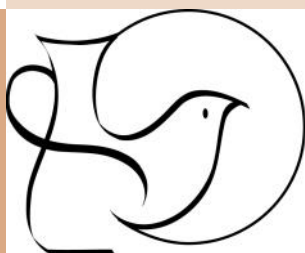


This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship

10:30 a.m. - Joint Nurture hour
in the Sanctuary

12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Meal



February 4, 2024

The Waterford Buzz

Welcome Team

Greeters: Bob & Rachel
Brenneman

Ushers: Dennis Myers, Wade
Ramer, Len Harms

Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler,
Steve Fath

This Week at Waterford

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. - Worship MT

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - Mentors/Mentees

Thursday

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

6:30 p.m. - Stephen Min /
MYF Rm, Rm 15

7:00 p.m. - FFMT

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

Lent – Christ Among Us

Cindy Voth, for Worship Ministry Team

Lent is a season for prayerful reflection as we prepare to faithfully follow Jesus through the events of Holy Week. We will begin our Lenten journey with an Ash Wednesday service on February 14 at 7 p.m. where we remember who we are and who God is. Pastors will offer to place ashes on foreheads or hands as a sign not only of our mortality but also of forgiveness and new life.

Sunday mornings during Lent will focus on the theme “Christ Among Us.” We will draw from resources created by members of the New York Mennonite Conference in *Leader* magazine, a worship resource published by MennoMedia. Weekly scriptures focus on covenants within the story of God’s people. They remind us that covenants begin with God, and that God continues to reach out to humans and creation.

Our worship each week will also include a prayer of confession. Authors of the resource offer, “Lent begins and continues with a repentant heart. Following Jesus through the wilderness means that we acknowledge the ways we are tempted again and again . . . throughout the season of Lent, we practice a communal confession, bearing this burden together and reminding one another of the healing that comes from God’s mercy and grace, shown to us by Jesus and the Holy Spirit.”

Holy week begins with a Maundy Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 27, at 6:00 p.m. The evening will include a fellowship meal, worship, and a time of footwashing. On Easter day, we will begin with a 7:00 a.m. sunrise service, followed by a 9:00 a.m. brunch in our fellowship hall, and concluding with a 10:00 a.m. worship service where we celebrate the resurrection and share in communion.

See **Lent** on page 4

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 183

Nurture Hour - 164

Finances – January 28, 2024

Operating Fund \$3,733.89

Mennonite Education \$40.00

Either Fund \$2,990.00

Budget total \$6,763.89

Welcome Spaces \$10,000.00

Total \$16,763.98

Looking Ahead

February 11: Sermon: JE Misz;

Poetry

(2 Kings 6:8-23)

February 18: Sermon: Deron

Bergstresser; Lent 1

(Gen. 9:8-17, Ps 25:1-10, Mark

1:9-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22)

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

Katie Misz – February 4- 5

Cindy Voth - February 5

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

Spring Elective

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES CLASS

An elective nurture hour class for the March-May spring 2024 quarter

Sheldon Swartz, for Spiritual Formation Ministry Team

I don't know for sure about you, but it is an ongoing challenge to live in such a way that my deepest values consistently inform my decisions about how I relate to my world. Sometimes I even lose consciousness of what those deepest values actually are and live a little lost! I suspect I am not alone when it comes to this challenge and I'd like to join with others who would like to use Christ-centered spiritual practices to honor their deepest longing for God and live more authentically and lovingly in their daily lives and learn from each other in that journey.

The link below is one that explains well the purpose of spiritual practices. Copy and paste it into your browser if clicking on it doesn't take you there. (You will notice this website has gobs of resources for *anyone* seeking God!)

<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/about/what-are-spiritual-practices>

Some of the practices we would discuss and practice: Meditation, lectio divina, welcoming prayer, centering prayer, chanting the Psalms, fasting (not just food), body awareness, connecting with nature, silence, solitude, letting go, community, service, and others. The goal would be to become more clear on what one's mission truly is and live more fully into that as one engages one's world.

Contact Sheldon Swartz at sheldonws@yahoo.com if you want more information to help discern whether you would like to join. Please let me or the church office know before or by Sunday February 25 if you decide to join.

Plant Manager

Thank you to Rachel Brenneman for taking care of our inside plants for a number of years! Rachel is ready to pass on this responsibility. If you are interested in plants and know how to keep them alive, please contact Jan Oostland at facilities@waterfordchurch.org or give him a call.

Meet New Attender Elizabeth Stauffer

Two major life events this past year brought me to Waterford: Bonneyville Mennonite Church, where we attended and were actively involved for over 50 years, closed; and my husband, Don, after years of progressive dementia, moved to Greencroft Healthcare. Without the one I would not have needed to look for a new church; without the other, I could not have done so.

I grew up on the Canadian prairies (Saskatchewan), attended Bethel College in North Newton Kan., and came to the Michiana area when I married Don in 1968. He grew up in Nebraska, came to Elkhart to do alternative service at Mennonite Board of Missions, now Mennonite Mission Network, and stayed to work for a local accounting firm. We met at the wedding of mutual friends.

Until we moved to Goshen in 2016, we lived on 95 acres of woods and marsh near Union, Mich., where Don enjoyed creating and maintaining an extensive trail system and I delighted in foraging for all manner of free food. There we raised our three children. Our youngest son, Paul, and his wife, Jennifer Shell, now own that property, so I still have access to it when I need a refreshing nature fix.

But Goshen was hardly new to us when we moved. Both Don and I had worked in Goshen, he as founding partner of Stauffer & Company, a local accounting firm, and I for Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference. Our children are all Bethany graduates, and Paul is a Goshen College graduate.

After 20 years in Boston, Paul and Jen moved back to Goshen. He continues to work remotely for the Computer Science Department at Boston University. Our oldest son, Chris, attended Bethel College (Kan.) where he met and married Miriam Huebert, and stayed in Kansas. He is a partner in an accounting firm in North Newton, and he and Miriam are the parents of our four grandchildren. Our daughter, Lisa, studied piano at EMU and Catholic University and married Isaac Wengerd. She died of non-Hodgkins lymphoma at age 29.

A highlight of our empty-nest years was travelling regularly, between 1995 and 2007, to Afghanistan where Don worked with the annual financial audit for International Assistance Mission and I helped in the small school for ex-patriot children, taught English and helped in the IAM office. In 2007 we spent five months in Kabul while Don served as interim finance director for IAM, while I again helped in the school and dealt with the challenges of third world housekeeping. It was an unforgettable adventure!

A retirement interest for me is learning more about my ancestral story and passing it on to my children and grandchildren. That passion has taken us to Ukraine and Uzbekistan, and less exotic places like Nebraska and Oklahoma. I am also (slowly) doing some writing about my own life. I am a knitter and enjoy reading and watching PBS documentaries, and volunteer weekly at the MCC Material Resource Center.

Waterford connections: Karen Sommers and Liz Gingrich are two of my neighbors, and Rod Hollinger-Janzen is my nephew.



Stephen Leaders—Their Roles

Bill Minter, for the Stephen Leader Team



The congregation's Stephen Leader Team is accountable to pastoral team for administering the congregation's Stephen Ministry. With the recent addition of Kenneth Blount, the five members have taken time to reassess how to most effectively operate as a team. In order to be positioned for future anticipated changes, the team members have agreed to the following roles:

Kenneth Blount (middle) will coordinate the first hour of monthly Stephen Minister peer supervision meetings, including continuing education topics, and also be involved in the referrals process of identifying and meeting with potential care receivers.

Lorna Claassen (second from right) will be co-coordinating the referrals process and also serve as a facilitator for the monthly Stephen Minister peer group supervision session.

Mel Claassen (far right) will be coordinating planning and communications for the monthly peer group supervision session, and also be co-coordinating the referrals process.

Liz Gingrich (2nd from left) will serve as a facilitator for the monthly Stephen Minister peer group supervision session, and also be involved in the referrals process.

Bill Minter (far left) will coordinate the administrative aspects of the Stephen Leader Team, including recruiting and training new Stephen Ministers.

Lent, cont. from page 1

The chart below includes the scripture, theme, and preacher for each week. We invite everyone to approach our Lenten journey with open hearts, minds, eyes, and ears to meet Jesus and to be transformed as we follow Jesus to the cross and to the empty tomb.

Date	Theme – "Christ among us..."	Scripture	Preacher
2/18	Repent and Believe <i>Communion</i>	Gen. 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10, Mark 1:9-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22	Pastor Deron
2/25	Showing Us Faith	Gen. 17:1-17, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31, Mark 8:31-38, Romans 4:13-25	Pastor Cindy
3/3	Showing Us Justice	Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, John 2:13-22, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Pastor Deron
3/10	The Way of Mercy	Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; John 3:14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10	Pastor Cindy
3/17	The New Covenant	Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 119:9-16, John 12:20-33, Hebrews 5:5-10	Pastor Deron
3/24	The Way of a Servant	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16, Philippians 2:5-11	Pastor Cindy
3/31	Christ among us! <i>Communion</i>	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Isaiah 25:6-9, John 20:1-18, Acts 10:34-43	Pastor Deron

Waterford Announcements

All-church carry-in following nurture hour this Sunday, February 4, hosted by the Koinonia class. All are invited to join the meal. Bring a hot dish in a crock pot, a side dish or dessert. Bringing your own table service is encouraged. This month we are also invited to **bring food items to donate to Center for Healing & Hope**.

Next week **Mennonite Women** will meet on Thursday in the MYF room at church. Doors are open from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. As usual, we will work on MCC projects. Bring your own lunch if you stay during lunch hour.

There will be a signup sheet on the participation station table for the **Chili Cook-Off**, Sunday, February 25. If you plan to come, please sign up and indicate what food you plan to bring.

Meet & Greet for New Attenders: Pastors Deron, Katie, and Cindy will be available from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. on **Sunday, February 11**, to meet you and answer any questions you might have about Waterford. Grab your coffee or tea and join us (most likely in one of the new fellowship hall classrooms).

We are still looking for a new Greeter Coordinator. Since early last fall, Mary Ann Wieand has scheduled our weekly greeters. Her commitment ends in April, so we are looking for someone new to carry on with this ministry among us. Please contact Cindy Voth if you would be interested in learning more about this position!

Save the date for VBS 2024: *This is the way!* Our VBS this year will be from June 25 (Tuesday) to 28 (Friday), from 9 a.m. to noon. We will go to the early church and we will learn about the lives of Christians by hearing stories and through some activities.

If you were involved with the VBS 2023, we would like to hear from you! Please join us for a debriefing meeting on February 21 at 6:45 p.m. (you can join us after enjoying the haystack meal! Bring your favorite topping to share). If you can't make it to the meeting, please email your thoughts and ideas with Mariko at marikomc@gmail.com.

Mennonite Education Fund applications for current and prospective Mennonite college students, and parents of current and prospective grades 3-12 Bethany students are due by February 28, 2024. The application can be found at <https://waterfordchurch.org/resources/>

Salt & Light additional resource for [February 4](#).

MCUSA

In celebration of Black History Month (February), Mennonite Church USA invites you to discover the people and events that have helped shape our denomination. Visit **MC USA's African American Mennonite History Timeline** here:

mennoniteusa.org/african-american-mennonite-history-timeline/

Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, **climate justice coordinator for Mennonite Church USA**, looks at the role of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as an early leader in the environmental justice movement and provides suggested actions to honor his legacy. Read more here:

mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/mlk/

MMN

Registration open for Youth Venture - Benin. This July 2024 Youth Venture team will become a part of the *La Casa Grande Benin* family participating in vibrant worship, dancing, teaching English, sports and art projects. **Applicaton deadline: April 15.**

Registration open for Youth Venture - South Korea June 20 - July 1. Participants will visit Seoul, tour Jeju Island and visit Korean Mennonite churches and farming communities to experience a broad spectrum of South Korean life and culture. **Applicaton deadline: April 15.**

Racial Justice Pilgrimage: South Africa. Church groups, friends and family are invited to join in exploring South Africa's beauty and culture as we learn the country's history and its ongoing struggles while pursuing peace and reconciliation. October 15-28. **Applicaton deadline: April 15.**

Opportunities

Youth Venture/Service Adventure information nights for church groups and youth and parents will be held in February 2024. Register to meet via Zoom with Mission Network staff to find out about all the enriching growth experiences awaiting volunteers ages 15-22. From international learning trips to domestic service terms, [Youth Venture](#) and [Service Adventure](#) have options for you! **Youth groups (Zoom registration):** [Wednesday, February 7, 8 p.m. Eastern](#); **Individuals and parents (Zoom registration):** [Wednesday, February 21, 8 p.m. Eastern](#). **See options for 2024 in the sidebar.**

AMBS

Seeking a Caterer in Residence. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, is accepting applications for this position to start March 15. The person in this role will be the primary point person for all special dining events at AMBS — planning menus, purchasing groceries and supplies, and preparing and serving meals. Responsibilities include training and supervising kitchen aides and servers, maintaining compliance with Health Department codes, keeping track of inventory, and working with individuals and groups requesting catering. See the full job description: ambs.edu/jobs

Get a seminary education at a distance! Strengthen your leadership skills and deepen your faith — from wherever you are located — through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's MA: Theology and Global Anabaptism (fully online); Master of Divinity Connect (with online and hybrid courses); or a Graduate Certificate program (fully or partially online). We offer generous need-based financial aid, matching grants and scholarships. Apply today! ambs.edu/degrees-and-programs

MCC

Are you a youth who attends a Mennonite high school or an Anabaptist church? This is your opportunity to **express your views in essay format on critical issues facing U.S. society.** Submissions are due Feb. 23, 2024, and may be in English or Spanish. The grand prize is \$1000! [Find out more about the high school essay contest.](#)

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events at Goshen College: Tickets for concerts available at goshen.edu/tickets. Lectures are free.

- **Umble Master Class: “Learning to Use Your Voice Well” by Dr. Allan Rudy-Froese,** February 6, at 7 p.m., Umble Center. Dr. Rudy-Froese is a seminary professor of preaching and a voice coach certified through the Linklater Centre in Scotland. He has been studying voice (for actors, storytellers and speakers of all kinds) for 20 years.
- **Atlee and Winifred Beechy Peace Lectureship: “Tech and Social Transformation: The Best and Worst Impacts of Technology on Peace and Democracy in 2024” by Dr. Lisa Schirch,** February 8, at 7 p.m., Umble Center. A political scientist by training, Schirch earned her Ph.D. in 1989 from George Mason University's Carter Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution and currently directs the Peacetech and Polarization Lab at the University of Notre Dame.
- **Winter Choral Concert,** February 10, 7:30 p.m., Sauder Concert Hall. The **GC Chamber Choir and Vox Profundi** are directed by Scott Hochstetler, professor of music, and **Voices of the Earth** is directed by H. Roz Woll, assistant professor of music.
- Faculty recital featuring **The Sherer Trio,** Feb. 11, at 4 p.m., Rieth Recital Hall. The trio is composed of Goshen College faculty members Solomia Soroka, violin; Matthew Hill, piano; and Dato Machavariani, cello.
- **Explore Goshen Day** for high school students and parents, Union Building Welcome Center at 9 a.m. on Feb. 16. This is a great opportunity for high school students and their parents to join other families for an exciting campus visit day and explore the opportunities at Goshen College. More information available at goshen.edu/visit.
- **64th Annual Concerto-Aria Concert,** February 17, at 7:30 p.m., Sauder Concert Hall. The student winners of the 2023 Goshen College Concerto-Aria Competition will perform arias and individual concerto movements with the Goshen College Symphony Orchestra.

Looking for a way to contribute your talents to the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale? A revamped Crafter's Marketplace is in the works for 2024 and we need your help. Come to a **sewing and crafting workshop** at East Goshen Mennonite Church, 2019 E Lincoln Ave, Goshen on **Saturday, February 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** All items made will be sold at the Relief Sale on Sept. 27-28, 2024. A carry-in lunch is planned so please bring a salad or dessert to share. Main course, coffee, water and table service will be provided. Please **RSVP** to crafting.mmrs@gmail.com by February 16. Hope to meet you!

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.

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

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. See the flier on the bulletin board, or contact Colleen Prough 574-349-1746 or namielkhartcounty@gmail.com for more info.