



June 30, 2024



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Elective classes for all ages
12:00 p.m. - Potluck hosted by the Open Door and MYF classes

Welcome Team

Greeters: Jerry & Joyce Troyer
Ushers: LaVon Short, Ken Otto, Douglas Graber
Audiovisuals: Colin Berkey, Shawn Stutzman

This Week at Waterford

Thursday - Office Closed
Zoom prayers
Monday - 8:30 a.m.
Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

Waterford Mennonite Church

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Seekers Class

Jim Gascho

It has been said that occasionally someone at Waterford is seeking a nurture hour class, at times new attenders. The assumption? If they're seeking, they must be looking for the Seekers Class! If this has any validity, it might attribute something to the reason for the size of the class. Even with the large size, we welcome new attenders.

Seekers is a good name for this class. We tend to be in our 60's to 80's, mostly retired, some single, others who have lost their spouse, and married couples. We seem to be at that stage of life where age gives a certain amount of openness to explore new ways of looking at things and an effort to believe not everyone must see and understand things just the way we do. Together we seek to challenge each other in expanding our thinking and find ways to encourage each other in our ongoing walk with God, seeking to understand Him and His ways more fully.

We do our "seeking" through various methods. Book studies that challenge our way of thinking or deepen our understanding may be led by class members. Other study and discussion material may be focused on subjects, such as the history and plight of Indigenous peoples, climate and justice issues, aging issues, and occasionally the uniform series quarterly. Class discussion can be a challenge with the size of class, but there seems to be no lack of discussion. Occasionally smaller breakout groups may focus on a question or two of the day.

Social interaction is important to the class. Monthly gatherings are planned by various class members, and may include a potluck meal after class, gathering in smaller groups for a meal in various homes,

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 164

Nurture hour - 129

Finances – June 23, 2024

Operating Fund	\$12,397.50
Mennonite Education	\$250.00
Either Fund	\$2,270.00
<i>Budget total</i>	<i>\$14,917.50</i>
Sharing Fund	\$909.00
Jubilee Fund	\$60.00
VBS	\$20.00
Welcome Spaces	\$300.00
Total	\$16,206.50

Looking Ahead

July 7: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Jacob & Esau
(Genesis 28:10-16)

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.

Out of Office

Katie Misz - July 1-7

Office hours this week

Monday, Wednesday,
9-12, 1-3

Tuesday, Friday 9-12
CLOSED Thursday, July 4

Greeter signup: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fRLd0Ydw_QxRiQUvRhUscNV-k0HV-oTcPnu61NyBcjM/edit?usp=sharing

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Janet Shoemaker, Editor
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games, hymn sings, attending a concert, etc. Every other year in May, we gather for a weekend retreat at Amigo Centre. On the off year some other kind of weekend retreat is planned. This could be a bird watching weekend on the shores of Lake Erie, or a day at Potato Creek State Park, or a weekend in Indianapolis. Once a month the men meet for breakfast and the women gather for lunch at a restaurant.

During COVID, we adopted the zoom method of meeting. When in-person gathering was possible, we continued to zoom from class for those who may not have felt comfortable meeting in person or who could not come for medical reasons. The class found the hybrid model, in-person as well as zoom, very helpful as we realized many in our class travel, especially in the winter months. This allowed staying in touch with the class much easier. The class raised the funds to purchase upgraded equipment to enhance the hybrid model.

Recording of the zoom is started after the time of sharing and prayer at the beginning of the class. Class sharing notes and announcements are sent to all every Sunday by email. A separate email is available for other interaction between class members which may be updates on health needs, prayer concerns during the week, or even a good dose of humor.

A high percentage of the class is involved in volunteer work within the community. The DEPOT tops the list, but Center for Healing and Hope, the Window, schools, Greencroft, and Ten Thousand Villages receive much needed help from this group of retirees.

Our class is organized with a class coordinator and assistant, male and female class shepherds and assistants, and a curriculum committee of three who serve on a three-year rotation.

VBS

This is the Way: The Underground Church now!

Photos by Mariko Claassen

Vacation Bible School met Tuesday through Friday mornings this past week. After each morning opening assembly, the children passed through a time travel curtain (right) to the first century Roman Empire and learn about the Christians meeting at that time. Following are photos of different parts of



their experience each day. One of those was a letter from the apostle Paul sent to one of the churches. At left, Lena Claassen opens the mailbox for the day's letter. Thank you to Galen Kauffmann for lending a new mailbox from the Depot for this purpose!



Worship: Learning the memory verse; reading a passage from Acts; the Holy Spirit gives Paul new sight; singing.



Experiencing the early church: lessons in the secret cave; prisoners planning their escape



Tent Building



MCUSA

Having grown up in Texas, **Hannah Koester**, an attendee at Pasadena Mennonite Church, felt distant from China — her birth country — and her cultural heritage. Her Mennonite faith has helped her feel safe to explore what it means to be Chinese. Read more here:

mennoniteusa.org/finding-cultural-heritage

Jenna Liechty Martin, executive director at Camp Friedenswald in Cassopolis, Michigan identifies what makes camp such a special place for faith formation. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/camp-life-changing

AMBS

Visit Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Schedule a personal visit (either in person or online) to learn about how our affordable on-campus and distance-friendly programs can prepare you to lead effectively and live faithfully — wherever God calls you. Contact us to learn more about the AMBS experience: ambs.edu/visit

MDS

The June edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: The MDS Cabinet Shop celebrates a new warehouse, the Peace Academic Center gets an unexpected boost and a bridge opens access to more than 25 families. Sign up to volunteer this summer and fall. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/3RuHArk>

The Market: creative activities; games; Mediterranean foods



Waterford Announcements

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, August 18

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

This Sunday

- We will move back **inside** for our worship service.
- Join us this week in the **Fun in the Sun class** for a slip 'n slide down the hill to the wetland. This is to celebrate the end of Bible School and also for any who want to cool off and have fun!
- The **Drumming as Prayer elective** will meet in the sanctuary to accompany the hymnsinging.
- There will be a **potluck** hosted by the Open Door class and the MYF following the nurture hour. You are invited to bring a dish or two to share—remember, hot dishes in crockpots—and your own tableware.

Beginning next week, adult classes are welcome to meet as usual. The nurture wing classes will be off for the month of July. Children and youth are welcome to join with adult classes.