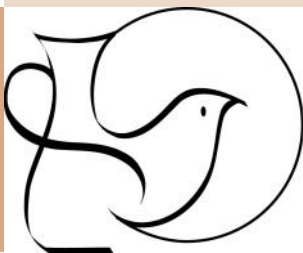




September 8, 2024



# The Waterford Buzz

## **This Sunday**

9:00 a.m. - Worship  
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour

## **Welcome Team**

Greeters: Carla Miller,  
Karen Thompson  
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken  
Otto, Denise Diener  
Audiovisuals: Glen Kauffmann,  
Jordan Kauffman

## **This Week at Waterford**

### *Wednesday*

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

### *Thursday*

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

### *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

## **Meet Vernard and Florence Guengerich**



Attending Waterford again is like coming back home. We attended Waterford from July 1968 thru September 1970 which at that time was meeting in the library of the original BCHS structure. I well remember the excitement when it was said over the pulpit, “For x number of Sundays in a row now the average attendance has been x so now we can move ahead with plans for construction of a meeting house on the land we already own.” It is good to see a

number of people that are still part of the congregation now that were a part then. It also makes us realize how long ago that was when in the recent baptismal service there was a child and a grandchild whose parent or grandparent was a child or teenager back then.

We left Waterford with its blessings to move to rural Sault Ste Marie in the UP of Mich. There Vernard became bi-vocational Pastor of Wayside Mennonite Church. One time Waterford sent several carloads of men to help remodel the church basement. Another time a carload came to help remodel part of our house. For three or four years several Waterford families came to help with VBS. Pastor Elno Steiner came up to preach at Vernard’s ordination service.

Vernard was born in Denver, Colo. and grew up in various locations in Colo. Florence was born near Pellston in upper part of lower Mich. Her family moved down here to Southwest when she was in grade school.

See **Guengerich** on page 3

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 197

Nurture hour - 198

### Finances – September 1, 2024

Operating Fund \$7,556.00

Mennonite Education \$860.00

Either Fund \$5,190.00

*Budget Total* \$13,606.00

Two-Way Mission 75.00

**Total \$13,681.00**

### Looking Ahead

September 15: Sermon:

Jocelyne Ahoga; Peace with

God: Abiding in Jesus

(John 15:1-17)

September 22: Sermon: Germain

Dossou; Peace with God:

God's Presence Brings Peace

(Psalm 139:1-18)

### Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team

Leader

Monday - 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

**Greeter signup:** [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fRLd0Ydw\\_QxRiQUvRhUscNV-k0HV-oTcPnu61NyBcjM/edit?gid=0#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fRLd0Ydw_QxRiQUvRhUscNV-k0HV-oTcPnu61NyBcjM/edit?gid=0#gid=0)

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](mailto:buzz@waterfordchurch.org)

## New in the WMC Library

*Radicals & Reformers: A Survey of Global Anabaptist History*, by Troy Osborne. In this engaging history, *Radicals and Reformers* traces the origins and developments of the Anabaptist and Mennonite movements from their beginnings in Europe through their spread across the globe. Osborne reflects on the ways that Anabaptists have defined their identity in new settings and in response to new theological, intellectual, geographic, and political contexts. It is the fruit of extensive research and well-balanced analysis.

*The Cherished Table*, by Lovina Eicher. Best selling cookbook author and food columnist Lovina Eicher shares well-loved recipes and heartwarming stories about life with her growing family and community. Beautiful photographs are included.

*Prodigal Gospel: Getting Lost and Found Again in the Good News*, by Jonny Morrison and Meghan Larissa Good. Morrison invites us on a journey to help us find ourselves and Jesus in the welcoming arms of this familiar parable. Along the way we discover the radically inclusive power of the gospel.

*The New Anabaptists: Practices for Emerging Communities*, by Stuart Murray. A new incarnation of Anabaptism is emerging, but not where we might expect. In the U.K.—a post Christendom context with little historical Anabaptist presence—Christian communities are embodying fresh expressions of Anabaptist faith and practice. In this companion to “The Naked Anabaptist,” Murray identifies 12 common practices of such churches and communities that are shaped by an Anabaptist vision.

*Hebrews Believers Church Bible Commentary*, by Debra J. Bucher and Estella Boggs Horning. This readable commentary series is for all who seek more fully to understand the original message of scripture, and its meaning for today.

## Refugee Update

*David Gingerich*

The July 28 Buzz announced that two Ukrainian families were being sponsored by Waterford members. These families will be arriving soon: the Kondratiuk family, hosted by Mel and Lorna Claassen, will arrive on Sept. 10, and the Prykhodko family, hosted by David and Marge Gingerich, will arrive on Sept. 14.

Since the initial announcement, several other Waterford families have begun the application process for sponsoring Ukrainian families. In addition several Waterford families had previously applied to sponsor Haitian families, which has turned out to be a much lengthier process than for Ukrainian families.

We invite prayers for all involved—both those who are arriving soon and those who are still waiting.

## Guengerich (cont. from page 1)

Vernard graduated from what is now University of Northern Colorado in 1963 with a BA in Business. He completed a one-year course of study at Multnomah School of the Bible in 1968. Florence received her LPN license from LaJunta Mennonite School of Practical Nursing in Colorado in 1961.

Vernard and Florence were married July 16, 1966, in Glenwood Springs, Colo. They had four children—Larry, Mark, Jay, Lisa. Larry and family live near Lancaster, Pa., and have two boys—a senior and a freshman in high school. Mark and family live near Denver, Colo., and have two girls—a freshman and a 7th grader. Jay was never married and lives in Valparaiso, Ind. Lisa was married to Merle Detweiler and lived near Glenwood Springs, Colo. She died instantly in an accident there on 11/10/2022.

Florence retired after 18 years as an LPN in Greencroft Healthcare in May 2000. Vernard retired after 22 years as Accounts Payable Coordinator at Greencroft in September 2006. In May 2007 he retired as a bi-vocational Pastor of Holdeman Mennonite Church following 17 years as part of 3 different Pastoral teams.

Florence and Vernard live in a duplex at Greencroft since July of 2016. We like reading, doing puzzles, playing Scrabble, and volunteering.

## Waterford Announcements

**During the Nurture hour this Sunday, Tareq Abuhallima, a Palestinian from Gaza,** will share his story and reflections of his experiences since the Israel/Gaza war started last year. Anyone interested to hear him is invited to join the Seekers' class in the sanctuary.

**Mennonite Women** is coming up on Thursday, September 12. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Bring a dish to share if you plan to stay for lunch. We hope you do! We always invite all office staff that are working that day to join us. By 2:00 most of us leave. If you have a project you are doing on your own for MCC (perhaps for the Relief Sale) you can bring it and simply enjoy the fellowship.

**Meal hosting for BBI guests.** Meal hosting is a good way to learn to know our Beninese guests beyond a Sunday morning sermon and for them to learn to know some of our church family. There is a signup sheet at the Participation station on which can choose a date and time to provide a meal. You may also sign up at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1w9s6skF90udkXHR6zxl6Ak6LIQdPQp3EPuhR1o8AXZY/edit?usp=sharing>. Contact Denise Diener with questions.

**Check out the table by the library** to see what Waterford is involved with at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale in September. There will be several signup sheets for helping with sales at different booths.

**It's My Coins Count time again!** Your collections will help provide clean water to families around the world through Mennonite Central Committee and its partners. Families are **invited to bring coins** for the MyCC bottle at church, which will be located outside the main doors leading into the sanctuary. You can also support the drive by offering to match the amount collected by WMC.

## Mennonite Church USA

**Virginia Mennonite Conference reaffirmed its relationship with Mennonite Church USA** at its 2024 Summer Delegate Assembly. Read the full story by June Miller here: [mennoniteusa.org/virginia-to-remain](https://mennoniteusa.org/virginia-to-remain)

On September 16, 2024, at 7 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT, join presenter **Ross Erb**, associate director of the Collins Center, and host **Nancy Kauffmann**, interim denominational minister of Church Safety, for an **informational webinar on the vital importance of recognizing possible signs of grooming that lead to abuse.** Grooming often goes undetected until abuse has caused significant harm and damage. With years of experience in dealing with this issue, Ross will help us better understand what grooming is, how to identify it, and how to prevent it. Register here: [mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-sept-registration](https://mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-sept-registration) View the PDF here: [mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-sept-webinar-pdf](https://mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-sept-webinar-pdf) View the PowerPoint slide here: [mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-sept-webinar-slide](https://mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-sept-webinar-slide)

**Doug Luginbill reflects on a Mennonite Mission Network Civil Rights learning tour** that he took with Central District Conference earlier this year. During this tour, he learned the broader meaning of "potlikker," a word he and his siblings used during their youth. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/potlikker](https://mennoniteusa.org/potlikker)

## AMBS

**Free lecture: How to Challenge Christian Nationalism: Building Peace in an Age of Extremism: Tuesday, Oct. 8, 7–8 p.m.** at Kern Road Mennonite Church, 18211 Kern Road, South Bend, Indiana. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary Associate Professor Drew Strait, PhD, will share insights from his new book, *Strange Worship: Six Steps for Challenging Christian Nationalism*. Learn about why Christian nationalism is a threat to democracy and the church's witness, and how faith communities can counter it. The event will be livestreamed, and a book signing will follow. Learn more: [ambs.edu/challenge-christian-nationalism](https://ambs.edu/challenge-christian-nationalism)

### Thank You!

Hurrah! Many of you stepped up to the MCC School Kit challenge! We transported 207 bags to the Mennonite Resource Center. THANK YOU for taking time for this project!

## Upcoming Community Events

Thursday, Sept. 12: **Frank and Betty Jo Yoder Public Affairs Lecture, 7 p.m.**, Reith Recital Hall. **Dr. Antonio Flores, president & CEO of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities**, will give his speech, "The Relevance of Hispanic-Serving Institutions in the Midwest and at Goshen College." Flores has held this role since 1996. In it, he has served as chair and member of various national higher education associations and coalitions and received numerous honors for his contributions to higher education, including honorary doctorates from numerous universities.

Bethany Christian Schools is excited to begin this school year as a full K–12 education option for local families! Community members are warmly welcomed to **tour Bethany's new lower school wing** on Friday evening, September 13, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**Goshen's 4th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival** will be held on Saturday, September 14, at PowerHouse Park at W. Washington St. (behind the Hawks building next to the Millrace) from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Come and enjoy food from Mexico, Central America, and South America. Two folkloric dance groups will perform their dances and Goshen College's very own mariachi group will perform. There will be opportunities to learn about Hispanic culture through various cultural activities. For more information, contact Gilberto Perez, Jr. at [bvdonetwork@gmail.com](mailto:bvdonetwork@gmail.com).

The **Good Library Gallery at Goshen College** will host "**God's Eye**," an exhibit of paintings by **Chad Friesen**, running from Sept. 8 through Nov. 17, 2024. The exhibit features the vibrant and deeply personal works of Friesen (1967-2013), a self-taught artist who overcame physical disabilities to produce a prolific body of work that includes over 1,000 paintings. The Gallery will hold a public reception at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15, to celebrate the opening of the exhibit.

**Mary K. Oyer Tribute: Organ Recital and Hymn Sing: Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024, 4 p.m.** Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary will host this event in honor of Mary Oyer, DMA, who served as Professor of Church Music at AMBS for 10 years and is remembered for her creative workshops and energetic hymn leading in addition to her influence on the music of the Mennonite Church. Organist Shirley Sprunger King and song leaders Beverly Lapp and Rebecca Slough will lead some of the hymns that Mary marked in her copy of *Hymnal: A Worship Book*. The event will be held at the AMBS Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount, 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana. All are invited! [ambs.edu/oyer-tribute](https://ambs.edu/oyer-tribute)

**Jared Nally, Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma** will give a presentation on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at 1:15 p.m. at Eighth Street Mennonite Church. Presentation topics will include Miami history, the impact of European settlement, the forced removal to Oklahoma, contemporary Miami life, the work of culture and language recovery. There will be time for discussing roles for white settlers who are committed to seeking healing and repair. Contact Eileen Saner with questions and to register. [eksaner@gmail.com](mailto:eksaner@gmail.com) 574-206-5752.

**MCC Relief Sale** is looking for people to **help with kids activities** on Friday evening and Saturday morning. Anyone 12 years or older can sign up to run a game booth, help with train rides, teach kids how to knot a comforter, make a hygiene kit, or share stories about how the work of MCC helps people all around the world! Kids under the age of 12 are welcome to run a game with the help of an adult. Sign up at [Signup Genius 2024 Relief Sale Children's Activities](https://ambs.edu/sign-up-genius-2024-relief-sale-childrens-activities) or use this QR code to access the site.

