



July 14, 2024



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour
9:30 a.m. - MYF departs for service trip

Welcome Team

Greeters: Dan & Diane Bodiker
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto, Denise Diener
Audiovisuals: Glen Kauffmann, Shawn Stutzman

This Week at Waterford

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. - MLC / FH

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. - Haystacks & Games

Thursday

7:00 p.m. - WMT / Mtg Rm

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

Sharing about Nurture Hour Classes and Small Groups

Sheldon Swartz, for Spiritual Formation Ministry Team

As a Spiritual Formation and Nurture Ministry Team we have decided to feature Sunday School classes and small groups at WMC in the Waterford Buzz over the next months. (You may have noticed the description of the Seeker's class in the June 30 Buzz.) The purpose is to familiarize our church with these groups as a way of feeling more connected, as well as make people more aware of what other groups in the congregation are doing and sharing ideas to enrich group time. This also may be helpful for persons looking for a class or small group to become a part of.

Agape Class

Rachael Hochstedler

We are all in our 70's and 80's, 75% couples and 25% singles. We like that we are not afraid to think outside the box. We bring our wisdom and questions from our life's experiences, often giving us a wide range of opinions. We value the ways we care for each other. And we welcome anyone who would want to join our class, even if they are younger than 70!

The leaders of our class prompt us to make decisions regarding curriculum and other items that church leadership bring to us. Decisions are made collaboratively. In addition to using Salt & Light materials, we have done book studies such as *The Land is Not Empty* by Sarah Augustine, *The Bible Unwrapped* by Meghan Larissa Good, and

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 180

Nurture hour - 126

Finances – July 14, 2024

Operating Fund	\$7,365.25
Mennonite Education	\$1,550.00
Either Fund	\$3,164.00
<i>Budget total</i>	<i>\$12,079.25</i>
Sharing Fund	\$300.00
Jubilee Fund	\$125.00
Welcome Spaces	\$1,000.00
Total	\$13,504.25

Looking Ahead

July 21: Sermon: Sharon Yoder;
Hagar

(Genesis 16:1-16)

July 28: MYF Service Trip

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 17-23

Deron Bergstresser - July 14-19

Office hours this week

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
9-12, 1-3

Tuesday, Friday 9-12

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

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

more. We participated in the Anabaptist 500 Bible Interpretations project. We took a field trip to Ferris University to tour their museum featuring how American advertising used and abused advertising in ways that were racist.

We spend New Year's Eve together, partying and then praying together to welcome in the new year.

The men meet for breakfast every Tuesday morning at Angel's House of Pancakes and the women will get together periodically for "tea". At our age we are dealing with health challenges, including driving after dark.

Anyone is welcome to sit in with us any time!

Support for Ben and Laurel Breckbill and Paris Mennonite Center (MMN)

Deron Bergstresser, for Mission & Service Ministry Team

You are invited to support the upcoming ministry in collaboration with the [Paris Mennonite Center](#), [Ben and Laurel Woodward-Breckbill](#), and Mennonite Mission Network.

Ben has been a pastor at Shalom Mennonite Church in Newton, while Laurel has been both Executive Director of OVM (formerly Offender/Victim Ministries) and Restorative Schools Initiative coordinator for the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR). Ben is a grandson of former Waterford members Bill and Ina Ruth Breckbill.

The Paris Mennonite Center studies, promotes and teaches the history and thought of Mennonite churches and of Christian churches in general. One of their programs is to teach theological and conflict transformation concepts throughout French-speaking Europe and Africa (the Francophone network).

Ben and Laurel and their two children will be traveling to Paris, France this August, 2024, to participate and lead in this transformative gospel driven work. For this two-year term, financial commitments of about \$200,000 are needed before this valuable work can begin.

So far, they have raised \$68,500. Waterford is planning to donate \$1000 through our Mission and Service Ministry Team. Individuals and families are also invited to give. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so by filling out the following form: [MST Partnership Form - Formstack](#).

On the following page are two appeals we recently received to help relieve some of the suffering in our world. While either of these may be something an individual feels called to respond to, they could also be taken on by a Sunday school class or some other group as a shared project. Both emails included letters which were sent as attachments in the July 12 church email and a printed copy of each letter is posted on the mission bulletin board by the library.

Appeal on Behalf of Those Sheltering in Gaza City Churches

Fellowship of Hope Mennonite Church in Elkhart, Indiana and other friends of the Gaza YMCA are raising money for food supplies to support over 600 people currently sheltering in two churches in Gaza City. Read more in a letter on the mission bulletin board by the library.

Appeal to assist Ukrainian refugees coming to Elkhart County

We have an opportunity to help families fleeing the war in Ukraine. Pasha Kakurin, who lives in our area, is working to settle Ukrainian refugee families in the area. To do that, they must be sponsored by an American citizen or organization. In an email letter, he first tells his own story, then describes the sponsoring process. See the mission bulletin board by the library for a copy of his letter.

Waterford Announcements

Did you know that **school kits are MCC's most requested item**? As you may recall, last year MCC put out the challenge to make 10,000 kits in August. The response far surpassed the goal. This year the challenge is 24,000. In 2023, our congregation contributed 201 kits! There will be bags and content lists on the table near the mailboxes as usual. Also we will have a box of metal pencil sharpeners that you may use. The school supply sales will soon begin. Thank you!

Peace Delegation with Mennonite Action: Are you interested or planning to join the peace witness this month with Mennonite Action from Harrisonburg to Washington DC? We are interested in sending a delegation from Waterford. If you are considering attending the protest, contact Pastor Katie at your earliest convenience for information and opportunities for our church to send you with prayer and financial support.

Upcoming Events

Semilla Seminary Update: There will be an Ice Cream Social at Assembly Mennonite Church, Goshen, on Sunday, July 14, 1:30-3:00 p.m. Come celebrate SEMILLA, including an update on the new degree program in Cuba, by Jerry Kennell, SEMILLA North American Ambassador. Please RSVP by July 10 to ambassadors@semillagt.org. If interested, you are also welcome to attend Jerry's presentation/message at Assembly Mennonite at 9:30 a.m., that Sunday morning.

Mennonite Action Prayers at College Mennonite Church Chapel on Tuesday, July 16, from 12 noon to 1 p.m., will include times of prayer in song, spoken prayer, silence, scripture, and candle lighting. In addition to praying for peace in Gaza and throughout the world, we will pray for the Mennonite Action march from Virginia to Washington DC, and for the activities in Washington between July 28 and 30, which will include joining a multifaith coalition to peacefully call for a permanent ceasefire. See (<https://www.mennoniteaction.org/>) for more information about joining in this peaceful witness.

MCUSA

Mennonite Church USA's Women in Leadership Steering Committee recently bid farewell to two of the founding members, Linda Gehman Peachey and Erica Littlewolf, after more than a decade of service. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/wil-founding

Camille Dager shares highlights from "My Life Story," the **autobiography of James Liu**. The memoir is part of the MC USA Archives' Mennonite World Conference collection. Read her blog here: mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/james-liu

Veronica Horst has spent the past six months traveling the country and **living on communal farms**. One thing that all the farms they have spent time on have in common is an abundance mentality and the desire to share the fruits of their labor. Read their blog here: mennoniteusa.org/symbiosis-communal-farming

Pathways Retreat

Pathways Retreat will be offering a variety of programs and reflection groups this Fall including Inner Soul Groups for clergy and people experiencing transitions, Zentangle meditative practice, Enneagram workshop, Nature and Narrative, and a "We are the Great Turning Podcast" group. Learn more information at pathwaysretreat.org.

AMBS

Anabaptist Witness 11.1, “Mission and Peace in Ethiopia.” The articles in this issue of *Anabaptist Witness* — guest edited by Henok T. Mekonin, MA, and James R. Krabill, PhD, Interim Managing Editor — are organized in two sections. The first focuses on mission and peace efforts in the broader context of the Ethiopian nation, and the second focuses more specifically on Meserete Kristos Church (MKC) history and perspectives. Proceeds from the print edition — available for purchase on Amazon — will support MKC programs. The free online version will be available in November 2024. Learn more and buy a print copy: anabaptistwitness.org

MCC

Seek is a six-month (January to July) Christian discipleship program **in Cambodia** for Christian young adults, aged 18-20, to explore, engage, and reflect more deeply on what it means to be an Anabaptist follower of Jesus in a complicated world.

MCC is accepting applications now until August 31. Learn about Seek [here](#).

We are marching in the light of God. July 18-28, Mennonite Action calls for Mennonites, Christians, and friends of Mennonite to march from Harrisonburg, VA to Washington, DC across a 10 day, 140 mile march. Together, we will use our bodies and voices to bring our message of peace through the hills of Virginia and to the halls of power. [Learn how to join and support in our march toolkit.](#)

Parents and grandparents: Consider Amigo’s MDS Family Camp, July 21-25. A family camp for children ages 4 and up to participate in age appropriate construction projects alongside their parents or grandparents. Each day includes work projects and fun camp activities. Meals provided, lodging in West Shore Lodge. \$140 for ages 16 and up, \$110 for ages 4-15. See orange flyer on the bulletin board for more details and contact information.

Center for Healing and Hope is seeking **volunteers to help make Muchas Mochilas and Festival of Hope a success.** We need help packing backpacks and assembling resource folders on July 24, and we need help on site at Festival of Hope on July 27. Join us! To sign up please go to https://chhclinics.org/volunteer/?blm_aid=22827

Celebrate our community at the 4th annual **Festival of Hope**, July 27, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Goshen Brewing Company. Live music, taco truck, ice cream truck, Makers Market, local nonprofits, children’s activities, and more! FREE to attend and all are welcome. Donate online or onsite to help Center for Healing & Hope raise \$25,000 for 25 years of service! All donations support the affordable healthcare and immigrant advocacy programs of CHH. Sponsorships available. Email Daniel at dtackett@chhclinics.org to become a sponsor of this great community event!

Plan to attend the **Relief Sale Banquet**, Tuesday, August 20 at the Essenhaus Inn and Conference Center in Middlebury. Sponsor a table of eight for \$290, purchase an individual ticket for \$40, or donate to support the sale if you can’t attend. Download the registration form from the Relief Sale website: mennonitesale.org. Registration deadline is August 2.

More Quilts are needed. Bless others and the work of MCC with your donation to the 2024 Quilt Auction at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale. Comforters and quilts of all sizes, quilted wall-hangings, plus knitted or crocheted afghans are all needed. See the website for how to register your item at <https://www.mennonitesale.org/quilt-auction>. Registration ends August 25. For more information contact Gail Shetler, 574-333-7142.

Opportunities

[Racial Justice Pilgrimage: South Africa](#), October 15-28, 2024. 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.

Seeking an Administrative Assistant for the Anabaptist Thriving Congregations Grant. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, is accepting applications for this 0.5 to 0.75 FTE position. The person in this role will provide support for a program that will train pastors and lay leaders to lead their congregations in a process of investigating their context, facilitating innovative Bible study and guiding group discernment. The program and position are funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. and will end after five years. See the full job description: ambs.edu/jobs