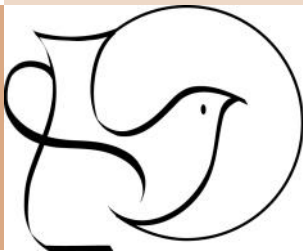




October 20, 2024



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour
10:30 a.m. - New attenders
meet & greet in Sanctuary

Welcome Team

Greeters: John, Diana, Jeff
Hershberger
Ushers: Ken Otto, Douglas
Graber, LaVon Short
Audiovisuals: Shawn Stutzman
Steve Fath

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday
7:00 p.m. - MYF
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

Visual thoughts

Loanne Harms

When thinking about the visual for “Seeking Peace Together” God was central to that image. I believe God is full of love, compassion, grace and forgiveness, a true embodiment and source of peace. Over the years I have come to envision God as light and warmth, often as a comforting hug that surrounds me like a cloud. For this visual, then, I have placed a lighted candle—a source of light and warmth—in the center to represent the light and love of God’s peace. This is within a sheer blanket, full of yet more light representing the mystery, yet comforting presence surrounding God’s peace.

I wanted a visual that basically stayed the same—God’s presence and peace is central to all four of the series themes—but that had small changes for each theme. We started with “Peace with God.” Simply, the lights and swirls of airy cloth represented our central belief that God brings and embodies peace.

The introduction of the two hands led us into the second part of this series, “Peace Within.” The hands were created by Arianna Pérez Diener, Anna Smucker, and me quite a few years ago for an Advent visual. Here they sheltered the light of God within their embrace as scripture and sermon guided us to think about the peace of heart and mind that comes with trusting in God’s presence and love.

Those hands now open to “Peace with Others.” Still staying close to the presence of God’s love and light, we now engage with community as peacemakers, forgiving, listening, and responding in difficult relationships and circumstances with love and creativity. Although a simple visual, the work of peace with others remains difficult. (Maybe

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 213

Nurture hour - 205

Finances – October 13, 2024

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Operating Fund | \$6,945.00 |
| Mennonite Education | \$6,570.00 |
| Either Fund | \$13,055.00 |
| Budget Total | \$26,570.00 |
| Least Coin | \$41.00 |
| Welcome Spaces | \$200.00 |
| Sharing Fund | \$350.00 |
| Two-Way Mission | \$50.00 |
| BBI Pig Pen Roof | \$1,000.00 |
| Gaza relief | \$1,000.00 |
| Total | \$29,211.00 |

Looking Ahead

October 27: Sermon: Katie Misz;

Peace With Others:

Act Creatively

(1 Samuel 25:1-35)

November 3: Sermon: Deron

Bergstresser; Peace With

Others: Eating with Enemies

(2 Kings 6:8-23)

Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team

Leader

Monday - Thursday

Deron Bergstresser, Pastor

Tuesday - Friday

Katie Misz, Pastor

Monday - Thursday

Out of Office

Elvina Schmidt - Oct. 21-22

Karen Hostetler - Oct. 22-Nov. 5

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-

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

that's why it takes four weeks of study instead of three like the other themes!)

In a few weeks we will explore "Peace with Creation." The hands will remain but have added elements. I'll leave this to your imagination as you wait to see what I come up with for that last theme.

Again, thanks for allowing me the freedom to create visuals. I know that they don't always connect with everyone, and sometimes they need more explanation, but over the years you have allowed me the latitude to try new things. I have learned a lot and grown in my understanding of visual elements and symbolism, and also in my faith. For that I am truly grateful.

Waterford Announcements

Ecuador Two Way Mission Update

Sunday, October 27, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at Waterford Mennonite Church.

Mark your calendars for a presentation by Jerrell Ross Richer and Steve Fath on recent developments in the Ecuador Two Way Mission. You will learn how generous contributions from members of the Waterford congregation have made it possible for students from the Cofán community of Zabalo to advance their education at Ruminahui University in Sangolqui. Students like Betty Criollo and Tarquino Yihoguaje have completed their first semester of studies. Betty is a nursing student and Tarquino is preparing to become a school teacher.

This event will be livestreamed through the Waterford Mennonite Church website.



Tarquino Yihoguaje and Betty Criollo, Cofán students at Ruminahui University

We are seeking to purchase a used vehicle that holds five people for one of the Ukrainian families. Please notify Dave Gingerich or John Birkey.

This Sunday: Meet & Greet with the Pastors for new attenders. If you have recently begun attending Waterford, the pastoral team would like to officially meet you! Pastors Cindy, Deron, and Katie will be available during the nurture hour to meet you and to answer any questions you might have about Waterford. This time would also allow you to meet other recent new attenders at Waterford. Grab your coffee or tea and come to the sanctuary.

A reminder to WMC men! Do you have the mini-men's retreat with Steve Thomas on your calendar yet for Saturday, Nov 2, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.? Do you know of a man you think would benefit from this? (See the announcement in the Aug 25th Buzz) The sub-title of Steve's book is "Honest Conversations for Men of Faith." We all know it is difficult to be honest at times, but the rewards are worth it! **Sign-up at the participation table** or you can email me sheldonws@yahoo.com and I'll get you signed up.

Endowment Fund applications are being accepted until November 1. Application forms can be found on the church website at www.waterfordchurch.org under the "resources" tab, and there are hard copies in the literature rack under the big bulletin board. Completed applications should be emailed to Doug Yoder, chair (yoder.id@gmail.com), or put in his church mailbox. Contact Doug Yoder, Phil Habecker or Susan Gingerich with any questions.

Upcoming Community Events

Join Merry Lea this Friday or Saturday for an "enchanted" night hike, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.! Trail guides will lead groups by lantern-light to meet real "live" animals on our trails. These friendly creatures will tell you about their diets, habits and favorite places. Our costumed staff and volunteers will answer questions about life as a native Indiana animal. End the evening sipping hot cocoa around a campfire! \$5/ person, which includes snacks and hot cocoa, extra refreshments available for additional fee. No registration required! Location: Farmstead | 2152 S 425 W, Albion, Ind.

The **Sherer International Violin & Piano Competition** will take place on Oct. 19 and 20, in the Goshen College Music Center. A performance from the judges will be held on Saturday night at 7 p.m., and after adjudication, the winners' concert will be held on Sunday at 4 p.m. Both concerts are free for the public.

Dr. Wendsler Nosie, Sr., will speak at Goshen College's annual **Beechy Peace, Justice and Reconciliation Lecture** on Thursday, October 24, at 7:00 p.m. in Rieth Recital Hall in the Goshen College Music Center. Nosie is a former chairman of the San Carlos Apache Tribe and a leading defender of the Apache sacred site of Oak Flat (Chi'chil Bildagoteel) from a land transfer to the mining company, Resolution Copper. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Center for Healing & Hope's 25th Anniversary Gala, Friday, October 25 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at The Spohn Ballroom in downtown Goshen. Gourmet dinner and drinks, stories of impact, special awards, and unforgettable auction items. All funds raised support the people, programs, and services of Center for Healing & Hope. Please be prepared to select the entree choice for each guest at the time of purchase. Options are Tuscan Chicken served with roasted Yukon gold potato and broccolini with red pepper (gluten free, dairy free) OR Vegan Quinoa Red Pepper (vegan, gluten free). Tickets are \$100. Tables of 8 are \$800. Tickets can be purchased at <https://centerforhealingandhope.betterworld.org/events/silver-silver>.

Waterford Mennonite, you are warmly welcome to join us at Camp Friedenswald for our **Restoration Retreat with Sarah Augustine**. From November 1-3 we'll "connect with the land and life through...restoring healthy relationships with all of creation." This retreat is open to all ages. Interested individuals, families, youth groups, green teams, repair network teams, and small groups are all welcome. Please consider coming for the full weekend, or commute and get a discount.

Mennonite Church USA

Many congregations have established **safety protection policies** to proactively provide a secure and healthy environment for individuals of all ages to connect with God. However, when a person who is a known sex offender seeks to join the congregation, what steps should the congregation take? Join host Nancy Kauffmann and presenters Eric Massanari, Jolene Miller, Kristin Jackson and Michael Danner on Tuesday, October 28 at 7 p.m. for an informational webinar. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-october-webinar

With many years of intercultural experience, **Rod Hollinger-Janzen, administrative assistant for the church vitality department of Mennonite Church USA**, assumed his intercultural competency was more than adequate, but the IDI revealed his weak points. Read more about his story here: mennoniteusa.org/learning-journey-idi

A historian at Conrad Grebel University College, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, **Troy Osborne shares several principles** that he followed when he created the new survey of the Anabaptist story from Herald Press. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/writing-anabaptist-21-century

Pathways Retreat

Pathways Retreat Events:

—Two reflection walks up in the woods in October: Stations of the Trees and a Hidden Creature Trail.
—Registration is open for a variety of programs and reflection groups, including Zentangle meditative practice, an Enneagram Practice group, a climate change reflection group, and weekly yoga. Daily prayers are offered in-person and online. Learn more information at pathwaysretreat.org.

AMBS

AMBS Pastors & Leaders

2025: Anabaptism at 500: Looking Back, Living Forward: Feb. 17–20 (in person and online). As we celebrate 500 years of Anabaptism, join us to examine how the values of the early Anabaptists still resonate today and can guide us into the future! Gain intercultural perspectives on how reading the Bible in community can help us connect more authentically in our present and future contexts. Speakers (in order of presentation): John D. Roth, PhD; Kelbessa Muleta Demena, MDiv; and Lesley Francisco McClendon, DMin. Workshop proposals are due Nov. 1. Register by Jan. 20 and save \$50! ambs.edu/pastors-and-leaders

Build leadership skills through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's **Practical Leadership Training modules!** A four-session online workshop, **Seeking Repair with Indigenous Communities**, runs in November. In-person leadership clinics to be held at AMBS on Monday, Feb. 17, include Healthy Boundaries 101; Introducing the *Anabaptist Community Bible*; Orienting with the Word; Worshiping with the Global Church; and more. CEUs available. Check out our full list of modules: ambs.edu/plt

Friends of Amigo Dinner, November 7 at 6:00 p.m., College Mennonite Church. [RSVP here](#) or at (269) 651-2811 by October 30.

Northern Indiana MCC Comforter Bash, November 8-9, at Pleasant View Church (58529 County Road 23). People of all ages are invited to knot comforters on Friday the 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and/or Saturday the 9th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information about the event visit mcc.org/northern-in-comforter-bash. *Volunteers are especially needed on Saturday! Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day on Saturday. Must be present to win.*

Pathways Retreat 5th Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser, November 9-16. Pathways Retreat is seeking items to add to the silent auction fundraiser. The theme this year is "Connections" and the focus is on non-tangible experiences that will bring people together. Accepting items now through November 4. Visit the [silent auction page](#) for ideas of experiential items and for information on how to donate.

Opportunities

Responding to the crisis in Lebanon and Gaza: Up to a million people in Lebanon have been displaced in the last few days due to increasing military attacks. And the grave humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues. You can donate and **provide relief today**. MCC continues to respond to the needs of displaced people in Lebanon and Gaza. MCC is providing relief to recently displaced people in Lebanon with food, hygiene, bedding and psychosocial support. Please pray for an end to the violence and for a just peace in Israel and Palestine. Donate online at mcc.org/palestine-israel

Invitation to young adults: [Register to participate](#) in the **Borderlands Peace Camp, January 19-25, 2025!** Explore topics of peace and justice through the lens of migration, including the Biblical mandate of hospitality. Learn about the migration experience, identity and our perception of "strangers," migration trauma and resilience, the complexity of ethics and law, and the ways in which the church can respond to these challenges. Join us in Ciudad Juarez and El Paso, where we will see the current realities at the Mexico-U.S. border, explore the root causes of migration from a peacebuilding perspective, and learn how community-based organizations and churches are accompanying migrants.

Thank You

Thank you for your donation to Mennonite Central Committee which will be used to help those who are suffering around the world.

Our school kit challenge for 2024 has come to a close. We reached our goal and surpassed it! More than 27,681 school kits were collected during our challenge. What a wonderful way to support the educational hopes of so many children. Thank you for coming together to make school kits a reality! [And remember, we need kits all year round!](#)

Nadine Zook Miller
MCC Great Lakes
Material Resource Coordinator

Note: WMC donated 207 School Kits to MCC in August.