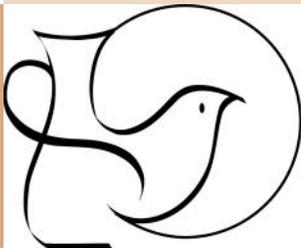


## Praying for Mennonite Church USA

See schedule in the opening  
article.



May 22, 2022

# The Waterford Buzz

### **This Sunday**

9:00 a.m. - Worship  
10:30 a.m. - Nurture classes for  
all ages  
11:45 a.m. - Worship Ministry  
Team lunch / FH

### **Welcome Team**

Greeters: Jon. & Mary Ann  
Wieand  
Ushers: Glenn Reinford,  
Dennis Myers  
Audiovisuals: Glen Kauffmann,  
Jeff Claassen

### **This Week at Waterford**

**Tuesday** Office Closed

**Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. JYF

7:00 p.m. MYF

**Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Worship MT / FH

**Saturday**

12:00 p.m. Prayer fire for  
MCUSA delegate sessions  
Zoom prayers Monday - 8:30  
a.m., Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

### **Waterford Mennonite Church**

65975 State Road 15  
Goshen, IN 46526  
Phone 574-533-5642  
office@waterfordchurch.org  
www.waterfordchurch.org

## **An Option for Prayer During the Delegate Sessions**

*By Jeff Miller*

I recently attended a three-day conference at Conrad Grebel Univ/ College in Kitchener/Waterloo on “Indigenous/Mennonite Encounters in Time and Space.” One of the meaningful aspects that I so appreciate about Indigenous people is their careful attention to ceremony and rituals. One of the key components was to keep lit a sacred fire throughout the conference. It was used to hold a space for participants as they felt led, to come to the fire, sit, and express whatever was needed: prayer, reflection, or remembering our ancestors and their involvement in the issues we were discussing. It also provided a place for weeping, anger, sadness, joy, laughter or even to just chop wood, or just sit and be. It was a beautiful sacred space and I felt that we were being held by the presence of the fire and those gathered around it.

Mennonite Church USA Executive Board and staff have encouraged us to hold the delegates in prayer before and during the Memorial Day weekend gathering in Kansas City. As I reflect on my recent experience, I have felt led to create space for us at WMC to gather to pray around our outdoor fire ring during the delegate sessions. A fire will be burning during the voting times and during preceding discussions and you are welcome to come here to the WMC grounds to pray around the fire ring. You are free to come and stay as long as you like and leave when you want. We will have some printed prayer resources available for you to use if you wish. There won't be a

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 160 (+26 Seekers  
Retreat)  
Nurture Hour – 135

### Finances – May 15, 2022

Operating Fund: \$10,943.28  
Mennonite Education: \$1,895.00  
Either Fund: \$6,415.00  
*Budget subtotal:* \$19,253.28

MCC SALT \$600.00  
Least Coin Fund \$12.00  
Welcome Spaces 3.0 \$4,465.90  
**Total: \$24,331.18**

### Looking Ahead

May 29: Sermon: Frances  
Ringenberg; *Faces of Our  
Faith: Hagar; (Gen. 16:1-15)*  
June 5: Sermon: Cindy Voth;  
VBS Sunday

### Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Team Leader  
Monday - Thursday  
Deron Bergstresser, Senior  
Adults  
Tuesday - Thursday  
Frances Ringenberg, Interim  
Melissa Chupp, Interim  
Katie Misz, on Sabbatical

### Out of Office

Frances Ringenberg, May 22  
Janet Shoemaker, May 23-30

### Office hours this week

Mon, Wed, Thurs 9-12, 1-3  
Friday 9-12  
Closed Tuesday

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

scheduled joint prayer service, but below are the times when the space will be held:

- Saturday May 28 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m. (11:00-3:00 KC time)
- Sunday May 29 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon (9:30 – 11:00 KC time)
- Monday May 30 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (9:00-12:00 KC)

If the Saturday action passes to discuss “Repentance & Transformation” (you will be notified during the Sunday service):

- Sunday May 29 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (2:00-5:00 KC time)

When Kay and I lived in Botswana, a meeting was going to be held where important discussions would happen and decisions were made. Each AIC (African Initiated Churches) congregation or church group was invited to send one representative. But some of the AIC churches said, “We’ll be sending two persons – one will serve as our representative, and the second we’re sending to hold you all in prayer during these important meetings.” This invitation to gather around our outdoor fire ring Memorial Day weekend is one way we at WMC can “send a second representative,” and be diligent about holding all delegates and our entire denomination in our prayers.

Feel free to contact Jeff Miller if you have questions.

## Waterford Announcements

**Listening Tour signup:** Cindy, Deron and Frances have now added June availability to their online calendars. Choose a pastor to meet with, click on his or her calendar link below, and select the day, time, and the location for your meeting.

Pastor Cindy: <https://calendly.com/pastorcindy/listeningtour>

Pastor Deron: <https://calendly.com/waterford-listening-tour/pastorderon>

Pastor Frances: <https://calendly.com/mfrancesvr/listeningtour>

Only two more Sundays to register for **Vacation Bible School, June 1-3!** Be sure to sign up for Bible school and invite your friends, neighbors, and family members! Contact Mariko Claassen with questions at [marikomc@gmail.com](mailto:marikomc@gmail.com).

**The all-ages nurture class in the pavilion starts June 5.** This summer Sunday school class will give opportunities to connect and share stories across age groups. There will even be a couple of drum circles and group games interspersed throughout the summer! Talk to Melissa Chupp, Mariko Claassen, or Helen Bowman for more details. The class will be even more meaningful if people from all generations jump in, so do not be shy!!

**Salt & Light weekly reflection** and teaching video for [May 22](#).

## Upcoming Community Events

**Goshen Community Chorale**

**MESSIAH**

**PARTS 2 & 3**

❖ George F. Handel ❖

**June 5 • 2022 • 7 P.M.**

**Sauder Hall, Goshen College**

Admission is free, a freewill offering will be received

**Bradley Kauffman, conductor**

featuring soloists Rebecca Dengler Kaufman,  
Joanne Gallardo, Leah Herschberger, Scott Hochstetler,  
Kimberly Johnson, Carol Welty, & Jacob Zehr

 GOSHEN  
COMMUNITY  
CHORALE

We gratefully acknowledge the support  
of the Indiana Arts Commission  
in making this program possible

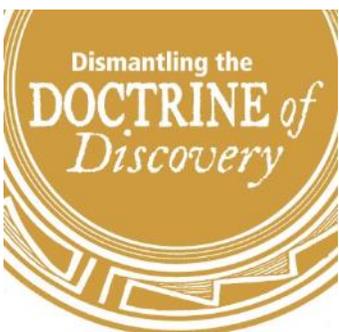
 INDIANA ARTS  
COMMISSION  
REACHING YOUR ARTS GOALS

**Pathways Retreat's third annual silent auction** fundraiser will be held from June 18 - 25. Bidding will begin at 8 a.m. on June 18 and end at 4 p.m. on June 25. The Retreat House will be open from 3:00 - 5:30 on June 25 for items to be viewed in person and picked up. Purchased items can also be picked up at a later date upon arrangement with one of the co-directors. This is a great opportunity to support Pathways Retreat by bidding on or donating items. If you have an item you'd like to donate, please contact [Linda](#) by June 13.

## Opportunities

**Parents of LGBTQ+ children.** Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship has started a group for parents or guardians of LGBTQ+ children in Goshen-area Mennonite congregations. This group is meant to provide mutual support and to build resources for LGBTQ+ youth in our local congregations and community. For more information or to express an interest in joining, please contact Sarah Morrison at [sjhigley@gmail.com](mailto:sjhigley@gmail.com).

### **May 27: Prayer and action hour advocacy**



Join the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery (DDOD) Coalition for a "Prayer and Action" Hour on May 27, at 4 p.m. EDT. DDOD will be praying and acting in solidarity with Indigenous partners with the Apache Stronghold, who are defending their sacred site of Oak Flat and all connected waters from a copper mining company. Kate Parsons, MCC U.S. Legislative Associate, will offer a short training in advocacy tools for legislative change in support of Oak Flat. Register [here](#). [training](#)

## Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Church USA is holding a **Special Session of the Delegate Assembly** in Kansas City, Missouri, May 27-30. Pray that delegates have open and discerning hearts, as they make decisions that affect the denomination.

"While Mennonites might be known for peacebuilding efforts and justice-focused upper-education curricula, our internal dynamics hint otherwise," writes Amanda K Gross, an anti-racist organizer and artist, in her blog, "**Playing in the Honeysuckle and Poison Ivy.**" Read it here: [mennoniteusa.org/honeysuckle-poison-ivy](https://mennoniteusa.org/honeysuckle-poison-ivy)

"**What gives you joy?**" asks Dan Schrock, one of the wellbeing specialists for Mennonite Church USA's The Corinthian Plan. In his blog, he asserts that, by working to find what brings us joy, we are drawn nearer to the heart of God. Read more: [mennoniteusa.org/gives-you-joy](https://mennoniteusa.org/gives-you-joy)

Joyce Peachey Lind, who attended the **Pastors & Leaders | Deep Faith 2022 conference** earlier this year, shares how starting her first pastorate in the middle of a pandemic taught her a lot about being a pastor during wilderness time. Read more about her experiences here: [mennoniteusa.org/respite-wandering](https://mennoniteusa.org/respite-wandering)

## AMBS

**Invite AMBS!** Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary faculty members are available to interact with congregations and organizations in person or via videoconference on topics such as trauma-informed caregiving, intercultural competence, undoing racism, the Bible and Christian nationalism, leadership for God's reconciling mission in today's world, and more. Speakers can be requested online: [ams.edu/invite](https://ams.edu/invite)

## MCC

To hear interesting and informative current stories from MCC workers around the world about the impact your donations are making, check out the webinars at <https://mcc.org/mcc-webinar-series>. Featuring stories from MCC projects from around the world, each edition explores a new topic, ranging from our work in North and South Korea to Migration to Climate Change. MCC workers in the field give behind-the-scenes insights and share their own stories. Recognize the dedication and value of the work of our amazing partners and the people they serve and be inspired by this work made possible by your donations.

## ADN

“Dementia and Congregational Care” Webinar, Thursday, June 16, 1 p.m. Dementia affects individuals, their family members and the congregation. Many times, we want to offer support but we do not know where to start. We often back off because we don't want to do the wrong thing. This webinar, led by Heddie Sumner, RN, BSN, will help you understand basics of dementia and learn how to reach out. We will offer communication tips and practical ways to stay connected. Visit the Anabaptist Disabilities Network website to register: <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/Resources/Webinars/Pages/Dementia-and-Congregational-Care.aspx>

## MDS

The May edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Executive Director Kevin King shares a story of angels among us, we celebrate the MDS career of Jerry Gosh, and an MDS volunteer is reframing the Psalms as Haiku. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3LulKia>

## Employment



**ATTENTION ELKHART COUNTY TEENS!**

Are you interested in a paid internship where you learn about gardening and help your community?

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more and apply!

Seed to Feed  
A program of CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUMMER SESSION BEGINS IN JUNE 13

## Donate

**MCC is in need of material resources:** MCC is resuming shipments of material resources to Ukraine. Five containers of emergency supplies are being shipped to Ukraine in the next few months with more planned for later in the year. With this increase in demand for supplies for Ukraine and other countries around the world, MCC's inventory of material resources is getting low. **We need comforters and relief, hygiene, school, dignity, infant care and sewing kits, as well as soap and towels.** Your donations will provide relief and a tangible sign of hope to people in Ukraine and other difficult situations around the world. Go to [mcc.org/kits](https://mcc.org/kits) for information on needed supplies and drop-off locations.

## Resources

**[Embracing Beloved Community](#)** is a seven-week biblical study for Sunday School classes or other groups to dive into the ways God calls the church to embrace diversity. The curriculum is designed for congregations new to this topic to journey together in an exploration of the sin of racism and Christ's vision for the Kingdom of God on Earth.

**[You Got Booked](#)** – an interactive learning tool developed by MCC that provides youth and adult participants with an insight into the many flaws in the U.S. criminal justice system that lead to mass incarceration - Krista Dutt - [kristadutt@mcc.org](mailto:kristadutt@mcc.org)

**[Fear Not](#)** - MCC U.S. and [RAWtools](#) have partnered on a Sunday School curriculum that will help congregations consider the balance of physical safety with a commitment to nonviolence in the face of active violence.

**[Peaceful Practices](#)** - Conflict is a normal part of life. It arises in our workplaces, in our churches and with our families. To help people to learn to work through divisive issues, MCC U.S. has produced a new adult Sunday school curriculum, ***Peaceful Practices: A guide to healthy communication in conflict.*** It invites churchgoers to follow Jesus' call to peacemaking through dialogue with each other.