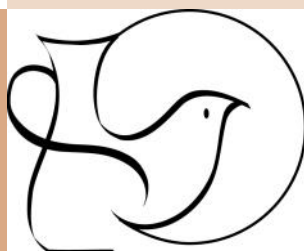


"Students from seven area Mennonite youth groups participated in a demonstration with a blacksmith who turned a gun into a garden tool. Waterford hosted the event on Sunday afternoon."

Photo: Jordan Graber Kauffman



April 21, 2024



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship

10:30 a.m. - Nurture classes for
All ages

Welcome Team

Greeters: Doug & Janette Yoder

Ushers: Ken Otto, Mark King

Douglas Graber

Audiovisuals: Derrick Ramer,

Jeff Claassen

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - Venture Club, JYF
and MYF

Friday

7:00 p.m. - Goshen
Community Chorale Concert
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

Good Morning! Welcome to Waterford!

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader

Mary Ann Wieand, Greeter Coordinator

Each week we are warmly welcomed to church by smiling greeters at the south entrance doors. Our greeters are usually the first contact we, and our guests, have with others at Waterford on a Sunday morning. What do greeters do? Well, they greet. They welcome. They smile. They invite all to come inside and be a part of the gathered community. Greeters can also help answer questions of our guests who come to visit.

The role of the greeter is quite important! Imagine arriving to church on Sunday and us not having greeters? Greeters help us and our guests feel safe and welcomed to our gathered community. A smile and a handshake go a long way to communicate our delight that you have arrived, and we are glad you are here.

We are changing our process of how greeters are scheduled! Now we invite everyone interested in being a greeter to access our google spreadsheet and sign up for the Sunday(s) that you wish to be greeters. Our first open Sunday is June 30th.

You may sign up with your spouse, a friend, one of your children, with your mentor/mentee, etc. Janet in the church office will send you a reminder before your Sunday. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help us be a congregation of welcome and inclusion!

You may access the google sheet here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fRLd0Ydw_QxRiQUvRhUscNV-k0HV-oTcPnu61NyBcjM/edit?usp=sharing

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 220

Nurture hour - 209

Finances – April 14, 2024

Operating Fund \$17,752.75

Mennonite Education \$3330.00

Either Fund \$4250.00

Budget total \$25,332.75

Least Coin Fund \$32.00

MCC - Gaza \$1,000.00

Sharing Fund \$300.00

Two-Way Mission \$300.00

Welcome Spaces \$177.88

Total **\$27,142.63**

*Total giving needed to meet
annual budgeted giving target:*

\$26,058

*Weekly giving needed to meet
annual budgeted giving target:*

\$13,029

Looking Ahead

April 28: Sermon: Jerry Landes;
Biblical character—Moses

(Exodus 2:21-3:6)

May 5: Sermon: Deron

Bergstresser;

Biblical Character-Thomas

(John 20:19-29)

Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team
Leader

On Sabbatical

Linda Short, Interim Pastor
Tuesday, 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

Exciting Worship Plans

Cindy Voth for Worship Ministry Team

I am delighted to share with you what we have planned for the next several months of our communal worship services at Waterford. From April 28th through August 18th we will devote 9 Sundays to look at different biblical characters, 4 Sundays in June to focus on Creation themes, and we will have 4 special stand-alone Sundays – Graduation Sunday, VBS Sunday, hearing from our service trip to MCC Appalachia Build (formerly SWAP) and hearing from my sabbatical.

In this timeframe we will also receive the gift of hearing from a variety of guest preachers while I am away on my sabbatical. Some of our very own WMCers will preach, and we will welcome several guest preachers beyond the congregation.

We look forward to digging into the stories of biblical characters to learn how they experienced God, God's presence, and God's people. As we focus on Creation in June, we will once again worship from our pavilion, in the midst of creation. (We will livestream the service to the inside sanctuary for anyone who needs a climate controlled setting.)

We invite you to join us in opening ourselves to the movement of the Spirit in our midst. What will we learn? How will we be inspired or challenged? How will we encounter our living God? Join us for the journey!

Date	Theme	Preacher
4/28	Moses	Jerry Landes
5/5	Thomas	Deron Bergstresser
5/12	Job	Lyle Miller
5/19	Graduation Sunday – Pentecost	Brent Beck
5/26	Ethiopian Eunuch	Derrick Ramer
6/2	Creation	Deron Bergstresser
6/9	Creation	Luke Gascho
6/16	Creation	Katie Misz
6/23	Creation and Communion	Deron Bergstresser
6/30	VBS – The Early Church	Rachel Miller Jacobs, from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary
7/7	Jacob & Esau	Deron Bergstresser
7/14	David	Jim Gascho
7/21	Hagar	Sharon Yoder, Conference Minister for Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference
7/28	MCC Appalachia Build	MYF and Sponsors
8/4	Martha	Marty Lehman, WMC Congregational Coach
8/11	Jeremiah	Deron Bergstresser
8/18	Sabbatical Reflections, Psalm 23	Cindy Voth

Waterford Announcements

Linda Short, Interim Pastoral Team Member – Linda begins her interim role this week as Pastor Cindy begins her sabbatical renewal leave. Linda will be in the office at church (Cindy's office) on Tuesdays & Thursdays. You can contact her at lindashort48@gmail.com or (419) 551-6244.

The **Goshen Community Chorale** will perform their Arbor Day concert "Canopy: Songs of Shelter and Resilience" on Friday, April 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. here at Waterford. The concert features original songs by Sadie Gustafson-Zook, and choral pieces both refreshing and reflective. You will leave this concert with a sense of hope and appreciation for the world we all share. A number of WMCers are members of the choir.

Our **spring congregational meeting** will be Sunday, May 5, at 1:00 p.m., immediately following our potluck meal. Last week, there was a packet of budget materials in your mailbox that will be discussed and voted on in the meeting. This week, you will find the meeting agenda and a ballot. If you will not be able to attend the meeting, you may vote absentee by marking your ballot and placing it in the basket outside the office door.

Stop by the participation station table to see **photos** from last Sunday's **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** activity.

Opportunities

Assembly Mennonite Church is seeking a **part-time administrative assistant**. This role includes responsibility for the congregation's information management and some program support within 15 hours of work weekly. Required qualifications include computer proficiency and/or aptitude, effective communication, and organizational skills. A full job description can be found [here](#). Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to Scott Coulter (scottc@assemblymennonite.org).

Pathways Retreat is offering a variety of contemplative experiences in the coming months: Transition Journeys, God's Wonderful Creatures (a clay experience for children), Zentangle-inspired Art, and weekly yoga. Stations of the Resurrection are available at Pathways and online until May 19. Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org. Here is the [link](#) to our monthly newsletter.

Thank You

Waterford Friends,

Thank you so much for your willingness to host the choir from Shalom last weekend! I know it was no small ask! The event felt like a great success and visiting students commented that they had a great time. I deeply appreciate the big part you played in making the weekend meaningful for them. Thanks again!

Blessings to you all,

Abbe Buller,
Bethany Christian School

MCUSA

Mennonite Church USA is pleased to announce that the **2025 MC USA biennial national gathering** and leading faith formation event, Follow Jesus '25, will take place July 8-12, 2025, at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina. Shé Langley was named the new director of event planning. Read more here mennoniteusa.org/convention-details-director

Mennonite Church USA's Climate Justice Ministry is receiving applications for the **Pam De Young Net Zero Energy Fund grant**, from now through June 15, 2024. The Pam De Young Net Zero Energy Fund provides funds to assist MC USA congregations interested in forms of renewable energy. The term, "net zero energy," describes buildings or communities that generate enough energy to meet their own needs. Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/green-energy-grants

Spiritual director **Lester Lind** of the Mennonite Spiritual Directors Network reflects on the beginning of his calling and career as he prepares to retire. Read his reflections here: mennoniteusa.org/reflections-calling-career

Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, Mennonite Church USA's climate justice coordinator, visited West Union Mennonite Church, Parnell, Iowa, and spoke about climate change. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/rivels

AMBS

Take a summer course at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary!

Courses run in May, June and July. Both distance-friendly and in-person courses are available. Topics include Christian Leadership in the 21st Century, Biblical Storytelling and more. Nonadmitted students get 50% off their first three credit hours! Register by April 29.

ambs.edu/upcoming-courses

Develop skills for holistic leadership!

AMBS'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

MDS

The April edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Kevin King shares a truly uplifting story of MDS work in Maryland, volunteers are transforming lives in Mississippi, and long-time project in Jennings, Louisiana comes to a close. Plus, check out the volunteer opportunities for this summer and fall. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3UjUriu>

Upcoming Events

Interested in a family event for Earth Day? Consider coming to the Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount at AMBS (3003 Benham Ave, Elkhart), on April 21, at 6:00 p.m. to **watch the documentary, [All that Breathes](#)**. This award-winning film highlights two brothers from Delhi, India who run a wildlife hospital and specialize in saving birds. You'll also learn a bit about [Anabaptist Climate Collaborative](#) and have a chance to purchase items from The Green Bee.

Want to help plant trees along the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail? As part of their JoinTrees campaign to plant one million trees for climate action, Mennonite Men is planning to plant native shrubs and trees 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 27. This is for kids and adults of any gender. If you can help with adding beauty, shade, and habitat along this nature trail, contact Steve Thomas at 574-202-0048 or SteveT@Mennonites.org.

Goshen College's **Combined Senior Art Exhibit** will run from April 27-29 in the Music Center's Hershberger Art Gallery. The combined senior art exhibit will feature senior art majors Sarah Corbitt (paintings), Anna Myers (ceramics), Jackelyn Resendiz Palos (pattern designs), Shayne Wassell (graphic design), Saige Lind (ceramics), Anna Kauffman (drawings) and Annika Alderfer Fisher (drawings).

Sewing and Crafting Workshop: Looking for a way to contribute your talents to the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale? A revamped Crafter's Marketplace is in the works for this year and we need your help. Come to a sewing and crafting workshop at East Goshen Mennonite Church, 2019 E. Lincoln Ave, Goshen on Saturday, May 4 from 10-3. Everything needed for these projects has been donated and all items made will be sold at the Relief Sale (Sept 27-28, 2024). Taco Salad will be provided so bring a snack, side dish or dessert to share for lunch. Please RSVP to tocrafting.mmrs@gmail.com by April 29 or email if you have questions. We hope you or your church groups are working on your own projects to donate. Feel free to bring your projects along to work on.

AMBS Trees of Life Retreat: May 31 – June 1 (Friday at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary; Saturday at Camp Friedenswald). This retreat led by Janeen Bertsche Johnson, MDiv, and Steve Thomas, MDiv, will weave together study of biblical texts about trees; understanding of trees as organisms and within ecosystems; ecological issues; and spiritual practices. The retreat can be taken for one hour of academic credit (\$596 total) or as a noncredit retreat (\$130 total). Both costs include lunch on Friday and Saturday and use of the camp. (Lodging is not included.) Register by May 24. ambs.edu/trees

Reserve the dates of Friday, June 7, 2024 from 7-10 p.m. and Saturday, June 8, 2024 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. for the 2024 **Puerto Rico Menno Reunion**. The reunion will take place at Greencroft Goshen Community Center. This event promises to be spectacular with Puerto Rican music, updates about some of the projects started by the Mennonites and a wonderful potluck lunch with your favorite Puerto Rican recipes. Please feel free to spread the word.