# Sounds of the Season

Lent 2: Unleashed Generosity



March 5, 2023

# The Waterford Buzz

#### **This Sunday**

9:00 a.m. - Worship 10:30 a.m. - Nurture classes for all ages

#### **Welcome Team**

Greeters: Maurice & Carol Lehman Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto,

Denise Diener Audiovisuals: Colin Berkey,

Jeff Claassen

#### This Week at Waterford

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Supper

7:00 p.m. Inclusion Formation

— LGBTQIA+ / Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. MYF, JYF, VC

Thursday

8:30 a.m. Mennonite Women / MYF Rm

7:00 p.m. FFMT/ Rm 15

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

#### Please don't touch our hair!

by Katie Misz

"Have you ever had anyone come up to you and touch your hair?" During the recent anti-racism inclusion night, the MYF and JYF youth explored this question together.



A majority of the Waterford youth and sponsors shook their heads. No, this was not something most had experienced — a few youth remembered their hair being touched when they were little children. One boy with longer hair said it happened one time and he did not like how it felt to be touched like that.

However, among us, a few youths' hands shot in the air in response to this question. Yes, the youth with afro-textured hair explained that people touch their hair all the time — it happens at

least once a week. Where does it happen most? It happens when they come to church. This makes church a place where they feel disrespected and misunderstood. See **Hair** on page 3

#### Life at Waterford

### **Last Sunday Attendance**

Worship – 170 Nurture Hour – 180

Finances - February 26, 2023

Operating Fund: \$4,678.06
Mennonite Education: \$1,280.00
Either Fund: \$4,200.00
Budget Total \$10,158.06
MCC Ukraine \$1,000.00
Total \$1,158.06

**Looking Ahead** 

March 12: Sermon: Jerrell & Jane Ross Richer; Lent 3 (Matthew 22:1 - 14)
March 19: Sermon: Joanne Gallardo; Lent 3 (Matthew 25:1 - 13)

#### **Pastoral Team**

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

#### Office hours this week

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

Tuesday, Friday 9 - 12

Dear Waterford Mennonite Church,

I am writing to you on behalf of the board of directors of Community Pro-Education. I have the honor of serving alongside several board of directors at Community Pro-Education, a newly formed not-for-profit in Elkhart County.

While we know that the pandemic has subsided to some degree we also know that our RV industry and its workers have been and continue to be impacted by the downturn in the economy. This downturn has caused hundreds of workers to be without work or have a reduced work week. All of this is taking a toll on the livelihood of the individuals and families of our communities.

In an effort to help these individuals, Community Pro-Education is organizing a food donation campaign to provide individuals and families with some basic food items. (See the poster on the bulletin board for a list of suggested food items.)

We hope to receive your support in this noble cause. All food items can be dropped off at the church by March 26, or you can drop off your own donations at Maple City Conference and Event Center at 222 S. 3rd Street, Goshen, Monday thru Friday from 4 - 7 p.m. All tax-deductible monetary donations can be sent to Community Pro-Education, 1716 Elkhart Rd, Goshen IN 46526. Our goal is to start distributing food on 04/01/2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting Community Pro-Education in its work to support individuals and families in our community.

Gilberto Pérez

### **Sunday Night Hymn Sing**

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 At least 40 people attended the hymn sing last Sunday evening, including some guests from Silverwood.



#### Hair, cont. from page 1

On Wednesday night, the youth of Waterford were led by Daphcar and Bervalie Lehman as they taught the group about their haircare routine.

The center table was filled to the brim with various hair products on display to be explained and tested on various hair types. The group learned to be better allies while laughing as Mark Daniels received a rainbow colored hair extension on his beard.

Daphcar styled Zeke Ramer and Logan Beck's hair with hardening glue, giving them a Little Rascals Alfalfa hairdo.

Additionally, the group watched a short video on the history of black hair. During slavery, black hair was considered "wooly and animallike" and used as a justification to treat humans with dark skin as animals. Slaves' heads were shaved before they were taken to be traded. These slave traders used the Bible to justify their actions, saying God ordered humans to "rule the earth (and animals) and subdue it." Slaves with naturally less curls or "nicer" hair were sold for more money. This expectation of long, flowing hair (the beauty standard aligned with white-people hair) continues to put pressure on non-white people throughout the United States.





California was the first state in 2019 to outlaw race-based hair discrimination, which has since been followed by 18 other states. This long-overdue protection, known as the CROWN act (Create a Respectful and Open Workplace for Natural Hair) has yet to be passed in Indiana. To learn more about racialized hair discrimination, watch the video "This is the Story of Black Hair" <a href="https://youtu.be/d0Ta0XKlisg">https://youtu.be/d0Ta0XKlisg</a>.

The NAACP teaches how to be an ally:

Allies should be open to learning about hair and other physical attributes that are different from their own. They should be open to stand up against behaviors that penalize a particular group. An ally can call out discrimination or policies that negatively affect Black hair. An ally is often poised to draw more attention to discriminatory issues by not letting the aggrieved person stand on their own and by helping to educate their own communities. (https://naacpldf.org/natural-hair-discrimination)

Thanks, Daphcar and Bervalie, for helping your congregation be better allies, and therefore better followers of a likely-curly-haired Jesus.

#### Haircare Q & A with Daphcar and Bervalie Lehman

#### How long does it take to style it?

From the time we take out the current style, wash out our hair, and style it again, it takes around 7 hours.

#### How often do you re-do it?

Daphcar: I change my hair style every three weeks, because I can do my own hair. Bervalie gets hers done less often because it hurts and takes forever, so about every two months.

#### How often do you wash it?

It is not good to wash our hair often or even to get it wet, because it causes molding and

breakage. The extensions we put in (known as weave) are made of horse hair and washing them ruins the style we spent hours working on. We generally give it a good wash whenever we change hairstyles. So when a lot of people touch our hair, it adds oil and dirt to our hair and we have to change it more often, adding to the expense and time it takes to do our hair.

# What is the worst thing about styling it?

It takes forever!

#### Why do you use all the different creams?

Most of the creams are to moisturize our hair and our scalp. This is very important to keep the curl pattern and prevent damage.

#### Where do you buy your supplies?

We buy our supplies on Amazon, Walmart, or Walgreens. This is the cheapest way for us to keep our hair looking nice. It costs \$10 for an extension and we use 7 extension packages to do our hair. On Amazon, we can buy it bulk so that it is cheaper. If we wanted to use human hair for our extensions, we would spend hundreds of dollars each time.

#### How did you learn to style it?

Youtube and a lot of practice!

#### What is your favorite style to do?

Daphcar: Butterfly locs — it's like ringlet curls

Bervalie: I like it when it is out and natural. But I'm not allowed to wear it that way yet because I don't know how to keep up with it, so I like to wear braids.

# How often do you get a haircut? How fast does it grow?

We never get haircuts. Our hair grows very slowly, and we want it to grow as long as it can.

# Explain the difference between Daphcar's hair and Bervalie's hair.

Bervalie: My hair is shoulder length, and Daphcar's is just past her chin.

Daphcar: My hair is singletextured with a tight curl. My hair is one of my greatest insecurities. Bervalie's hair has 2 different types of curl throughout her hair.

Bervalie: people, especially boys, ask all the time about my hair and it's annoying.

Explain what you do with the



"baby hairs"

Daphcar: To protect our hair we "lay our edges." This creates patterns around our face and forehead, also making it look pretty. We don't like when white people do this to their hair because it's cultural appropriation. They don't need to do this to their baby hairs, and when they do it they aren't doing it out of a cultural appreciation and cultural experience, but just taking from us. Don't do that.

# How would you like us to respond when people at church try to touch your hair?

Stand up and tell them not to. Tell them to stop.

And when people do it to us, now we walk away from them quickly or give them a sideways look — it's because we really don't like when people do this to us and it happens all the time.

#### **New Members Class**

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader

Our Pastoral Team will be holding a class in April for anyone who would like to explore becoming a new member at Waterford Mennonite Church. The class will meet for two sessions on April 12 and 19 from 6:45 - 8:15 p.m. During our sessions we will spend time getting to know each other, share the leadership structure of WMC, visit with each of the pastors and learn about their areas of ministry, and have time for any questions you might have.

We would love to have you join us! Please RSVP to Pastors Cindy or Deron by April 1.

#### **Thank You**

### **Supporting Our Schools (SOS)**

Thank you! to Fancheon Resler for baking and serving, and to everyone who helped by preparing fruit and donating items for Prairie View Elementary school this past Wednesday.

See this note from Fancheon: "I had a wonderful time at Prairie View. It was good to meet the new principal, and several staff members stopped by to greet me.

We had an abundance of fruit, and everyone was very grateful for that and the apple and peach turnovers. Waterford also donated three large tubs of facial tissues for the classrooms. Thank you!"

## **Waterford Announcements**

Inclusion Formation this Wednesday, February 15:

6:00 p.m. Meal: Please sign up for the meal this Sunday for the March 8

7:00 p.m.: Session on welcome and inclusion of LGBQTIA+ led by Mixhi Marquis and Clayton Gladish. The session will end at 8:15.

**Mennonite Women** are meeting next Thursday, March 9, in the MYF room. The doors open at 8:30 a.m. Whether you are a regular or a "some timer" or a "first timer," you are welcome. We will find something you can do to help. There will be a pot of soup available at lunch. You are welcome to bring something else to add to the meal.

Sunday, March 12, there will be a **joint nurture hour** in the sanctuary where Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer will share about their most recent trip to Ecuador through Two-Way Mission.

Salt & Light weekly reflection and extra resource for March 5.

#### **Mennonite Church USA**

The African American **Mennonite Association** (AAMA), one of the racial ethnic groups that make up the Racial Ethnic Council of Mennonite Church USA, has prepared a new master class curriculum for Black Mennonite church leaders. Learn more here:

mennoniteusa.org/news/aamacurriculum

Mennonite Central Committee and Mennonite Church USA are partnering in a year-long focus on alternatives to the current prison system and mass incarceration. A four-part webinar series, "Beyond Incarceration," will be followed by learning tours across the U.S. Register for the learning tours here: mcc.org/get-involved/ events/pipeline-prison-learningtours Register for the webinar series here: mcc.org/getinvolved/events/beyondincarceration-webinar-series

Registration for MennoCon23 is now open. Mennocon23 will be held in Kansas City, Mo., July 3 - 6, immediately followed by the Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly and the new Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit. Register here: convention.mennoniteusa.org/ registration/ View a downloadable printer-friendly flier here: mennoniteusa.org/ mennocon-flyer-print-friendly

Change and transformation is a constant in life. For Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, Mennonite Church USA's denominational minister for Peace and Justice, relationships have been an important part of the transformation in her own life and have sustained her throughout those changes. Read more of her reflections here: mennoniteusa.org/change-andtransformation

#### **AMBS**

Develop skills for holistic leadership! Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Master of Arts in Christian Formation program prepares students for ministry in spiritual formation and guidance, teaching and worship in congregations and other faith-based settings. Generous need-based financial aid, scholarships and matching grants are available! ambs.edu/macf

AMBS Transition to
Leadership program. This
program guides new pastors
during the crucial first years of
ministry through one-on-one
mentoring; biannual Weekend
Learning Events with peers,
mentors and program leaders;
and four specialized training
sessions per year. It's free to
participants in the Spring 2023
cohort, which starts April 13.
Apply by March 13. ambs.edu/
transition-to-leadership

### **Opportunities**

Hively Avenue Preschool in Elkhart is seeking a PreK teacher. The ideal candidate should enjoy creating hands-on curriculum, have excellent classroom management skills, and be comfortable working and sharing one's faith in a small church setting. If interested, please send a resume to the director:

preschool@hivelymennonite.org.

Call for Volunteers! Looking for something to fill a few hours every week? Something that is fun, fulfilling and makes a difference? Ten Thousand Villages, our local fair trade store, is seeking volunteers. At Ten Thousand Villages, your work makes it possible for families to eat, children to go to school and have access to health care. To learn more about this great opportunity email goshen@tenthousandvilllages.com.

### **Upcoming Community Events**

**Goshen College Chamber Choir Home Concert**, directed by Scott Hochstetler, professor of music, will conclude their spring break tour with a home concert of their tour repertoire on Saturday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m. in Sauder Concert Hall. For more info and tickets visit goshen.edu/tickets.

The **EMU Chamber Singers** will be performing at East Goshen Mennonite Church on Tuesday, March 7, 7 p.m. and at Belmont Mennonite Church on Wednesday, March 8, 7 p.m. The theme of the program is "Local and Global: songs of peace and justice." They will feature styles and composers from the Shenandoah Valley, as well as a variety of others from around the world to look at aspects of peace and justice. Programs are free of charge, and a love offering will be taken to support the choir's travel expenses, as they are also touring Mennonite Churches in the Netherlands and Germany in May.

**Michiana Anabaptist Historians' Spring meeting** will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2023, at Townline Mennonite Church, 2165 S 1000 W, Shipshewana, Indiana. The public is invited to attend. Coffee and registration at 8:30 a.m. John D. Roth will present information about the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism, offering a unique opportunity to celebrate, dream, and engage in the future. This will be followed by a time of fellowship and then a second session, including Q & A.

Goshen High School will be performing "The Addams Family" March 9-12. Performances will be Thursday - Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Support Waterford students Colin Berkey, Leah Berkey, Sophia Kauffman, and David Stutzman and pit director Steve Snyder. Purchase tickets at <a href="https://goshenhighschool.ludus.com/index.php">https://goshenhighschool.ludus.com/index.php</a>

A new exhibit, "Cabinet of Curiosities 3: Quilts, Clocks, Ceramics, Fraktur" will be on display in the Good Library Gallery at Goshen College. See recent accessions to the museum collection for the first time including Mennonite and Amish quilts from Pennsylvania and Midwest, clocks from Belleville, Pennsylvania and Ukraine, Hutterite/Habaner and Makkum ceramics, revival Fraktur, Wayne Co. coverlet, Amish figurines, fine art and more. Exhibit opens Sunday, March 5, with an opening reception on Sunday, March 12

The **2023 Beechy Peace**, **Justice and Reconciliation Public Lecture**, will be given by Ben Goossen, entitled "Reflections on the History of Mennonites and Nazism." Ben Goossen is a historian at the Institute on the Formation of Knowledge at the University of Chicago. He is the author of *Chosen Nation: Mennonites and Germany in a Global Era* (Princeton University Press). March 14, 7:00 p.m., Church Chapel.

You are invited to **LaCasa's annual Luncheon: Strength in Community**, Wednesday, March 15, from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. in the Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner in Elkhart. For tickets and sponsorship information, please call 574-533-4450 or email andee.huxhold@lacasainc.net. RSVP by March 10.

# **Transfer of Membership**

Mark and Mikki Bowman have requested their church membership be transferred to Pleasant View Church. We pray for God's blessings for them and their children as they settle into their new church home.