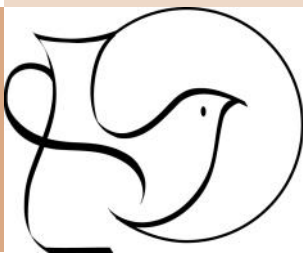




January 19, 2025



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

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

Welcome Team

Greeters: Jerry & Joyce Troyer
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Wade Ramer, LaVon Short
Audiovisuals: Colin Berkey, Dominic Ramer

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. - GDMT / Arby's
7:00 p.m. - Venture Club
7:00 p.m. - JYF, 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

Pastoral Evaluation Coming

JD Smucker and Rose Shetler, Co-chairs, Ministry Leadership Council

Have you ever been evaluated by someone at your workplace? Many of us have gone through job evaluations. Some may have been life-giving, and others not. At Waterford our hope is that pastoral evaluations are life-giving, affirming, and helpful for personal and professional growth. Pastoral evaluations are most helpful given in a spirit of prayerful consideration and thought. There are two pastoral reviews coming in the next several months. First, Cindy has a mid-cycle review, and Katie a four year review.

Pastoral Review Cycle

All pastors receive an in-depth major review every four years. This review is facilitated by a review committee with feedback from people who work most closely with the pastor, along with optional feedback from the congregation. A mid-cycle review comes two years between major reviews. This review is with the Ministry Leadership Council, with optional participation from the congregation.

Review Steps

Marty Lehman, our congregational coach, is helping facilitate Cindy's mid-cycle review. If you choose to participate in the review, the evaluation form Marty has prepared can be found [here](#) and in the weekly Waterford email announcements. If you wish to complete a paper copy, contact the church office, and one will be placed in your mailbox. Please take a few minutes to complete the evaluation so that we can have the results by February 16. As we work and live together in community, we share the responsibility to help our pastors continue to grow into the leaders God has created them to be at Waterford and in our world.

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 211

Nurture Hour - 224

Finances – January 12, 2025

Operating Fund \$6,695.00

Mennonite Education \$2,981.00

Either Fund \$2,025.00

Budget Total \$11,701.00

Least Coin Fund 23.00

Total 11,724.00

Looking Ahead

January 26: Naomi Yoder Hess;
Mary & Martha; Licensing of
Ursula Hess
(*Jeremiah 29:11*)

February 2: Sermon: Deron
Bergstresser; Renewal through
Story

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 19-20

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

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

Movie Night at WMC

Film night to watch “Inhabitants”

Jeff Miller, for Reparative Justice Group

The WMC Reparative Justice Group is hosting another movie night. We will be showing this for the next mentor/mentee gathering, but all are welcome to join us. On Wednesday night on February 5, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., here at the church, we will be viewing the documentary film “Inhabitants.” The following is from their web site:

“Inhabitants follows five Native American Tribes across deserts, coastlines, forests, and prairies as they restore their traditional land management practices. For millennia Native Americans successfully stewarded and shaped their landscapes, but centuries of colonization have disrupted their ability to maintain traditional land management practices. From deserts, coastlines, forests, mountains, and prairies, Native communities are restoring their ancient relationships with the land. As the climate crisis escalates, these time-tested practices of North America’s original inhabitants are becoming increasingly essential in a rapidly changing world.”

A Tribal Advisory Board worked collaboratively with the film makers and includes representatives from each of the Tribes highlighted in the film. These partnerships ensure that the film is accurate, culturally appropriate and meets the needs of their communities.

We hope you can join us to learn from and celebrate these stories.

Licensing service for Ursula Hess

Deron Bergstresser

On Sunday, January 26, we will celebrate with Ursula Hess in a special credentialing service led by Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference (IMMC) Minister, Sharon Yoder. Ursula will be licensed toward ordination for the ministry of Chaplaincy.

To prepare for this ministry, Ursula completed *Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program* at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS), fulfilled all the requirements for MC USA’s Ministerial Leadership Inquiry process and was approved by MC USA / IMMC in an exam interview for licensure toward ordination.

Waterford Mennonite Church, represented by MLC and the Pastoral Team, requested Ursula’s license for ministry as an affirmation of her preparation, service, and calling to a ministry of chaplaincy. We give thanks to God for Ursula’s gifts for ministry and the many ways she has shared them, both in the congregation and in our community. We rejoice with Ursula in this milestone, and offer our prayers and support.

Waterford Announcements

Mennonite Education application: Grades 3 - 12 students and college students can now apply to the **Mennonite Education Fund** for assistance for the 2025-26 school year. **Application form and guidelines** were sent by email last week to families, or you can find these documents on the church website by clicking on the “Resources” tab at the top of the page. If you would like printed copies of the application form and guidelines, contact Karen Hostetler at karen@waterfordchurch.org. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Becky Bateman at beckyeb@gmail.com. The deadline for application is February 28, 2025.

Sunday, February 16: Second Annual Chili Cook-Off, 5:30 p.m. at WMC. Does your chili charm the taste buds of all who partake of it? Find out by participating in a friendly chili cook-off. If cooking chili is not your thing, sign up to bring a side dish to share and “Taste and See” which chili you think is worthy of the Golden Ladle. Sign up by February 9.

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.

Anabaptism at 500 Events:

- **Anabaptism at 500 Bible Read-a-thon.** Beginning on Saturday, January 18, 2025, the Anabaptism at 500 Read-a-thon will be available to stream online and will conclude on Jan. 21. Tune in to the [Anabaptism at 500](#) Facebook page to watch the livestream!
- **On Tuesday evening, January 21** at 7:00 p.m.), we invite you and your congregation to **join in a regional worship service at College Mennonite Church** to recognize the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism. 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](#). It will also be livestreamed at the [Anabaptism at 500](#) facebook page.

Mennonite Church USA

Registration for Mennonite Church USA's Follow Jesus '25 convention opened Jan. 6, 2025, for early-bird pricing. The denomination's biennial faith formation gathering will take place at Koury Convention Center, in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 8-12, 2025. Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/registration-jan6 Register here: convention.mennoniteusa.org/

At its meeting on Nov. 14-16, 2024, in Destin, Florida, the **MC USA Executive Board** affirmed a call from the denomination's **Racial Ethnic Council (REC)** to increase awareness of the historical record of BIPOC Mennonites and to fund BIPOC contributions to the MC USA Archives. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/eb-rec

Sometimes, a congregation may have a known sex offender in attendance or an individual displaying characteristics typical of a sex offender. Join Nancy Kauffmann, MC USA's interim denominational minister of Church Safety, Paul Unruh, a retired social worker, and Yolanda Kauffman, licensed master social worker, on January 28, 2024, at 7 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT for a **webinar that will focus on understanding the behaviors of those who commit sexual offenses and what appropriate accountability looks like** to ensure that the congregation remains a safe space for everyone, including the sex offender. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/register-jan-safe-church

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

Build leadership skills through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Practical Leadership Training modules! Modules beginning in March include Being the Church amid Polarization and Conflict; Effective Church Boards; Intercultural Inclusion in the Church; and *¿Quién es mi vecino?* Latinos/as Growing in Intercultural Competence (taught in Spanish). Check out our full list of modules: ambs.edu/plt

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 Candelmas Gathering will be held on February 2. Daily prayers happen in-person and online. Learn more at pathwaysretreat.org.

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.mms@gmail.com by Jan 22.**

After We're Gone: Protecting Those with Special Needs Through Estate Planning. Families who have loved ones with disabilities have extra concerns when estate planning. On Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 8 p.m. EST, Anabaptist Disabilities Network will partner with Everence to host a webinar covering these unique aspects of estate planning: special needs trusts, ABLE accounts, and changes under the SECURE Act and SECURE Act 2.0 that affect special needs planning with retirement accounts. Jennifer Lile and Lyle Miller, presenters. Learn more and register [here](#).

Join Mennonite Action Michiana, Michiana Friends of Palestine and the Palestine Justice Network of the Presbyterian Church for a potluck meal and discussion with Baha Hilo and Rev. Marietta Macy, MDiv at Kern Road Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, (18211 Kern Road, South Bend, IN) **Thursday, January 30 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Hilo is a Palestinian educator, social activist, and human rights advocate born and raised in Bethlehem, Palestine. Rev. Macy is co-moderator of the Palestine Justice Network of the Presbyterian Church and has led educational and solidarity delegations to Palestine and Israel. They will speak on "Israeli and Christian Zionism: Impact and Connections to Christian Nationalism." Join us for food and engaging conversation. Bring your own table service and a dish to share.

Save the Date: The **2025 Lacasa Annual Luncheon** will be Wednesday, March 5, at the Lerner Crystal Ballroom, 410 S Main St, Elkhart. Door will open at 11:30 a.m., program begins at 12:00 p.m. \$50/seat, or sponsorship options. [Register here](#).

Opportunities

Center for Healing & Hope is hiring multiple positions for bilingual clinical support staff (MA, LPN, RN) to support the staff and volunteer providers serving our uninsured patients. Full-time and part-time positions are available. Experience in a medical office setting is required. To learn more about the position, email Ruth Hartzler at rhartzler@chhclinics.org for a job description or to nominate someone for her to contact.

Anabaptist Disabilities Network is searching for an Office Administrator. We are looking for a detail-minded, tech-savvy person to keep our office efficient and our staff organized. This position undergirds our organizational mission to provide education, resources and support to congregations, so that they grow in their capacity to include people with disabilities. It includes independent responsibilities as well as support for other staff. This is a half-time, in-person position in our Elkhart, Indiana office. Experience with numeric information required. Bookkeeping and database management experience preferred. **See full position description.** Apply by submitting resume to ADN@AnabaptistDisabilities.net.