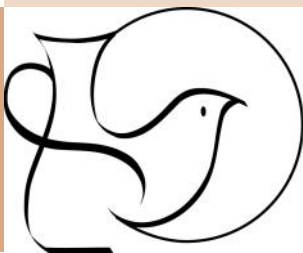




April 23, 2023



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour

Welcome Team

Greeters: Dan & Diane Bodiker
Ushers: Glenn Reinford, Carolyn
Kauffman, Wade Ramer
Audiovisuals: Colin Berkey,
Shawn Stutzman

This Week at Waterford

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. BBI Group / Mtg Rm

Wednesday

3:45 p.m. MSMT / Greencroft

6:30 p.m. Young Adult
Fellowship / Room 15

7:00 p.m. Venture Club

7:00 p.m. JYF, MYF

7:00 GDMT / Meeting Room

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

What's in a dot? Welcoming Spaces moves to 3.1

Lyle Miller, on behalf of Welcoming Spaces 3.1 leaders

In computer jargon, a dot or period is used in “software versioning,” the process of assigning either unique version names or version numbers to unique states of computer software. Consider, for example, the pattern of a computer’s operating system, which moved from Windows 1.0 through Windows 3.0 and 3.1, 5.0 and 5.1, 7, 10 and 11, with many steps along the way and with Windows 12 now out in its beta version. My Apple iPhone 13 is now running iOS 16.3.1 as its operating system, though a Google search suggests that I should be updating to 16.4.1!

In a much simpler set of transitions, Waterford’s Welcoming Spaces 3.0 initiatives are moving to Welcoming Spaces 3.1, signifying a transition in what has been a multiple-year approach to making our facilities more welcoming and inviting to visitors, newer and longtime attendees alike. In the coming weeks, the Buzz will have a series of articles highlighting the work of Ministry Leadership Council, a Welcoming Spaces task force, pastoral team and other congregational leaders. Before that, however, let’s take a look at where we’ve been.

Even before “welcoming people to faith and fellowship in Jesus Christ” became part of our mission statement, offering a warm welcome to worship and congregational life has been a central part of life at Waterford. As such, the notion of “Welcoming Spaces” has provided a helpful framework for thinking about our facilities and how they can best help us carry out God’s mission as a congregation.

See WS 3.1 on page 3

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 207

Nurture Hour - 212

Finances – April 16, 2023

Operating Fund	\$6,691.50
Mennonite Education	\$10,385.00
Either Fund	\$6,329.24
Budget Total	\$23,405.74
Sharing Fund	\$250.00
Least Coin	\$29.00
MYF Auction	\$16,548.00
Total	\$40,232.74

YTD Giving through 50 weeks is \$733,000, Budgeted Giving for the year is \$755,000. The average giving needed over the final 2 weeks to meet our budgeted giving target for this fiscal year is \$11,000 per week.

Looking Ahead

April 30: JYF; Go See
(Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18)

May 7: Sermon: Cindy Voth;
Go Boldly
(Romans 1:1-17)

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

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

Request for encouragement for Ariana Pérez Diener

Pastor Katie Misz

I have considered it a great privilege to connect with Ariana regularly while she is in Kenya with MCC. In our recent conversation, Ariana shared that she has endured a couple of illnesses this month and we spoke about how common it is to become sick while abroad, but also how jolting of an experience it can be. She wondered if there are others at Waterford who have had that experience who might be willing to share their story about how they coped and what helped them when they were sick while far away. If you have such a story and any wisdom to share, Ariana welcomes you sending her an email with your story at arianaperezdiener6@gmail.com. Perhaps you might spare her some of the gory details and focus more on what was helpful during that time. Also, she wants you to know she hopes to reply to your emails, but will only be able to do so as her internet and time allow. Thank you for your continued support of Ariana. She is glad to be recuperating and getting back to work.

African items need a home

Have you wished for African clothing to wear on World Communion Sunday or when Benin Bible Institute (BBI) guests come for a visit? **Lynda and Rod Hollinger-Janzen have donated African clothes and artifacts for a BBI fundraiser.** Items will be available for purchase for two Sundays, April 23 and April 30. There will be a suggested price and a basket in which to place your contributions. Checks can be made out to Waterford Mennonite Church with “BBI fundraiser” on the memo line.

Thank You

Thank you so much for the flower arrangement that you gave for the Mary Christophel service of remembrance. Her family appreciates your act of thoughtfulness and kindness.

Sincerely, The Christophel family

Thank you so much for all who participated in The Window's Haystack fundraiser April 15! —Karon Weaver

Welcoming Spaces 3.1

WS 3.1 (Cont. from page 1)

Following earlier “Welcoming Spaces” projects that included updates to offices, sanctuary and other gathered spaces, we began exploring Welcoming Spaces 3.0 in 2018. Our planning began with a desire to address two significant deferred maintenance needs — a repaving of the parking lot and replacing the accordion and partition dividers in the fellowship hall. Not long into discussions about these two, a third priority arose as we recognized a primary accessibility need for our space, specifically that it was one of our most public spaces — the platform in our sanctuary — that was least accessible to those using wheelchairs or needing other assistance.

In late fall 2018, the congregation approved moving forward with these projects and began a “faithraising” campaign designed to encourage generosity in the congregation. We asked the question, “Grounded in gratitude for the gracious God we serve, and revealed in a life of prayer, how might we all be called to generously live out our faith?”

Rather than taking a traditional fundraising approach that focuses on a few major givers, we encouraged generosity from all. In the time since then, more than 70 Waterford households have contributed a total of more than \$250,000. To those who’ve given, thanks for your significant generosity!

As one would expect, not all have given the same dollar figure, but our giving distribution has been much “flatter” than is typical in a project of this size. We’ve received gifts ranging from \$20 to more than \$20,000, from people in high school through those in their 90s. And that’s good. As consultant Lori Guenthor Reesor says, “Ten dollars from me and \$499,990 from you is not a successful church capital campaign.”

So what have we done? Well, based on several factors, we first addressed the sanctuary need, completing a ramp that has provided greater access to the platform. Later in 2019, we repaved a cracked-filled parking lot, addressing safety concerns and providing a much more appealing initial approach to our facilities. Along the way, we began considering how best to address the maintenance issues in the fellowship hall.

And then Covid happened. And our patterns of congregational life changed.

Considering the uncertainties of the time, we made the intentional choice to pause that aspect of Welcoming Spaces 3.0, not knowing

See **WS 3.1** on page 4



Demolition of visuals closet



Finished ramp



Roofing the pavilion



Worship Service in the pavilion

MYF Service Auction



Pizza by Krista!



Isaac Myers and Pastor Katie trying out the paddles.



Auctioneer Nick Stoltzfus.

Thank you Waterford, for a successful MYF youth service auction!! We were blown away once again by the incredible generosity and support from the congregation. Thank you to everyone who donated items or purchased items. We raised over \$16,500 which will cover our costs for this summer's trip. We cannot wait, and are so grateful for all your love and care. —Cori Chupp and Gretchen Bateman, on behalf of the MYF

Scorekeepers
Daven Molina,
Matt Bateman,
Garrett Stoltzfus



WS 3.1 (cont. from p. 3)

how things like congregational generosity and usage patterns in Sunday school and other gatherings would be affected by a worldwide pandemic. After all, we weren't even meeting in the building for worship, let alone for other gathered activities. Particularly given that the fellowship hall renovations were expected to be the most expensive component of Welcoming Spaces 3.0, we wanted to make sure that the decisions we made about the space aligned with changing realities of congregational life.

In the meantime, as we again began gathering together for worship, this time in our "outdoor sanctuary," we realized the immediate benefits of having an outdoor space more conducive for large gatherings. In summer 2021, we developed and completed plans for the outdoor pavilion, completing much of the work with congregational volunteers.

Along the way, recognizing that we are part of a larger church, we have "tithed" to support two other activities that provided welcoming spaces for other believers. One benefited the Shipibo Mission Center in Peru, which helps train indigenous Christian leaders from Shipibo villages. We have also supported JoinHands, a ministry of Mennonite Men which helps congregations build or buy their first facility.

In the past several months, as we've had a sense of what congregational life might look like post-pandemic, we have begun a new phase of Welcoming Spaces, thus the change from 3.0 to 3.1. In the next several issues of the Buzz, we will describe our current work, with the hope of moving to congregational discernment at our May 16 congregational meeting.

Waterford Announcements

Reminders:

- Everyone is invited to participate in **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner**. Fill out the form you received in your box last week and drop it in the box on the participation table by May 7.
- Also in your box last week was a yellow card with a list of the **June Sunday school electives**. Please mark which elective you would like to be part of and drop it in the basket at the participation table by April 30.
- You are invited to fill out the purple half sheets surveying participation in or the desire to be in a **small group**. Return the form to Ursula Hess or her mailbox.

This Wednesday will be **the first young adult fellowship** for a night of eating and being social together. A simple meal will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by talking and activities. Possible activities include board games, Mario Kart, and baking, among others. If you want more information, talk to Emily Hunsberger or Katie Misz.

Renew or subscribe to Anabaptist World magazine at the WMC group rate of just \$39 and receive 16 print issues. Simply fill out and return the subscription form in your mailbox to the church office mailbox with \$39 payment (checks payable to WMC) **by May 15, 2023**.

Salt & Light weekly reflection for April 23.

Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities at Center for Healing & Hope. There are a variety of opportunities to volunteer at CHH. Some require Spanish fluency and others do not. Full and half days are available—weekly or biweekly commitments are preferred except for events. There is a printed list of volunteer opportunities on the bulletin board. Check out these options to find out if one or more is a good fit for you or someone you know! Email us at info@chhclinics.org or fill out the form on our website at www.chhclinics.org/volunteer.

Lacasa's Help-A-House is hosting a small mini workday with limited slots available. See the flyer on the bulletin board with additional information and a QR code to register. If you have a group interested in participating, please register as soon as possible.

AMBS is accepting applications for a **Digital Marketing Manager**, a 0.75 FTE position to start as soon as possible. Primary responsibilities include managing the seminary's website and overseeing social media strategy and implementation, digital marketing and database management, and video production. [See job description](#).

Menno-Hof is seeking a Daily Operations Manager for 32 hours per week. This individual will be responsible for recruiting and scheduling volunteers, answering phones, scheduling tour groups, daily bank deposits, and other administrative duties. Interested persons should contact Executive Director Jerry Beasley at 260-750-0824 or jbeasley@mennohof.org.

Mennonite Church USA

Online registration is open for **MennoCon23**, Mennonite Church USA's leading faith formation event, in Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center, July 3-6, 2023. Registration is also open for the Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit, July 7, and the Delegate Assembly, July 7-8. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/mennocon23-registration

As part of Mennonite Church USA's "Learn, Pray, Join: Welcoming EveryBODY" initiative, **Jon-Erik (J. E.) Misz**, secretary of the Anabaptist Disability Network board of directors, shares about his **awareness of the mental health crisis** that continues to grow among youth and young adults. Read more of his thoughts here: mennoniteusa.org/telling-whole-story

As part of Mennonite Church USA's "Learn, Pray, Join: Mass Incarceration" series, Conrad Moore, writes about his experience with the **mass incarceration system as a mechanism to enforce the caste system of the U.S.** Read more about his experience here: mennoniteusa.org/mass-incarceration-mechanism

Mennonite Church USA is **seeking Menno Snapshots blogs on the topic, "I choose to be Mennonite because..."** Bloggers are encouraged to reflect on how they came to Anabaptism, what attracted them to our Mennonite theology and practices, and how this has impacted their lives. This is an ideal opportunity for the recently baptized and/or those who may have joined from other faith traditions. Suggested word count is 500-900 words. Youth are also encouraged to participate (no word count requirements). Read the blog guidelines and submit your blog here by May 22: [Blog guidelines and submission form](#).

AMBS

Anabaptist Witness welcomes submissions on “New Anabaptist Communities” for the October 2023 issue.

Submissions can be from various genres and should relate to the journal’s focus on Anabaptist and Mennonite churches in mission. Historical, biblical and theological approaches are welcome. The deadline is July 1, 2023. [View Guidelines](#)

Spiritual Direction:

Foundations. Strengthen your skills in offering spiritual direction through the first level of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary’s supervised spiritual direction program. This course — which can be done either in person or online — will help you grow in confidence and competence as a spiritual director as you learn from Scripture, theology, Christian tradition, ethics, psychology, human development and, of course, practice! The seminar begins Aug. 29; apply by Aug. 1 to save \$200. ambs.edu/seminars

MDS

*The April edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: learn why some volunteers feel driven to be a part of the RV (recreational vehicle) program; search and rescue volunteers in Arkansas help bring closure to a grieving family; and volunteers in Florida deliver hope just in time for Easter. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/3USblhq>*

Upcoming Community Events

Goshen College Symphony Orchestra Concert, Saturday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. in Sauder Concert Hall. The Orchestra, conducted by Victoria Petrak, will present its spring concert at 7:30 p.m. Learn more and purchase tickets at <https://goshen.universitytickets.com/>.

The Goshen Community Chorale presents *Broken and Blessed, a Concert of Sacred Music from Bach to Brazil*, with conductor, Bradley Kauffman, on **Sunday, April 23**, 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church on S Main St. Chorale singers include Waterford Mennonite members Shelby Eby, Douglas Graber, Jeff Miller and Bob Brenneman. The featured piece will be Bach’s Cantata #23. Other pieces include “Kyrie” by Palestrina, “If Ye Love Me” by Rick Wheeler, and “Psalm 150” by Brazilian composer, Ernani Aguiar. The concert is free; an offering will be taken to defray the expenses of the concert. All are welcome!

2023 Men’s Retreat at Amigo Centre, April 28-30. This retreat will be led by James Yoder (a retired clinical social worker who spent his career working with marginalized people and traumatized children) and Leon Bauman (a retired schoolteacher and school counselor who spent his career asking “How can painful experiences be transformed and reframed?”) and will focus on creating stories of hope and finding healing in the male journey. At this retreat you will explore the ways that our interpretations of life events impact the stories we create. Individually, in small groups, and in larger groups we will hear ancient stories and emerging stories. As we tell our stories, we will contemplate questions common to the male journey. Full weekend: \$175; 25 and Under and Commuter: \$120; Just Saturday; \$75. [Click here](#) to register.

MCC Alumni & Friends Service Nights: Join other local MCC alumni and friends at our MCC Material Resources Center in Goshen for an evening of fun and fellowship while **helping to pack much-needed kits**. There is an increased demand for supplies to send to Ukraine and other countries around the world, and these kits are a tangible way to share hope with people in difficult situations. There are two chances for you to join the kit packing event: **Wednesday, May 3 or Friday, May 5** from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. More information and registration at: mcc.org/gl-alumni-service.

Rug Event is BACK! Ten Thousand Villages is hosting its annual Fair Trade Rug Event again. Visit us in May to see over 200 rugs displayed in the store. These rugs are handcrafted from start to finish in Pakistan and offer many different styles and types. Bunyaad Rugs will be delivering and providing support for this event. Join us **May 10-14**, a perfect time to grab a mother’s day gift!

Color Fun Run, May 20, 9:00 a.m. Come celebrate the launch of Bethany Christian Schools’ Bright Future Campaign with a 1-mile Color Fun Run on Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m.! Registration is now open to the general public and is \$15 per person. Be sure to register soon so you can be part of one of the most colorful parties in town! Learn more or register by visiting bethanycs.net/brightfuture

SAVE THE DATE! Mark your calendar now for the **2023 Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale, Sept. 22-23**, at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds. Start thinking about ways you can support the sale such as donating an item for the online auction, the quilt auction, or the plant sale. It’s not too early to start collecting coins for MyCoinsCount! Check out the website (www.mennonitesale.org) and follow the Relief Sale on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for updates.