

The JYF went skating on Wednesday, January 29, at Ironworks ice rink in Mishawaka and had a blast together!

(More photos on p. 2)



February 2, 2025



# The Waterford Buzz

## **This Sunday**

9:00 a.m. - Worship  
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour  
12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Meal  
12:30 p.m. - Youth arrival from Winter retreat

## **Welcome Team**

Greeters: John, Diana and Jeff Hershberger  
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Wade Ramer, Len Harms  
Audiovisuals: Glen Kauffmann, Jordan Kauffman

## **This Week at Waterford**

### **Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. - Film night with Mentors/mentees

### **Thursday**

6:30 p.m. - Stephen Ministers MYF Rm / Rm 15

### **Zoom prayers**

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

## **Waterford Mennonite Church**

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Goshen, IN 46526  
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www.waterfordchurch.org

## **Changes at The Depot**

*Bill Swartzendruber*



After eight years as Manager of the Depot, Galen Kauffmann retired. On Wednesday, January 22, the staff and volunteers held a farewell gathering and potluck meal in commemoration of his excellent leadership, and the success we have all shared under his guidance. Last year over \$1,000,000 was passed to MCC by the Depot.

In this picture Galen is “passing the baton” to the new manager, Rex Hochstedler (Ruby Hochstedler’s son). We all look forward to working with him.

Blessings to Galen as he moves forward to his next adventure.

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship – 232

Nurture Hour - 210

### Finances – January 26, 2025

Operating Fund \$3,625.00

Mennonite Education \$65.00

Either Fund \$3,080.00

**Budget Total \$6,770.00**

### Looking Ahead

February 9: Sermon: Cindy Voth;  
Renewal through Repentance

February 16: Sermon: Gerald  
Mast; Renewal through  
Trust & Yieldedness

### Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team  
Leader

Monday - Thursday

Deron Bergstresser, Pastor  
Tuesday - Friday

Katie Misz, Pastor  
Monday - Thursday

### Out of Office

Cindy Voth - February 2-3

Katie Misz - February 2-4

### Office hours this week

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

9 - 12, 1 - 3

Tuesday, Friday

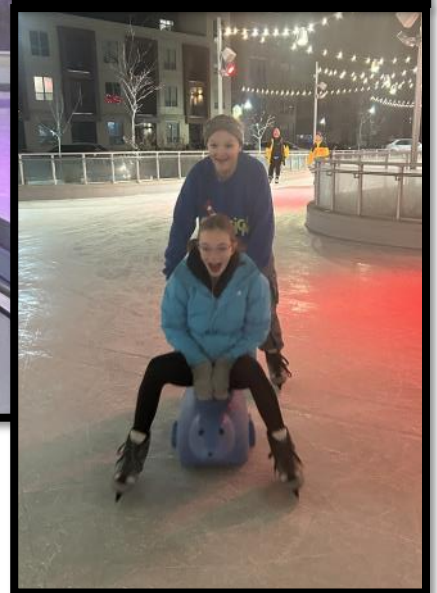
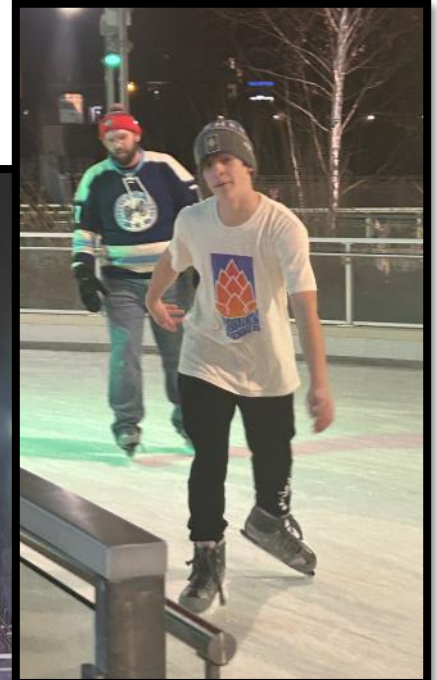
9 - 12

**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

## JYF Skating Night



## Thank You

Thank you to all who contributed towards purchasing a kid's all-terrain wheelchair for camp Amigo. We raised \$2809.32.

— Children's Cluster

A special thanks to everyone who participated in collecting and moving the Relief Kits. Forty-four kits were collected along with some extra items. I also appreciated the prayers offered and those that will follow these kits: from the givers, to the persons shipping, to the custom workers and on to the recipients and their families.

— Joyce Bontrager

## The Celebration of Nine Decades

*Angel Luis Miranda*

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to everybody that made possible a wonderful 90th birthday celebration. It began with friends at Greencroft and Waterford Mennonite Church, and it culminated with our children and grandsons putting their talents together to make it quite meaningful. The way they planned it reminded me of Psalm 92:14, "They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green." These words became true in our celebration gathering.

I also want to thank friends and family for their gifts and words of encouragement. Yes, it was a blessed nine decade celebration. Thanks to God of all these benefits in our Christian pilgrimage. Psalm 103:2.

## Waterford Announcements

Everyone is invited to our February **Fellowship Meal** in the fellowship hall, hosted by the Gelassenheit class, after the nurture hour. Please bring a crockpot hot dish and/or a side, salad or desert to share and your own table ware.

**Film night**, this Wednesday, February 5, at 7:00 p.m. Join the mentor/mentee pairs to watch "**Inhabitants**," a film about "five Native American tribes across deserts, coastlines, forests, and prairies as they restore their traditional land management practices...As the climate crisis escalates, these time-tested practices of North America's original inhabitants are becoming increasingly essential in a rapidly changing world." All are invited to come learn from and celebrate these stories.

All are welcome to participate in **Pastor Cindy's mid-cycle review**. The evaluation form can be found [here](#), at the top of the weekly Waterford email announcements, and there are paper copies on the first table under the mailboxes. Results must be received 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.

Don't forget to sign up for the **Second Annual Chili Cook-Off**, February 16, at 5:30 p.m. at WMC. If you plan to compete, pick up a form beside the signup sheet to register and return to Rita Herrmann or Cindy Voth. 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.**

**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 to families, or you can find these documents on the church website by clicking on the "Resources" tab at the top of the home page. If you would like printed copies of the application form and guidelines, contact Karen Hostetler at [karen@waterfordchurch.org](mailto:karen@waterfordchurch.org). Questions about the application process may be directed to Becky Bateman at [beckyeb@gmail.com](mailto:beckyeb@gmail.com). **The deadline for application is February 28, 2025.**

## Mennonite Church USA

Please join MC USA in continuing to pray for God's deliverance from the wildfires in the Los Angeles region of California and for MC USA congregations from both Mosaic Mennonite Conference and Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference that have been impacted by them. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/menno-shorts/california-wildfires/](https://mennoniteusa.org/menno-shorts/california-wildfires/)

In this **Follow Jesus-inspired Epiphany blog**, **Rachel Ringenberg Miller**, denominational minister for ministerial leadership for MC USA, shares about an anti-immigration flier that was left around her neighborhood and how it reminded her that Jesus, like many of our ancestors, was an immigrant, who fled danger and persecution. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/jesus-the-immigrant](https://mennoniteusa.org/jesus-the-immigrant)

## MCC

**Help take the sting out of winter's chill by joining MCC's Great Winter Warm-Up!** This winter, compassionate people like you are giving the gift of warm comforters to those in need around the world. Help MCC meet our goal to collect 7,000 comforters by the end of March. Sponsor a comforter, donate one (or a few!) or attend a comforter making event! It's more than a warm blanket — it's a message of love and compassion. **Learn more at** [mcc.org/great-winter-warm-up](https://mcc.org/great-winter-warm-up)

## AMBS

### **Peace Theology in Movement: A Lunchtime Colloquium: Wednesdays, Jan. 15 – April 30, 12–1 p.m. ET, via Zoom.**

This free weekly online colloquium series focuses on the Mennonite Action movement as an expression of Mennonite peace theology. Instructors: Janna Hunter-Bowman of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Jonathan Smucker of Mennonite Action. Participants can attend any or all sessions, starting anytime. There is no charge, but registration is required to receive the link. View the schedule and register: [ambs.edu/peace-colloquium](https://ambs.edu/peace-colloquium)

**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 — 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 is now available: [anabaptistwitness.org](https://anabaptistwitness.org)

**Gain peacebuilding skills at AMBS!** Prepare for work and scholarship at the cross-section of theology and transformative peacebuilding through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary’s **Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies** program. Explore a topic of your choice from multiple angles and design a peacebuilding internship in your area of interest. [ambs.edu/matps](https://ambs.edu/matps)

## Upcoming Events

### **What does it mean to provide sanctuary for undocumented people?**

This webinar on Feb. 5, at 7 p.m., will feature several pastors whose congregations have previously served as sanctuaries. Lawyers from the Institute of Constitutional Advocacy and Protection will discuss the legal issues related to sanctuary, specifically focusing on section 1324, and will allow time for participants to ask questions. For churches that are currently working with or are interested in supporting undocumented individuals in their communities, this webinar will provide crucial information on what to expect and what legal assistance is available if your church faces challenges from ICE or immigration agents. Register here: [mennoniteusa.org/webinar/jesus-challenging-times](https://mennoniteusa.org/webinar/jesus-challenging-times)

**Hope for the Future: Celebrating 30 Years of Damascus Road and Its Legacy**, Goshen College, Feb. 28-March 2, 2025 [Register here](#). Co-hosted by MC USA’s Hope for the Future, this special event will gather BIPOC leaders and white allies who are actively engaged in the ongoing work of confronting and dismantling racism in the church. Together, we will honor the legacy of the Damascus Road, while deepening our connections and renewing our dedication to equality and love in action.

## Opportunities

**Caring for our neighbors:** As Immigrant Resources Coordinator at Center for Healing and Hope, Jane Ross Richer receives daily pleas for access to their local well of resources. Churches and individuals often ask, “What can we do in addition to contributing funds to help immigrants in our community?” In response, CHH, in cooperation with Anne Meyer Byler, has identified **multiple opportunities to provide support and care to those in need**. If you have interest in collaborating with your time or talent, please take a moment to complete the form linked below. If you have questions, please contact Jane at [jrricher@chhclinics.org](mailto:jrricher@chhclinics.org) or 574-534-4744 x209. <https://forms.gle/wELuCoseMFZaAZ2F8>

Some churches in Elkhart are again organizing **English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for adults**. Approximately 20 **volunteer teachers are needed** for the next session of classes, March 4 - May 15, 2025, meeting at Prairie Street Mennonite Church. Sessions are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Volunteering once or twice a week is your choice. Materials are provided. You do not need to be a trained teacher or be able to speak Spanish. If desired, you may start as an assistant-in-training working with a veteran teacher. Substitutes are available for illness and vacations. Please contact Sueann VonGunten, [vonalter2@gmail.com](mailto:vonalter2@gmail.com) or 574-612-3108 with your interest or questions.

**Special Youth Venture Trip** for 18-30 year-olds

**[Anabaptism at 500: Looking Back to See the Future](#)**, May 23 – June 1, 2025. Discover the history of the Anabaptist movement as we commemorate its 500th anniversary with a Youth Venture excursion to **Germany and Switzerland**. Visit key historical sites of the 16th-century Anabaptist movement and take part in Mennonite World Conference’s Anabaptism at 500 events. Cost: \$2,900; Application deadline: February 15, 2025 See more information and a tentative itinerary at the link above.