

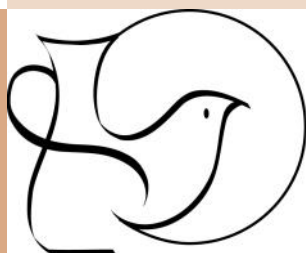


**Mennonite Central Committee is accepting donations to support people affected by the Feb. 6 earthquake in Türkiye and Syria.**

MCC is working with long-term partners in Aleppo, Syria, and surrounding areas to provide emergency food, shelter, hygiene, sanitation supplies and trauma counseling. In a country already vulnerable from years of conflict, this was a devastating blow.

You can share God’s love and compassion with our global neighbors by providing a gift online at [mcc.org/earthquake](http://mcc.org/earthquake), by calling (888) 563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for “Syria and Türkiye earthquake” to MCC, PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

**February 12, 2023**



# The Waterford Buzz

## **This Sunday**

9:00 a.m. - Worship  
10:30 a.m. - Nurture classes for all ages  
5:30 p.m. - Ecuador prayers

## **Welcome Team**

Greeters: Jerry & Barb Landis  
Ushers: Dennis Myers, David Molina, Wade Ramer  
Audiovisuals: Colin Berkey, Steve Fath

## **This Week at Waterford**

### **Wednesday**

5:30 p.m. Haystacks and game night  
6:30 p.m. GDMT / Zoom  
7:00 p.m. Enneagram Study / Rm 22  
7:00 p.m. MYF

### **Friday - Sunday**

JYF Winter Retreat / Amigo  
**Zoom prayers**  
Monday - 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

## **Waterford Mennonite Church**

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Goshen, IN 46526  
Phone 574-533-5642  
[office@waterfordchurch.org](mailto:office@waterfordchurch.org)  
[www.waterfordchurch.org](http://www.waterfordchurch.org)

## **Embodied Spirituality Practice Group March - May elective**

*By Sheldon Swartz, Spiritual Formation Ministry Team*

In the deepest part of us is pure desire for God and it can be trusted. “Deep down, what do I really want?” is a question that invites us to go to the deepest, more central parts of ourselves. This group time will be a learning experience for those longing to live more fully out of a rich and quiet center, becoming less reactive and more responsive and proactive, making room for Love/love to be received and shared freely. It’s the desire to hold loosely all that is not at the center, allowing it to be as it is and relate to it in love. It is for those longing for spiritual energy\* to be more available and allowing ego energy to diminish. Spiritual energy is that which flows out of an inner sense of groundedness and love. It is a response to what is given to us, never anything achieved by our efforts.

We will engage in exercises designed to help us let go of our need to control and become more open to the rich source of love and creativity that frees us to live without requirements and relate in love to all that is inside and outside of our bodies.

The meeting format will be:

- 1) Welcome and 2-3 minutes to become fully present in the space you/we are in
- 2) a brief presentation on topics such as:
  - the purpose of spiritual practices

See **Elective**, continued on page 3

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 160  
Nurture Hour – 174

### Finances – February 5, 2023

Operating Fund:	\$6,570.00
Mennonite Education:	\$1,890.00
Either Fund:	\$3,265.00
<i>Budget Total</i>	<i>\$11,725.00</i>
Mary Christophel Mem	\$300.00
Sharing Fund	\$125.00
Total	\$12,150.00

### Looking Ahead

February 19: Sermon: Cindy Voth; Living in Denial  
(*Matthew 16:24 - 17:8*)

February 26: Sermon: Frances Ringenberg; Lent 1  
(*Matthew 18:15- 35*)

### Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader  
Monday - Thursday  
Deron Bergstresser, Pastor  
Tuesday - Friday  
Katie Misz, Pastor  
Tuesday, Thursday  
Monday & Wednesday p.m.

### Out of Office

Cindy Voth February 13-16  
Katie Misz February 13-16  
Elvina Schmidt February 12 - 14

### Office hours this week

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9 - 12, 1- 3  
Tuesday, 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

## Stephen Ministers Gather for Annual Retreat

Reconfigured classroom space in the nurture wing of the church building provided the setting for the congregation's Stephen Ministers, Stephen Leaders, and Pastor Deron to gather for a morning retreat on Saturday, January 28. Nina Lanctot, retired pastor and current spiritual director, led the group on the topic of "Wintering: a dark night of the soul." Winter season brings opportunity to hibernate, to turn inwards and to be still and listen. Barbara Brown Taylor's book, "Learning to Walk in the Dark," suggests rather than running from the darkness, we explore the feelings it elicits. Nina pointed out that darkness is a natural rhythm of nature. "Sometimes the light is coming, and sometimes it is going. It will not be dark forever. Even though darkness will inevitably return, so will its end." Participants were given opportunity to review several resources and faith-formation practices related to the theme.

The Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders participated in a ritual of recommitment to service for the year ahead. Note was made of the three new Stephen Ministers who joined earlier in the month. Lorna and Mel Claassen were given grateful recognition for their ten years of service as members of the Stephen Leader Team. The retreat experience ended by having a lunch together.

—WMC Stephen Leader Team



*Clockwise from front left:* Stephen Leaders Lorna Claassen, Mel Claassen, Bill Minter, Liz Gingrich; Stephen Ministers Gary Shetler, Kay Miller, Marge Gingerich, Anita Myers, Bonnie Miller.

## Elective (cont. from page 1)

- the purpose and value of meditation and contemplation
- your body, your friend
- the need for connection
- becoming conscious (the power of noticing)
- using triggers to gain consciousness, healing, and freedom
- the transforming power of grace

3) Engaging in specific practices related to the presentations

4) Group sharing about what is noticed in oneself about the experience.

5) Specific challenges to help enhance the benefit of the experience between meeting times.

In order to enhance the benefit of this experience the group will be limited to eight participants.

We will meet every other Sunday morning during nurture hour beginning March 5. Participants will be able to maintain some contact with their regular class while benefitting from this experience. Meeting dates would be 3/5, 3/19, 4/2, 4/16, 4/30, 5/7, and 5/21. Persons interested in engaging in this experience should contact Sheldon Swartz with questions and/or state their reasons for wanting to join. sheldonws@yahoo.com, call or text 574-536-5630, or text 574-533-2812

## Thank You

We are blessed by the prayers and words of support we have received from our church family. Thank you so much,

Leon and Esther Farmwald

## Waterford Announcements

**Average weekly giving** May 1, 2022 - January 31, 2023, is \$14,200 / week. The average weekly giving needed for the final thirteen weeks of our fiscal year to cover projected annual expenses needs to be \$15,000 / week. Thank you for your continued generosity!!

**3rd Wednesday game nights (with Haystacks)** this Wednesday, February 15, for all ages, from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Bring your friends, your favorite board games, and a haystack topping to share (chips, crackers, cheese, lettuce, tomato, beans, salsa, etc.). Meat and rice will be provided.

**Salt & Light weekly reflection** for [February 12](#).

## Mennonite Church USA

What happens when you hold a **Mennonite Church USA conference ministers retreat** in San Francisco, California? Lots of chocolate (Ghirardelli, of course), conversation and connection! Connie Zehr, moderator and acting conference minister of New York Mennonite Conference, reflects on her experience at her first conference minister's retreat. Read more of her reflections here: [mennoniteusa.org/connections-chocolate](https://mennoniteusa.org/connections-chocolate)

For **Frank Scoffield Sánchez**, a speaker at Mennonite Church USA's recent Hope for the Future conference for BIPOC leaders, his example of faith as he was growing up was full of contradictions. When he and his wife became Mennonite, about seven years ago, he began to ask questions about these contradictions. Read more of his thoughts here: [mennoniteusa.org/time-as-this](https://mennoniteusa.org/time-as-this)

## Pathways Retreat

**Pathways' annual Ash Wednesday service** will be held on Zoom at noon on February 22, noon - 12:30 p.m. If you would like to have ashes to use during the service, Pathways will have some available for pick-up. Ashes can be found in a basket on the porch all day on Tuesday, February 21, and Wednesday, February 22 in the morning.

**Broken and New: a Lenten Journey.** Join this weekly Lenten journey to explore where you have an emerging sense of belonging and of offering yourself and your gifts. This is a six-part retreat; Fridays Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17 and 24 online; April 7 in-person at Pathways, 1:30-3 p.m. Cost: \$180 for 6 sessions Please visit [www.pathwaysretreat.org](https://www.pathwaysretreat.org) for more information and to register.



## AMBS

**Resisting Christian Nationalism with the Gospel of Peace.** April 12– May 9, With [Drew Strait](#), PhD. What is White Christian Nationalism and what does the Bible have to say about political idolatry? In conversation with texts from the Old and New Testaments, this course will explore how ancient faith communities negotiated and resisted political idolatry, and then pivot to offer suggestions for how pastors and congregations can faithfully resist Christian nationalism today, along with the systems of oppression that Christian nationalism amplifies.

**Take a summer course** at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Hybrid courses (combining online work and one week on campus) include Ethics and Care: Living and Dying with Purpose; and Preaching. Campus courses (also open to auditors) include Practicing and Embodying Nonviolence; The Religious Other in the Bible; and The Spirit World and the Global Church. Nonadmitted students get 50% off their first three credit hours! [ams.edu/upcoming-courses](https://ams.edu/upcoming-courses)

## MCC

**Put your faith in action by volunteering with SWAP this summer!** MCC's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) home repair program provides short-term service and learning opportunities for churches, school and university groups, families, other groups and individuals. Now is the time to make your summer plans and sign up! More information and registration at [swap.mcc.org](https://swap.mcc.org) or (606) 634-4418.

## Upcoming Community Events

The Goshen College Choirs will present their **annual Winter Choral Concert** in Sauder Concert Hall, Feb 11 at 7:30 p.m. Performing are the GC Chamber Choir and Vox Profundi, directed by Scott Hochstetler, and Voices of the Earth, directed by H. Roz Woll. Tickets: \$8 [goshen.edu/tickets](https://goshen.edu/tickets).

The **Sherer Trio**, Goshen College's resident chamber ensemble comprised of three Goshen College music faculty members—Solomia Soroka, violin; Dato Machivariani, cello; and Matthew Hill, piano—will perform on Sunday, February 12 at 4 p.m. in the Music Center's Rieth Recital Hall. The Trio will present a concert of chamber music, including a performance of Brahms' Piano Quintet in F minor, Op.34, featuring Hillary Harder, violin and Rosalyn Troiano, viola. **Tickets:** \$8 adults | \$6 students/seniors, available online at [goshen.edu/tickets](https://goshen.edu/tickets), or (574) 535-7566.

The **2023 Yoder Public Affairs Lecture**, Monday, Feb. 20, will be given by Dicky Sofjan, entitled "Musli Cosmopolitanism: A Personal History". Dicky Sofjan is a core doctoral faculty member in the Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS), an international, interdisciplinary, and inter-religious PhD program at the Graduate School of Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) in Yogyakarta. 7:00 p.m. in Reith Recital Hall, Music Center. Learn more at [goshen.edu/events](https://goshen.edu/events).

**Annual C. Henry Smith Oratorical Contest at Goshen College.** Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7:00 p.m., Umble Center. The annual C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest invites students to compete by delivering an 8- to 10-minute speech on their chosen topic relating to peace. Open to the public.

**Anabaptism at 500 and the Anabaptist Community Bible.** Join this special event Thursday, February 23 at 7 p.m. at Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship in Goshen. John D. Roth, project director, will talk about the Anabaptism at 500 project and share the vision behind the *Anabaptist Community Bible*. The event will include an update on the status of the project and a time for questions and conversation.

## Opportunities

**MCC Great Lakes is seeking a Program Director:** This role is responsible for the direction and oversight of MCC Great Lakes programs and church engagement. This position is expected to connect with constituent churches, groups, and partner organizations to work together and advance the mission of MCC. The full-time position will preferably be located at one of the main Great Lakes offices, but the location is flexible within the region where MCC is an authorized employer. Bilingual fluency in Spanish and English is preferred. Apply online by March 3 at [mcc.org/gl-program-director](https://mcc.org/gl-program-director). For more information, contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or [AmberFalcon@mcc.org](mailto:AmberFalcon@mcc.org).

**MCC is seeking a Project Coordinator for the Dismukes Project in Kimball, West Virginia:** MCC continues to work to uncover the forgotten history and honor the legacy of Dr. Henry Dodford Dismukes, an African American physician and surgeon in Appalachia in the 1930s. This full-time role is great for someone looking to put their innovation, creativity, and resourcefulness to use by collaborating with the local community and SWAP staff to build the program from the ground up. Apply online by April 6 at [mcc.org/dismukes-project-coordinator](https://mcc.org/dismukes-project-coordinator). For more information, contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or [AmberFalcon@mcc.org](mailto:AmberFalcon@mcc.org).