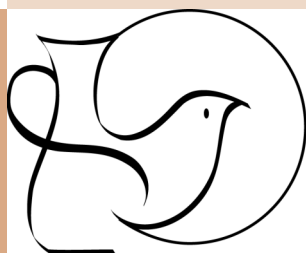


Marsh Marigold in the
Waterford Wetlands

Photo by Frances Ringenberg



May 1, 2022



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship

10:30 a.m. - Nurture classes for
all ages

Welcome Team

Greeters: Jon. & Mary Ann
Wieand

Ushers: Glenn Reinford,
Dennis Myers

Audiovisuals: Glen Kauffmann,
Jeff Claassen

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. MYF

Thursday

7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministers /
MYF Rm, Rm 15

Zoom prayers Monday - 8:30
a.m., Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

Waterford Mennonite Church

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Goshen, IN 46526

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www.waterfordchurch.org

“I Can’t Be a Stephen Minister!”

Maybe you haven’t said this aloud in a crowd, but you may have spoken it to yourself in a mirror—or at least thought it. Anytime a new challenge shows up, the “I can’t” phrase is bound to be nearby.

You are aware of our congregation’s Stephen Ministry program, sense you have the gifts, the commitment, and the desire to be a Stephen Minister, and you even may have felt God’s tap on your shoulder. But you still aren’t sure.

What are some of the reasons you’ve given yourself for not becoming a Stephen Minister? The following are some likely candidates:

“I’m not qualified to be a Stephen Minister.”

What qualifications are needed to become a Stephen Minister? You need to be a caring person who is willing to learn, grow and serve. You must be willing and able to maintain confidentiality. You need to make a commitment to training, ministry, and supervision.

Stephen Leaders will equip you with training, support, encouragement, care, and prayers.

“I don’t know what to say or do in a ministry situation.”

Stephen Ministry training is thorough and practical. It includes listening, dealing with feelings, assertiveness, confidentiality, maintaining boundaries, how to begin and end caring relationships, and how to care for people who are grieving, dying, aging, divorcing,

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance:

Worship – 211 (+68 Virtual);
Nurture Hour – 185

Finances – October 3, 2021

Operating Fund:	\$19,125.00
Mennonite Education:	\$1,645.00
Either Fund:	\$9,285.00
<i>Budget subtotal:</i>	<i>\$30,125.00</i>
Jubilee Fund:	\$55.00
Total:	\$30,180.00

Looking Ahead

May 8: Sermon: Cynthia
Kauffmann; *Graduation Sunday*
May 1: Sermon: Jessica
Weseman; *Faces of Our Faith:*
Adam & Eve

Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Team Leader
Monday - Thursday
Katie Misz, Family Life
Monday - Thursday
Deron Bergstresser, Senior Adults
Tuesday - Thursday
Frances Ringenberg, Interim

Office hours:

Monday - Thursday 9-12, 1-3;
Friday 9-12

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

Janet Shoemaker,
Editor
buzz@waterfordchurch.org

and experiencing other life crises. The goal of training is to prepare Stephen Ministers for whatever they might encounter when working with care receivers. Through reading, lecture, questions and answers, and skill practice you will learn what you need to know to succeed as a Stephen Minister. After being assigned a care receiver, Stephen Ministers participate in continuing education and Peer Supervision Group sessions. This is where they care for and support one another, and sharpen their caregiving skills.

“I have problems in my own life. How can I help other people with their problems?”

Some problems are so big that you need to address your own needs and wait until later to be a Stephen Minister. After you have worked through your own problems, however, your experience of finding God’s help and care in your struggles is some of the best preparation you’ll ever receive for caring for others during their tough times. A Stephen Minister’s job is to walk beside another person as that person works through his or her struggles. The Stephen Minister brings stability, prayer, and Christ’s love to the care receivers.

“I don’t have enough time to be a Stephen Minister.”

There’s a way in which this is true for everyone—time is a precious commodity. As a matter of fact, time is so precious that it only makes sense to use it on activities that make a real difference—in others’ lives as well as in your own life. When you make the commitment to be a Stephen Minister, you will find the hours you need to devote to it. Stephen Ministry becomes a priority among the many activities you’re involved in. The time investment is significant, but so is the contribution you will be making to sharing God’s love.

Feel free to converse with our current Stephen Ministers: Helen Bowman, Rachel Brenneman, Marge Gingerich, Anita Myers, Kay Miller or Gary Shetler, who can share their personal stories with you—stories of how God has poured blessings into their lives through their service as Stephen Ministers. Within another year, one of these blessing stories may be your own.

—WMC Stephen Leader Team

Waterford Announcements

The Stephen Leader Team will be holding a **Considering Becoming a Stephen Minister information session during the May 8th Nurture Hour** in the sanctuary. If you have interest in becoming a Stephen Minister, please see the information about Stephen Ministers before the meeting at <https://www.stephenministries.org/stephenministry/default.cfm/1759>.

As many of you have noticed, coffee has returned as part of our Sunday morning routine, with a big thank you to Steve Landis. Having nurture hour second creates a lot of cleanup work for the coffee makers after Sunday school—when other people are heading home. Cups will always be available, but **bringing your own mug** to fill up, as many have been doing this past year, will help to reduce the amount of clean up. If there are people who would be interested in **helping with the cleanup** after classes are done, please notify the office at office@waterfordchurch.org.

Salt & Light weekly reflection and teaching video for [May 1](#).

Upcoming Community Events

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference invites you to participate in a **workshop on baptism** in the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition, featuring John D. Roth, on May 7 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. This event is being held online and in person at Waterford Mennonite Church. Learn more here: im.mennonite.net/baptism-workshop/

Celebrate the beautiful spring weather at **Merry Lea's annual Nature Fest** on May 13 & 14! This FREE and fun-filled festival features various family and BioBlitz (science investigations) activities at Merry Lea. All ages are welcome to participate in canoeing and campfires Friday evening from 6 - 8 p.m., and for several family and BioBlitz activities throughout Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Family activities include canoeing, guided hikes, nature crafts, meeting the animals of Merry Lea Sustainable Farm and more. BioBlitz activities include bird identification, plant identification, dipping for macroinvertebrates and more. Drop in for just some of these activities or join us for all of them! Learn more on our website at goshen.edu/merrylea/naturefest.

Mennonite Church USA

A Call to Prayer and Fasting: Just as Paul prayed for the churches of his time, let us also pray for ours. Join Mennonite Church USA on May 2 at 7 p.m. on Zoom for a webinar on ways that we can support the Special Session of the Delegate Assembly and our participating church leaders through individual and communal prayer and fasting. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/register-prayer-fasting.

On Monday, May 2 at 7 p.m. ET, join Mennonite Church USA Executive Director Glen Guyton and guests for a webinar on ways that we can **support the Special Session of the Delegate Assembly** and our participating church leaders through individual and communal prayer and fasting. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/prayer-webinar-registration

Join Carlene Hill Byron, author of "Not Quite Fine: Mental Health, Faith, and Showing Up for One Another," for a **CommonRead webinar** on May 3 at 7 p.m. ET. CommonRead is an initiative from Herald Press, Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada. Learn more here: mennomedia.org/register-now/

AMBS

Political Idolatry: Countering Christian Nationalism, a free webinar, Wednesday, May 4, 2-3 p.m. Join Drew Strait, PhD, Assistant Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at AMBS, as he provides an overview of the destructive force of White Christian nationalism.

► Explore the political metaphor of idolatry in conversation with texts from the Old and New Testaments.

► Learn how Christian nationalism distorts our knowledge of God and neighbor.

► Use these practical tools to help with today's tough conversations to bear witness to the gospel of peace.

All registrants will receive access to a recording of the webinar. [Register today!](#)

Mennonite Disaster Service

The April edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Learn how families can volunteer and serve together, read about how MDS volunteers have made long-term changes in Marianna, Florida, and find out about volunteers heading to British Columbia to assist wildfire survivors. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3jXVYYw>

Opportunities

Employment

The Hermitage is looking for a hospitality manager to help oversee providing nutritious meals and clean spaces for our guests. It is a 75% position and on-site housing may be available. To apply send a resume and cover letter to contact@hermitagecommunity.org by May 1. And feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the position. **See the church bulletin board for the position description.**

Volunteer

Enjoy a week at Camp Amigo while also volunteering with Mennonite Disaster Service. This July, MDS offers the Family Program, a 4 or 5 day summertime experience for the whole family. During your stay for the Family Program, your family will enjoy the beauty and serenity of the Amigo Centre and participate in age-appropriate maintenance and building projects on the property in response to a storm that hit in August 2021. [Click here to learn more - mds.org/amigo](https://mds.org/amigo)

Education

Free Community Gardening Classes: The Seed to Feed program at Church Community Services will be offering a series of free, 1-hour community classes about different gardening topics in 2022. A different topic will be discussed each month by staff or local experts. The classes are appropriate for beginners and will almost all be held at Church Community Services in the Seed to Feed Greenhouse at 907 Oakland Ave., Elkhart. Community members are invited to attend as many as they like; registration is not required. To learn more, visit: www.churchcommunityservices.org/stfclasses.

FREE Medicare Monday webinars and seminars from Everence are back for 2022. Moving to Medicare can be a difficult transition point in life, and these seminars are designed to make Medicare an easy step. The workshops discuss the important details people need to know about Medicare such as Enrollment details, budgeting for health care in retirement, when to start Social Security, supplemental health plans, etc. Please see the poster on the bulletin board for more information and dates and times. You may also find the information at everence.com/Medicare-Mondays.