



February 25, 2024



# The Waterford Buzz

## **This Sunday**

9:00 a.m. - Worship  
10:30 a.m. - Nurture classes for all ages  
5:30 p.m. - Chili Cookoff / FH

## **Welcome Team**

Greeters: Dan & Diane Bodiker  
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Carla Miller, Ken Otto  
Audiovisuals: Colin Berkey, Dominic Ramer

## **This Week at Waterford**

### **Wednesday**

6:30 p.m. - Membership Class / FH  
7:00 p.m. - VC, JYF, MYF

### **Thursday**

7:00 p.m. - MLC / FH  
**Zoom prayers**  
Monday - 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

## **Waterford Mennonite Church**

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Goshen, IN 46526  
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www.waterfordchurch.org

## **Meet Lois & Erv Schlabach**



Lois Kreider Zeager Schlabach spent her first eight years in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; then her family moved to a Mennonite farming community near Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Erv grew up Amish in Charm, Ohio. After graduating from Goshen College, he continued his education at Eastern Mennonite Seminary. In 1969 Lois graduated from Eastern Mennonite University with an education degree and Erv graduated from the Seminary. They were married that summer and assisted in the ministry at the Walnut Creek Mennonite Church in Walnut Creek, Ohio. Then while serving as the pastor of the Walnut Creek Mennonite Church, Erv completed a ThD degree at Chicago Theological Seminary. They lived in Ohio between Berlin and Millersburg. As their journey continued, Lois taught social studies in grades five through eight for 25 years, and Erv became the manager of a family lumber business. For seven years before retirement, he served as the editor at Carlisle Printing in Walnut Creek. Lois and Erv have two children. Kyle Schlabach and Jessica Baldanzi live in Goshen and have two sons. Krista and Kempton Pierce are located in Londonderry, New Hampshire, and have two daughters. After retirement, Lois and Erv moved to the Goshen area in 2014. Two years ago they became a part of the Greencroft Retirement Community at Whispering Pines. Erv and Lois enjoy reading, gardening, birding, and nature walks. A life-long project in creation care has been spending countless hours in removing trash which others have left behind.

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 182

Nurture Hour - 186

### Finances – February 18, 2024

Operating Fund \$9,786.89

Mennonite Education \$4,425.00

Either Fund \$4,775.00

*Budget total* \$18,986.89

Welcome Spaces \$200.00

Anabaptism @ 500 \$350.00

Jubilee Fund \$60.00

Sharing Fund \$730.00

**Total** \$20,326.89

### Looking Ahead

March 3: Sermon: Deron

Bergstresser; Lent 3

(Ex. 20:1-17, Ps 19, John 2:13-22, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

February 25: Sermon: Cindy

Voth; Lent 4

(Num 21:4-9, Ps 107:1-3, 17-22; John 3:14-21, Eph 2:1-10)

### 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

Janet Shoemaker - February 28

Elvina Schmidt - Feb 28 - Mar 5

### Office hours this week

Monday, Thursday

9-12, 1-3

Tuesday, Friday 9-12

Wednesday Closed

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

## 2024 O-Lent-ics

Waterford youth, along with six other youth groups, met at Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship Sunday, February 18, to kick off the annual *O-Lent-ics*. Fourteen teams enjoyed the opening ceremonies, were oriented to the games and created their team flags.



## Upcoming Sabbatical

It is time for Pastor Cindy's sabbatical, and she will be taking this leave from April 22 - July 28. We will have a prayer of blessing for her and her renewal on April 21. Please watch next Sunday's *Buzz* for more from Pastor Cindy on her sabbatical plans and goals as well as the plans in place for coverage here at WMC during her time away.

Rose Shetler and Chris Judson, Ministry Leadership Council co-chairs



## Movie Night at WMC

On Wednesday, March 6, at 7:00 p.m., the WMC Reparative Justice Group will host a showing of the movie "Indian Horse."

The following is a description of the movie taken from their website (IndianHorse.ca):

An adaptation of Ojibway writer Richard Wagamese's award-winning novel, this moving and important drama sheds light on the dark history of Canada's boarding schools or Indigenous Residential Schools and the indomitable spirit of aboriginal people.

In the late 1950's Ontario, eight-year-old Saul Indian Horse is torn from his Ojibway family and committed to one of the notorious Catholic Residential Schools. In this oppressive environment, Saul is denied the freedom to speak his language or embrace his Indigenous heritage while he witnesses horrendous abuse at the hands of the very people entrusted with his care. Despite this, Saul finds salvation in the unlikelyst of places and favourite winter pastime -- hockey. Fascinated by the game, he secretly teaches himself to play, developing a unique and rare skill. He seems to see the game in a way no other player can.

His talent leads him away from the misery of the school, eventually leading him to the Pros. But the ghosts of Saul's past are always present, and threaten to derail his promising career and future. Forced to confront his painful past, Saul draws on the spirit of his ancestors and the understanding of his friends to begin the process of healing.

Residential Schools History (narrative and picture from the IndianHorse.ca website):

From the 1880s, for upwards of 100 years, the Canadian government worked in tandem with the church-run schools to forcibly remove Indigenous children from their families, communities and Nations and put them into notoriously abusive institutions called Indian Residential Schools (IRS). The purpose of the schools was to eliminate parental involvement in the spiritual, cultural and intellectual development of Indigenous children. During this chapter in Canadian history, more than 150,000 First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children were forced to attend these schools many of which were hundreds of miles from their home.

Children as young as five-years-old were taken far away where they were punished for speaking their own languages or practicing their traditions. This systemic racism was meticulously crafted to "kill the Indian in the child," through indoctrinating them into Euro-Canadian and Christian ways of living and assimilating them into mainstream Canadian society. Children were often physically and sexually abused for the duration of the years they were forced to live in the schools creating an enduring legacy of secrecy, shame and pain for generations of Indigenous people.

The cumulative impact of Residential Schools is a legacy of cultural genocide, resulting in unresolved trauma passed from generation to generation and has had a profound effect on the relationship between Indigenous peoples and settler Canadians. To really comprehend the trauma of this legacy we need to remember that removing the children didn't just happen once, a long time ago. It went on, relentlessly, for over a century. The last Residential School in Canada closed in 1996.



While the history and story come from the Canadian context, the United States history of Indian Residential Schools was unfortunately similar.

Please note: this film is rated by Netflix as "TV-MA." Trigger warnings for physical and sexual abuse, child death, racism.

## Raise funds to replace olive tree in Palestine

Israelis have destroyed over one million olive trees belonging to Palestinians. Why? To strike at their livelihoods, create economic hardships, and displace them from their land. Once trees are removed and farmers are forced to leave their land, Israelis may claim and add this land to their settlements in occupied Palestine. This is one of many aggravating factors leading to Palestinian resistance and the current war.

**Help MennoPIN and the Mennonite Men JoinTrees campaign raise \$50,000 to replace 2,500-3,000 olive trees and enable Palestinian families to remain on their land.**

## **MCC**

**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.

## **Taking Action**

### **INVITATION TO JOIN THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN IN INDIANAPOLIS ON MARCH 2**

Jesus summed up his message by laying out two fundamental invitations for anyone wishing to follow him: love God, and love your neighbor.

It is not surprising that very quickly he was called upon to define his terms—who is my neighbor? Jesus' response was to tell the parable of the Good Samaritan, a story which points to the importance of engaging in concrete acts of compassion toward persons in need, persons who may not fit into our habitual social groups.

Part of loving our neighbors may lead us onto unfamiliar terrain. What does it mean to demonstrate compassion to our neighbors today when 1/3 of Indiana's workforce earns less than \$15 an hour? Have you tried to care for yourself and your family recently while making less than \$15/hr?

Such problems are structural in nature, and they have dire consequences for countless families in our state. An emergency gift of food, clothes or money is a possible and at times very important response to a low wage worker's difficulty, but it doesn't solve the fundamental, longer-term problem, which is that many companies do not provide livable wages for their employees in Indiana. They don't have to, with the legal minimum wage stagnating at \$7.25/hr.

I believe that an important part of loving our neighbors involves advocating for positive changes that will improve living conditions for poor and low wage workers in Indiana and across the nation. For me, this is living out my commitment to follow Jesus by bringing good news to the poor, as he did.

I am inviting you to join with the Poor People's Campaign on Saturday March 2 as we bring our demands for justice for our neighbors and ourselves to the attention of our state and our nation. We will gather at the south end of the Indiana statehouse, 200 W. Washington St., Indianapolis at 11:15 a.m. to march, and our program will begin at 11:45 a.m.

Let me know if you are interested in participating in this movement for justice on March 2, or if you have any questions.

Rod Hollinger-Janzen  
Ph. 574-612-6091; rodnehollingerjanzen@gmail.com

If you are distressed by the news from Israel/Palestine and want to learn about how Mennonites and allies are taking action to end the bloodshed in Gaza, we invite you to join us for a **weekend of fellowship and input from Mennonite Action's Nick Martin**. Save the afternoons of March 9 (at Assembly Menn.) and 10 (at Hively Ave. Menn.) for speaker panels, organizing trainings, and, of course, a hymnsing! More details coming soon. All are welcome. We hope to see you there!

# Waterford Announcements



## We have new sensory toys for kids and youth!

Thanks to Hannah's hard work, we went through all the pens in our pencil pouches attached to the clipboards, so they are as good as new also! We have a tub of sensory toys for youth in the youth row as well.

Please take a good care of them and return to the pouches/bin when you are done.

Mariko Claassen, children's ministry director



## Last Chance for submitting Mennonite Education Fund applications:

The deadline for applications is this Wednesday, February 28, for prospective Mennonite college students and parents of current and prospective grades 3-12 Bethany students. The application can be found at <https://waterfordchurch.org/resources/>

## An elective nurture hour class on Spiritual Practices for the March-May spring 2024 quarter.

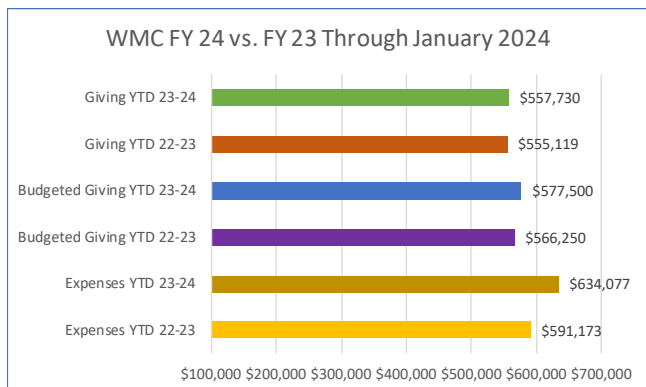
Join with others who would like to use Christ-centered spiritual practices to honor their deepest longing for God and live more authentically. Contact Sheldon Swartz at [sheldonws@yahoo.com](mailto:sheldonws@yahoo.com) or sign up at the participation station by this Sunday, February 25, if you would like to join. You can find details about the class in the February 4 Buzz.

**Chili Cook-Off** this Sunday, February 25, at 5:30 p.m. We have enough chili, but we do need people to come and eat it! Just bring a side of veggies, bread or desert. Sign up at the participation station and indicate what food you plan to bring.

We are looking for **someone to take care of the potted plants** in the church. If you are interested in plants and know how to keep them alive, please contact Jan Oostland at [facilities@waterfordchurch.org](mailto:facilities@waterfordchurch.org) or give him a call.

We are looking to **host 20 students** for the Mennonite Schools Council choir weekend. As a host, you would be responsible to provide lodging for two nights, and serve breakfast Saturday and Sunday; and provide transportation to and from Bethany/Goshen College as needed. Please sign up at the participation station.

**Salt & Light** additional resource for [February 25](#).



## AMBS

### The Trail of Death: A Pilgrimage of Remembrance, Lament and Transformation:

**June 10-24.** Participants in this nine-day pilgrimage will trace the route of the U.S. military's 1838 forced removal of Potawatomi people from their ancestral homeland in northern Indiana to present-day Osawatomie, Kansas. This intensive AMBS course can be taken for credit, audit or no credit (trip only). Limit: 15 participants. Sign up by May 1. [ambs.edu/trail-of-death](http://ambs.edu/trail-of-death)

### Take a summer course at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Hybrid courses

(combining online work and one week on campus) include Christian Leadership in the 21st Century and History of Christian Spirituality. **In-person courses** (also open to auditors) include Biblical Storytelling; Spiritual Practices: Trees of Life; and The Trail of Death: A Pilgrimage of Remembrance, Lament and Transformation. Nonadmitted students get 50% off their first three credit hours! Register by April 29. [ambs.edu/upcoming-courses](http://ambs.edu/upcoming-courses)

## MCUSA

**Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz**, Mennonite Church USA denominational minister for Peace and Justice, led a **half-day faculty training on restorative discipline** at Lititz Area Mennonite School in Pennsylvania, on January 15, 2024. Learn more here: [mennoniteusa.org/peaceable-schools](https://mennoniteusa.org/peaceable-schools)

Learn more about **Safe Church**, Mennonite Church USA's newly formed abuse prevention ministry here: [mennoniteusa.org/safechurch](https://mennoniteusa.org/safechurch) View the PDF here: [mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-resources](https://mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-resources)

## MMN

Mennonite Mission Network has published three articles on Waterford's involvement in mission:

1. A photo essay by Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer of their work in Ecuador: <https://www.mennonitemission.net/news/5036/A-family-two-way-mission-unites-them-in-Christ-with-brothers-and-sisters-in-Ecuador>.
2. An article about the WMC delegation to Benin and our partnership with BBI: <https://www.mennonitemission.net/news/5038/Benin-Bible-Institute-renews-a-20-year-partnership-with-Indiana-congregation>;
3. A reflection by Cindy Voth on the what such a partnership has to offer us: <https://www.mennonitemission.net/blog/5037/Mission-partnerships-help-each-participant-to-experience-more-of-God>.

## Upcoming Events

Goshen College invites high school seniors and current college students to attend **College Goal Sunday** at the Union Building Welcome Center at 1 p.m. on Feb. 25. Financial aid professionals will help college-bound Indiana students and their families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. Spanish interpretation will be available.

**Goshen College's Voices of the Earth Choir Tour Home Concert** will take place on Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall. This event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Robert Brenneman, professor of criminal justice and sociology at Goshen College, will present the **C. Henry Smith Peace Lecture**, titled "The New Peacebuilders: Shifting Violence, Shifting Peace in Northern Central America," on Tuesday, March 5, at 7 p.m. in the College Mennonite Church Koinonia Room. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Registration is open for the annual **Goshen College Conference on Religion and Science**, held March 8-10, 2024, featuring Warren S. Brown, professor of psychology and former director of the Travis Research Institute at Fuller Theological Seminary. He will explore the topic "Neuroscience and Christian Life." Brown will present two free, public lectures on March 8 and 9. More information and registration is available at [goshen.edu/religionscience](https://goshen.edu/religionscience).

Goshen College Performing Arts Series will host **International Guitar Night** on March 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall. International Guitar Night is the world's premier touring guitar festival, with each show bringing together the most interesting and innovative acoustic guitar luminaries for a special evening of solos, duets and quartets that highlight the dexterity and diversity within the world of acoustic guitar. Tickets at <https://goshen.universitytickets.com/>

Please join us for the **2024 Goshen College International Student Club Coffeehouse Potluck Dinner and Show** in the College Mennonite Church Fellowship Halls on March 16. This potluck dinner and show will, as usual, be tasty, fun and informative. The dinner will start at 6 p.m., with the show to follow in the Fellowship Halls. Attendees will be asked to purchase a ticket and bring a (preferably international) dish to share. This is the major annual fundraiser for the International Student Club and your support is truly appreciated! Get tickets at <http://tinyurl.com/3a7fmdax>.

## Opportunities

**Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes is seeking a Church and Community Liaison.** This role will be responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with congregations and constituent groups in the Great Lakes region. This includes speaking in churches, representing MCC in various settings and promoting MCC programs, resources and materials. This position may be remote or hybrid in the Great Lakes region where MCC U.S. is a registered employer. For more information and to apply by March 10, visit [mcc.org/gl-church-community](https://mcc.org/gl-church-community).

**Center for Healing & Hope is in need of volunteers** who are fluent in Spanish and English to interpret for non-Spanish speaking medical providers who are giving care to uninsured and low-income patients at our office. Shifts are mornings from 9-12 or afternoons from 1-5. We also need volunteer LPNs, RNs, pharmacy techs, or pharmacists to dispense medicines from our on-site pharmacy. Volunteers do not need to be binlingual, but medical literacy is important. Shifts can me mornings, afternoons, or all day. contact Missy Schrock at [mkschrock@chhclinics.org](mailto:mkschrock@chhclinics.org) or 574-534-4744 ext 206.