



January 12, 2025



# The Waterford Buzz

## **This Sunday**

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

## **Welcome Team**

Greeters: Jon. & Mary Ann  
Wieand  
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto,  
Denise Diener  
Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler,  
Steve Fath

## **This Week at Waterford**

*Wednesday*

4:00 p.m. - Children's Cluster  
6:30 p.m. - Haystacks &  
Games / FH

*Zoom prayers*

Monday - 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

## **Waterford Mennonite Church**

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Goshen, IN 46526  
Phone 574-533-5642  
office@waterfordchurch.org  
www.waterfordchurch.org

## **Benin Bible Institute Farm Hog Barn Gets Roof**

*Rod Hollinger-Janzen*

BBI's farm, which is intended to serve the dual purposes of training students in agriculture and generating income for BBI, recently benefited from a couple of generous WMC donors to put a roof on its hog barn.



In September 2024, during the visit of BBI delegates Germain Dossou and Jocelyne Ahoga, they shared about the difficulty the farm was facing, wanting to increase hog production but not having adequate shelter from the hot tropical sun.

Within a couple of weeks following their visit, two Waterford members made donations which have allowed BBI to purchase needed materials and to roof the barn.

Thank you! Your openness to others' needs means that BBI has been able to take another small step towards greater economic self-sustainability.

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 233

Nurture Hour - 221

### Finances – January 5, 2025

Operating Fund \$4,712.85

Mennonite Education \$1,600.00

Either Fund \$3,210.00

**Budget Total \$9,522.85**

### Looking Ahead

January 19: Goshen College

Parables: Building Bridges

January 26: Naomi Yoder Hess;

Mary & Martha; Licensing of

Ursula Hess

(*Jeremiah 29:11*)

### Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team

Leader

Monday - Thursday

Deron Bergstresser, Pastor

Tuesday - Friday

Katie Misz, Pastor

Monday - Thursday

### Out of Office

Cindy Voth - January 14

### 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

## MCC Relief Kit Project

*Joyce Bontrager*

Everyday in the news, we are reminded of many who are forced to leave their homes with little or nothing. One way we can be helpful is to provide relief kits through MCC. If you, your family or small group have not already gathered these items, please do so this month. They will be collected on Sundays, January 19 and 26.

Please remember to only include the items listed below. There have been some changes in the items requested since last year.

Each kit should include all of the following (all new items please):

- 4 large bars bath soap (leave in wrapper) *No hotel or mini soap bars*
- Shampoo; 1 or 2 bottles totaling more than 20 ounces each (place in a re-sealable plastic bag) *No hair conditioner*
- 4 large bars laundry soap (such as Fels Naptha®, Sunlight®, or Zote® brands) *No powdered laundry detergent*
- 4 adult-sized toothbrushes (in manufacturer's packaging) *No child size or small toothbrushes and no toothpaste*
- 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colors preferred, approximately 28 inches x 50 inches) *No face towels or cloths*
- 2 wide-toothed combs (6-8 inches) *No men's pocket combs*
- 1 nail clipper (good quality) *No full nail care kits or nail files*
- Adhesive bandages (minimum 40)
- Sanitary pads (THIN; 1 or 2 packages, minimum 28 pads total) *No panty liners*

There can also be no personal notes or family photos. Dealing with custom officers can be difficult, so MCC staff needs to make the kits as uniform as possible.

Completed kits should be put in clean trash or large grocery bags. Individual items are also welcome and can be placed on a table by the library. All donations will be collected on Sundays, January 19 and 26. There are printed lists of items on the first table under the mailboxes.

Thanks so much for being willing to participate as you are able!

## Thank You

Thank you to our Waterford family for your kind words, cards, prayers for safe travel and the beautiful flowers in memory of my Mom. Thank you for being our community. —Lorna and Mel Claassen

The Haystack benefit meal for Carlos Ramos raised \$5,465. Thank you to everyone for your generosity, and a special thanks to Pathfinders and Seekers for making the meal. —David Gingerich, Karen Sommers, and Carlos Ramos.

## Mennonite Church USA

On January 14, 2025, at 7 p.m., join Sarah Bixler, associate dean of Eastern Mennonite Seminary, and host, Michael Danner, associate executive director for Church Vitality at MC USA, for a presentational webinar titled, “**Mindsight: Compassionate Pastoral Attention to Self and Others.**” Learn more and register here: [mennoniteusa.org/webinar/mindsight-ems](https://mennoniteusa.org/webinar/mindsight-ems)

**Beginning on January 18, 2025 the Anabaptism at 500 Read-a-thon will be available to stream online** and will conclude on January 21, 2025, with a live-streamed worship/celebration in Goshen, Indiana (USA) as we read together the final passage from Revelations and celebrate the launch of the Anabaptist Community Bible. Tune in to the MennoMedia (<https://www.facebook.com/MennoMedia>) and Anabaptism at 500 (<https://www.facebook.com/Anabaptismat500>) Facebook pages to watch the livestream!

In the wake of the 2024 presidential election, **Michael Danner considers what it means to live and interact with the government as Anabaptist followers of Jesus.** Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/every-4-years](https://mennoniteusa.org/every-4-years)

## Invitation to Join Eagle Scout Project

*Luke, Elijah and Thomas Voth*

We are part of BSA Troop 5 (formerly called Boy Scouts) that meets downtown at Goshen First Church. I, Luke, am the Assistant Scoutmaster and Elijah and Thomas are members of the troop. We are writing to invite the congregation to participate in Jack Woodiel’s Eagle Scout Project of collecting baseball hats to be donated to pediatric cancer patients at South Bend Memorial Hospital. Jack is a member of our troop and is a cancer survivor.

Jack shares:

“On June 17, 2022, a golf-ball-sized tumor was found during my physical for Boy Scouts Summer Camp. Two doctors and five appointments later, it was removed on July 29 and sent to pathology. It turned out to be a rare pediatric cancer: embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma. It is a soft-tissue cancer that can be found anywhere in the body. About 500 cases are diagnosed annually in the United States. On September 8, I had 30 lymph nodes removed from my abdomen, followed by 20 infusions over 22 weeks started on November 2. On April 12, 2023, the final scan came back clear and I have been in remission since. It was a challenge from beginning to end, and I am forever grateful for the prayers and support I received.

Today, as a member of BSA Troop 5 in Goshen, Indiana, I am working on my Eagle Scout Project. The idea of doing something to help the hospital that provided wonderful care to me and all other cancer patients resounded in my head. After talking with them and learning that teen cancer patients in particular have fewer projects directed toward them, I finally decided to do a baseball hat drive: collecting hats and then donating all of them to pediatric cancer patients at Memorial Hospital in South Bend, Indiana. Now, as I look back on my cancer journey, the love I felt when people gave me a baseball hat to cover up my hair loss during chemo was powerful and kept my spirits high. Today, I am hoping you consider donating a baseball hat.”

We invite you to join in Jack’s Eagle Scout project by donating a baseball hat. You may either bring a hat and place it in the bin under the table by the church office during the month of January, or Jack has set up a gift list on Amazon where you can purchase a hat and have it mailed to Jack: [https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/33FSVISYMCUXY?ref=gr\\_search\\_page\\_result](https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/33FSVISYMCUXY?ref=gr_search_page_result).

## AMBS

**Art for a Change! A Celebration of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day: Monday, Jan. 20, 1:30–4:30 p.m.**, at the Tolson Center for Community Excellence, 1320 Benham Avenue, Elkhart. The Tolson Center and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary invite you to explore the role of art in transforming society — in the past and present, and for the future. This event will feature a screening of the documentary [What Happened at Benham West: African American Stories of Community, Displacement and Hope](#); youth art sessions; a photography presentation by Daryck Barnett; and a program that will include performances by the Tolson Choir and Tolson Dance Team. Learn more and view the schedule: [ambs.edu/mlk](https://ambs.edu/mlk)

**AMBS Pastors & Leaders 2025: Anabaptism at 500: Looking Back, Living Forward: Feb. 17–20.** 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. The conference also includes 28 workshop options. Join in person or watch via livestream. Register by Jan. 20 and save \$50! [ambs.edu/pastors-and-leaders](https://ambs.edu/pastors-and-leaders)

## Pathways Retreat

**Programs and workshops**, including Honoring our Pain for the World, a practice of lament and hope; a Prayer Bead Workshop; Zentangle-inspired Art; weekly Yoga; Contemplative Circle; and Soul Collage. The annual Prayer Community Candlemas Gathering will be held on February 2. Daily prayers happen in-person and online. Learn more at [pathwaysretreat.org](https://pathwaysretreat.org).

# Waterford Announcements

**Bowling:** Don't forget to sign up by this Sunday at the Participation Station to join other WMCers for an afternoon of bowling, sponsored by Fellowship Ministry Team! The fun will happen on **January 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Maple City Bowl**. It is \$10 per person for two hours of bowling, including the shoe rental. All ages and skill levels are welcome!

This past week parents and families of Grades 3 - 12 students and college students were sent **an email with the Mennonite Education Fund application form and guidelines attached**. If a member of your family is interested in applying to the MEF, please be sure to look for this email.

If you would like printed copies of the application form and guidelines, feel free to contact Karen Hostetler at [karen@waterfordchurch.org](mailto:karen@waterfordchurch.org). If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Becky Bateman at [beckyeb@gmail.com](mailto:beckyeb@gmail.com). Be advised that the deadline for application is February 28, 2025.

## Upcoming Community Events

The **Goshen College Chamber Choir**, led by Scott Hochstetler, will perform a preview concert on Friday, January 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Rieth Recital Hall. Tickets available at <https://goshen.universitytickets.com/>.

The **7th Annual Michiana Regional Seed Swap** will take place on Saturday, January 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Goshen College Church-Chapel. This free event invites gardeners, growers, and plant enthusiasts to exchange seeds, attend educational sessions, and discuss various plant varieties. Participants are encouraged to bring seeds to share, though it's not required!

**WindSync**, a versatile wind quintet acclaimed for their dynamic performances, will perform on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. in Rieth Recital Hall. Tickets available at <https://goshen.universitytickets.com/>

Goshen College will celebrate the life and work of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, on Monday, January 20, with a student-led convocation beginning at 10 a.m. The convocation, open to the public, will be followed by a march to the Rec-Fitness Center, where there will be snacks, raffles and prizes at different engagement stations.

As you know, 2025 marks the **500th anniversary of the beginnings of the Anabaptist movement** with the first adult baptisms in Zurich, Switzerland. **On Tuesday evening, January 21 (7-8:30 p.m.)**, we invite you and your congregation to **join in a regional worship service at College Mennonite Church** to recognize this significant milestone. The gathering—which will include singing, reflection, scripture reading, confession, and prayer—will also serve as the official launch of the Anabaptist Community Bible and conclude with a festive gathering in the Fellowship Rooms for food and fellowship. You will find more information at this [link](#).

**Craft Event for the Relief Sale:** Last year's revamped Marketplace at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale was a success and we'd like to keep the momentum going. **Join us on Saturday, January 25** from 10 to 2 at East Goshen Mennonite Church for a fun time of crafting and sewing. No experience needed. Supplies and instructions provided. If you can bring a portable sewing machine, let us know. Bring a sack lunch. All items made will be sold at the Relief Sale in September. **RSVP to [crafting.mMrs@gmail.com](mailto:crafting.mMrs@gmail.com) by Jan 22.**