

Mennonite Action

Mennonites from all over the country gathered in Washington DC to call for a ceasefire in Gaza.. George Thompson stood with others outside the capitol.



January 21, 2024



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture classes for all ages
Rebecca Stoltzfus / Sanctuary

Welcome Team

Greeters: Bob & Rachel Brenneman
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto, Wade Ramer
Audiovisuals: Glen Kauffmann, Jeff Claassen

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday
7:00 p.m. - VC, JYF
7:00 p.m. - MYF
7:00 p.m. - YAF
Zoom prayers
Monday - 8:30 a.m.
Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

Waterford Mennonite Church

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Waterford members travel to DC to protest war in Gaza



Pastor Katie, along with George and Karen Thompson, participated in the Mennonite Action protest in Washington, DC, Tuesday, January 16. People were invited to bring quilts with them. Some of the youth sewed lettering onto a plain quilt during their winter retreat for Katie to take with her. Below, Katie and Karen pose with others who had joined the action inside the capitol building.



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Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Services Cancelled

Finances – January 14, 2023

Operating Fund	\$3,545.00
Mennonite Education	\$3,540.00
Either Fund	\$7,894.00
<i>Budget total</i>	<i>\$14,979.00</i>
Least Coin Fund	\$15.00
Total	\$14,994.00

Looking Ahead

January 28: Sermon: Cindy Voth;
BBI Sharing
February 4: Sermon: John Roth;
Anabaptist Distinctives

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

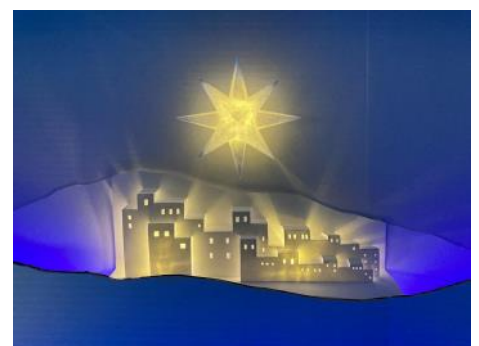
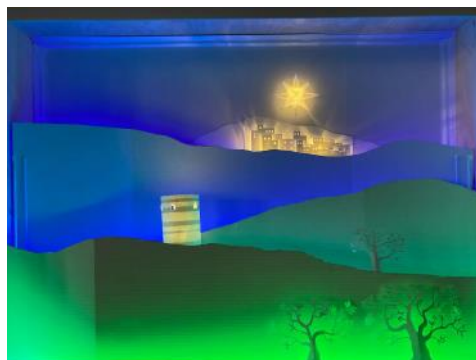
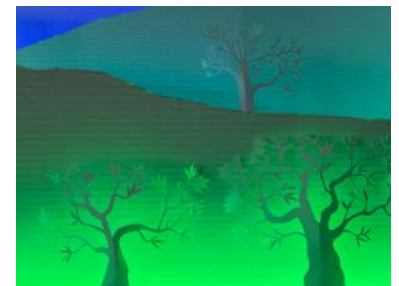
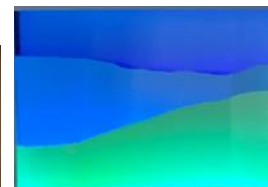
Meet & Greet with the Pastors

Cindy Voth for Pastoral Team

We are delighted and grateful for the arrival of new faces in our faith community! We, the pastoral team, would like to officially meet you! So Pastors Deron, Katie, and I will be available from 10:15-11:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 11, to meet you and answer any questions you might have about Waterford. This time would also allow you to meet other recent new attenders at Waterford. You can grab your coffee or tea and join us (most likely in one of the new fellowship hall classrooms). You can stop by to say hi and then make your way to your class if you have already connected with one, or you can spend the nurture hour with us, getting to know each other. We are excited that you are here and look forward to learning to know you and the gift of hearing your stories!

A Close-up of the Advent Visual

The beautiful visual in the sanctuary during the Advent season was created by Sara and Derrick Method. Made of cut paper and colored lights, a new element was added every week. It began with just the landscape, then the watch tower, the trees, the town, and finally the star. Sara says, "It's been a delight to collaborate with my partner on these visuals for advent. We leaned into simple materials and using light to help tell the story." The photos show the details of each area as they appear without the interference of overhead lights. Thank you Sara and Derrick!



MYF/JYF Winter Retreat



The MYF and JYF spent the weekend of January 12-14 at Amigo Centre for worship, rest, games and playing in the snow.



MCUSA

Joanna Gerber Pinkerton, a member of Hope Mennonite Church, experienced a holy threshold in Glendalough, Ireland, through the story of St. Kevin, who chose gentleness over violence. Read her Menno Snapshots blog here: mennoniteusa.org/holy-thresholds

Sandra Montes-Martinez, associate conference minister of Western District Conference, shares how she has experienced culturally diverse congregations flourish with the practice of gratitude and cultural appreciation. Read her Menno Snapshots blog here: mennoniteusa.org/cultivating-gratitude

Save the Date:

Lacasa's annual luncheon, March 13, 2024. Find information and register at <https://lacasainc.net/annual-luncheon/>

Waterford Announcements

Mark your calendars!

Our next Potluck is on
February 4,
hosted by Koinonia Class

Update: The restrooms on the south end of the building are completed and ready for use.

There will again be the **Nurture Hour** option to meet with **Rebecca Stoltzfus**, President of Goshen College, in the sanctuary this Sunday, January 21.

Current and prospective Mennonite college students, and parents of current and prospective grades 3-12 Bethany students should have received an email last week with the **Mennonite Education Fund application** and guidelines. If you or your student wish to participate in this program, the deadline for submitting your application is February 28, 2024. If you did not receive the application form and wish to participate in this program, contact Karen Hostetler at karen@waterfordchurch.org for the form and guidelines. If you have questions about this program, contact one of the committee members: Becky Bateman, Audrey Oostland or Glenn Reinford.

Salt & Light additional resource for [January 21](#).

MDS

The January edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Kevin King shares inspiration from the dentist's chair; learn about a huge boost coming to Crisfield, Maryland; and don't miss the February 8 deadline to register for our Annual Celebration in Fresno in February. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3u2BztK>

AMBS

Seminary Preview Webinar.

Thinking about seminary? Or do you know someone who might be? Join us online on **Tuesday, Jan. 30, 8–8:45 p.m. ET**, and get a glimpse of what Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary has to offer — whether you want to study at a distance or on our campus in Elkhart, Indiana. Associate Professor Malinda Elizabeth Berry, PhD, will give a sample lesson on Nonviolent Communication, and you'll also hear from a current student. Register online (no cost): ambs.edu/preview

New Anabaptist Communities

A new issue of **Anabaptist Witness** — edited by Jamie Pitts, PhD — contains articles from Britain, Canada, India and the United States. Many of the articles reflect on denominational, conference and parachurch efforts to start new communities, while some of them narrate grassroots efforts to found congregations outside of any institutional prompting. [Read the issue for free online](#) or [purchase a print issue in paperback](#).

MCC

Peace Camps coming this year!

Peace Camps offer young adults (18-30) unique opportunities for connection and learning. This year, there will be FOUR Peace Camps offered, each with its own flavor and draw. These are opportunities for young adults to learn and explore dynamics of social change; experience personal transformation; and apply Anabaptist, Biblical foundations of peace and justice to real world issues. Find out more about MCC Peace Camps 2024 at <https://mcc.org/get-involved/peace-camps>

Upcoming Events

Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College welcomes you to the 6th annual **Michiana Regional Seed Swap** on Jan. 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at College Mennonite Church. This free event provides a platform for exchanging and learning about seeds, featuring vegetable/garden crops and native plants. Join fellow gardeners and plant enthusiasts for educational sessions and seed exchange. To learn more, visit goshen.edu/merrylea/seedswap.

Join a Ceasefire Now Rally Sat., Jan. 20, 2-3 p.m., Elkhart Civic Plaza. (contact nicoleocbauman@gmail.com for more information)

Hear from Gaza native Tareq Abuhallima, Sat., Jan. 20, 7 p.m., hosted by Faith Mennonite Church at Assembly Mennonite (727 New York Street, Goshen). Tareq has been in the US since January 2023. Since October, Tareq has had three of his sisters killed by Israeli forces in their assault on Gaza. Tareq will give a presentation followed by a time of Q & A. A freewill offering will be taken for an honorarium for Tareq.

The next meeting of the **Mennonite Public Educators group** is Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, at 7 p.m. Eastern. This group is intended for all Mennonite education professionals working in public school settings. The conversation topic will be “CRT, Social-Emotional Learning, and book banning.” Registration is required. Email info@MennoniteEducation.org to receive registration information. Please feel free to share this announcement on your own social media accounts and/or within your circles.

Peacebuilders Training, Colorado, March 10-15 (Registration is OPEN NOW!) This Peacebuilders Training is a learning experience for young adults hungry to connect with other young adults; root themselves in intentional, theological reflection; and apply that to real-world work of peace and justice in their communities.

A free 8-week class for **family members of people with mental illnesses** can help you understand and support, while maintaining your own well-being. Offered by NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), class begins March 16. Covers brain research, meds, crisis response, stigma, self-care and more. Colleen Prough 574-349-1746 or namielkhartcounty@gmail.com for more info.

Opportunities

Hively Avenue Preschool is seeking a teacher to work with children ages 3 and 4. The position involves approximately 20 hours per week. A degree or certification in early childhood or elementary education is highly preferred. Interested candidates should email their resume to Amy Redar, preschool director preschool@hivelymennonite.org You can see the job description on the bulletin board.

AMBS currently has a job opening for a **part-time Caterer in Residence**. Any one interested in applying for the position, should visit the website at www.AMBS.edu for the complete job description and how to apply.

English classes for immigrant neighbors started again Saturday, January 6, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at North Goshen Mennonite Church. Call Anne Meyer Byler (574-621-3924) if you are interested in helping or in more information.

Come work at Goshen College! GC has many employment opportunities for teaching faculty, administrative staff and more. Visit goshen.edu/employment to see all job openings and learn more.