time Stephen Minister. Gary's quiet wisdom and gentle spirit have provided meaningful care for eight different persons throughout his ten years of service.



Bill Minter expresses appreciation to Gary Shetler for 10 years of service.

We are grateful for the ways Stephen Ministers care for the people of WMC. The congregation's prayers for this ministry are appreciated.

— WMC Stephen Leader Team: Lorna Claassen, Mel Claassen, Liz Gingrich, Bill Minter

## Thank You

Thank you for the flowers and prayers as Leanne and I travel the unknown as I work at my rehab. We are unsure of what recovery will look like, but know we are not walking the road alone.

—Dale and Leanne Wentorf

Thanks much for the cards, texts, emails and beautiful mum that were given in memory of my dad. He played such a significant role in my life and in the lives of many others.

He and Mom enjoyed the Sunday mornings spent at WMC while they were visiting in Goshen. Your support has been appreciated!

—Deb Brenneman

Thank you to WMC and the Open Door class for the floral arrangements, to the pastors for their visits and many prayers during my hospital stay and since. You are all much appreciated.

—Ed Swartzendruber

## From Heartline Ministries in Haiti

You are so kind! Thank you for donating to the Maxima Housing Campaign. Thanks to your generous donation we will be able to provide housing for loved ones in Haiti. We are beyond grateful for you and your generosity.

With Gratitude, Andrea and the Heartline Team

### Waterford

Mennonite Church  
65975 State Road 15  
Goshen, IN 46526  
phone: 574 533-5642  
fax: 574 533-0879  
office@waterfordchurch.org  
www.waterfordchurch.org

### Staff Team

**Administrative Ministry**  
· Karen Hostettler  
*Secretary*  
· Elvina Schmidt  
*Bookkeeper*  
· Janet Shoemaker  
*Coordinator of Administrative Ministries*  
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· Cindy Voth  
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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.

Janet Shoemaker,  
Interim editor  
buzz@waterfordchurch.org