This Sunday
9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour
5:00 p.m. - MYF Service Auction

March 9, 2025

The Waterford Buzz

Welcome Team
Greeters: Brynn Replogle, Thomas Voth, Logan Beck, Hannah Claassen
Ushers: Kenzie Zimmerman, Jasper Method, Thomas Voth
Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler, Steve Fath

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
7:00 p.m. - FFMT
Saturday - Sunday
8:00 a.m. - Family Retreat / Amigo
Zoom prayers
Monday - 8:30 a.m.
Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

Waterford Mennonite Church
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Stephen Leader Team Welcomes a New Member

Bill Minter for the Stephen Leader Team

The Stephen Leader Team (SLT), of Kenneth Blount, Mel and Lorna Claassen, and Bill Minter, looks forward to welcoming Karl Birky as an additional Stephen Leader. Karl plans to complete the on-line Stephen Leader Training on March 17 and will officially join the SLT after commissioning by the congregation on March 23.

Karl, and his wife Ginny, moved to the Goshen area two years ago from Newberg, Oregon, and live in Greencroft's Whispering Pines Court. He is a member of Waterford Mennonite Church and participates in the Seekers Sunday School class. Karl has an educational background in healthcare administration and civil engineering. He is retired from a career in both administration and civil and traffic engineering.

Karl noted that he was open to the invitation to become a Stephen Leader because it offers an opportunity to minister to others in the congregation using his education and experience while also providing another opportunity to learn and grow.

You can continue to be a part of this lay-caring ministry by your prayer support. If there are those in your circle of acquaintances who might benefit from having one-on-one Christian care to support them in life's difficulties, please provide them a referrals brochure. Or, with your friend's permission, contact one of the Stephen Leaders or a pastor about the possible need. Referral brochures can be picked up at the Stephen Ministry bulletin board located next to the library.

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance
Worship – 228
Nurture Hour - 220

Finances – March 2, 2025

Operating Fund	$5,586.00
Mennonite Education	$785.00
Either Fund	$5,325.00
Budget Total	*$11,696.00*
Sharing Fund	$50.00
Two-Way Mission	$75.00
Total	**$11,821.00**

Looking Ahead
March 16: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Lent 2: Christ collides with our condemnation *(Luke 13:1-9, 31-35)*
March 23: Sermon: Lyle Miller; Lent 3: Christ Collides with our Priorities *(Luke 15:1-32)*

Pastoral Team
Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader
Monday - Thursday
Deron Bergstresser, Pastor
Tuesday - Friday
Katie Misz, Pastor
Monday - Thursday

Out of Office
Cindy Voth - March 10-11
Janet Shoemaker - March 10

Office hours this week
Wednesday, Thursday
9 - 12, 1 - 3
Monday, 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

Ballot Results

Thank you to all who returned the ballot from Gifts Discernment Ministry Team (GDMT). I am grateful to share that all four individuals were unanimously affirmed for their positions. Blessings to Cori Chupp, Eleanor Habecker, and Len Harms as they join others in being our delegates to MCUSA Convention this July. And blessings to Christa Graber Kauffman as she becomes the secretary for Ministry Leadership Council. I encourage us all to continue to explore ways we can use our gifts within and beyond our congregation.

—Jason Herrmann, Lay Ministry Partner for GDMT

Thank You

Thank you to the congregation for your care and support as we said goodbye to JD's mom Donna. The cards, hugs, and caring words, have been a blessing over the past weeks. It is a mix of sadness and joy in the journey of saying goodbye. The support of the Waterford congregation is greatly appreciated as we continue to live into the new normal, and begin to sort through the material things of Mom's life that remain. Thanks for being present for us in the past, and in the coming days and weeks.

JD and Beth Smucker

Waterford Announcements

Sunday, March 16, Senior Adult Hymn Sing and Sundae Social
4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Senior adults (you know who you are) come and enjoy an ice cream sundae as you sing and visit with friends. Senior Adult Ministry Team will provide ice cream, toppings, snacks, coffee and tea to warm us up for a hymn sing, led by several of our Waterford song leaders. We'll also enjoy the sounds of Bob Brenneman's men's quartet. We hope to see you there. —Pastor Deron for SAMT

MYF Service Auction begins at 5:00 p.m. Sunday with a pizza casserole, supper. All monetary donations collected will be added to the Service Auction totals.

Stop by the Participation Station to sign up:

Contribute food items for the Prairie View school staff breakfast on March 17. We still need fruit trays to serve 10 and a few containers of mixed nuts. You are also invited to **sign the banner** with expressions of appreciation on the table in the foyer.

Pizza at the March Madness Party, Friday, March 21, served at 6:00. Bring snacks to share and donations to help cover the cost of the pizza.

Women of Waterford: The spiritual Formation/Nurture Ministry Team invites you to an experience of lament during Lent. We will study Biblical laments, write our individual and corporate laments, and experience lectio divina as we enter into God's presence. We are offering two Saturdays at 9:00 a.m., 60 to 90 minutes per session on April 12 and 19. Please RSVP to Ursula Hess or Judy Snyder by March 16. We look forward to hearing from you.

The WMC Endowment Committee will accept applications for the Spring 2025 funds until April 1. We have had around $5,000 to disperse semi-annually in the recent past. Please review the guidelines as you complete the application on the WMC website for your submissions. Applications may be placed in our mailbox at Church or emailed to yoder.ld@gmail.com. —Doug Yoder, Chair

Upcoming Events

Get ready to be transported to the magical world of Brigadoon! Goshen High School is bringing this classic Broadway musical to life March 6-16. Follow the story of two travelers who stumble upon a hidden Scottish village that only appears for one day every hundred years. Tickets are on sale now—grab yours at https://buff.ly/3C83uGT! Come support Waterford's own: David Stutzman on stage, assistant director Monica Stutzman, and pit director Steve Snyder.

Taizé-inspired worship service: Sunday, March 9, 7-8 p.m., at Walnut Hill Mennonite Church, 909 N. Sixth Street, Goshen, Indiana. Join us for an evening of meditative worship that includes song, prayer, Scripture, candlelight and stillness — inspired by the Taizé Community in France. All ages are welcome! Hosts: Walnut Hill and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Faith Formation Collaborative. To learn more, email formationcollaborative@ambs.edu.

From now through April 15, Silverwood pastors will be providing a **time for prayer on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** in their sanctuary. We will begin with a 15 minute focused time of praying together, using the book, "Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book." During the remainder of the hour, you may pray quietly, write your laments and leave them at the foot of the cross. Whenever you are ready within that hour, you may leave. If you are unable to attend the 7:00 - 8:00 prayer time, please consider joining us in this season of prayer in your own way as we pray for our nation and for other hurting places around the world.

Students in the Goshen College International Student Club (ISC) will celebrate the culture of their home countries with a potluck dinner and a show during the **annual ISC Coffeehouse** at 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 15, in the Church-Chapel Fellowship Hall. **Please bring a dish to share if you attend the event.** Tickets are available at goshen.edu/tickets.

Goshen College Professor of Violin Solomia Soroka and pianist Arthur Greene will present a **Rieth Recital Series concert** in Rieth Recital Hall on Sunday, March 16 at 4 p.m**.** Soroka and Greene, a husband-and-wife duo, will present a program of sonatas by Johannes Brahms. Tickets are available at goshen.edu/tickets.

Join us for a **fun day of crafting and sewing** at East Goshen Mennonite Church on Saturday, March 22 from 10 to 2. Bring a sack lunch. No skills required. All supplies provided and projects made will be sold at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale in Sept. Please rsvp to crafting.mmrs@gmail.com by March 18.

Mennonite Church USA

The MC USA Executive Board unanimously affirmed the Leadership Discernment Committee's nomination of **Todd Lehman** of Hesston, Kansas, as **moderator-elect for the Delegate Assembly cycle** beginning July 2025. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/todd-lehman/

Steve Bomar, lead pastor at Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, Oregon, began his faith journey as a Nazarene, but upon being exposed to Anabaptist theology, he began to consider if MC USA might be the place for him and his beliefs. **Read about his faith journey here**: mennoniteusa.org/nazarene-to-mennonite

Spiritual director **Sherill Hostetter** has been diagnosed with a rare and incurable disorder, and she shares how she has **developed resiliency in the face of her diagnosis and health challenges**. Read how she has developed resiliency here: mennoniteusa.org/go-as-expected

Eric Massanari shares about Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference's annual Conference Communicator Council meeting, featuring a presentation by MC USA Archives Coordinator Olivia Krall. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/menno-shorts/pacific-northwest/

AMBS

Do you sense a call to ministry? Nurture your leadership abilities, grow in spiritual practices, and deepen your understanding of Anabaptist theology and ministry through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's **Journey Missional Leadership Development Program**. The distance-friendly undergraduate-level program offers the guidance of a dedicated pastoral mentor and community support. The Fall 2025 cohort begins Sept. 5; apply by July 9 to save $100! ambs.edu/journey

Fully online seminary degree. Check out Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's fully online **Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism**! The 46-credit-hour academic degree program can be completed in four years of part-time study and offers a global approach to Anabaptist theological education. Learn more: ambs.edu/matga

Pathways Retreat

Pathways Retreat offers a variety of programs and workshops, including a two-week art and nature experience for children; Zentangle-inspired Art classes; weekly yoga; Contemplative Circle; and Soul Collage. Daily prayers happen in-person and online. Learn more at pathwaysretreat.org.

Goshen College will host 1994 graduate **Sofia Samatar**, a writer of fiction and nonfiction, to speak at the **2025 S. A. Yoder Memorial Lecture** on Tuesday, March 18 at 7 p.m. in Rieth Recital Hall. Samatar lives in Virginia and teaches African literature, Arabic literature, and speculative fiction at James Madison University, where she is Roop Distinguished Professor of English.

The Goshen College education department will host a **Careers in Education Open House**, open to all aspiring teachers, on Wednesday, March 19 beginning at 10 a.m. This is a chance to meet faculty, explore the GC community, and see what the track to becoming an educator holds!

High school students and parents are encouraged to attend **Explore Goshen Day** at the Union Building Welcome Center at 9 a.m. on Friday, March 21. This is a great opportunity for high school students and their parents to join other families for an exciting campus visit day and explore the opportunities at Goshen College. More information is available at goshen.edu/visit.

Journeying Together with Grief: a grief retreat at Amigo Centre, April 11-13. We invite you to experience the healing balm of the natural setting of Amigo Centre, while connecting with others who are on a similar life-path. David and Naomi Wenger, together with other skilled leaders, will facilitate sessions and activities that expand our toolboxes for grieving well and for accepting grief as a part of life. We offer a kind and flexible space to reflect in groups and individually. Learn more and register at bit.ly/AmigoGriefRetreat.

Opportunities

Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission is seeking a *Church and Donor Relations Coordinator* to deepen relationships with churches and donors, grow the community of AIMM supporters, communicate what God is doing among AIMM African members, and strengthen relationships between North American and African Anabaptists. For more information, please visit **https://www.aimmint.org/employment-opportunities.html**

Church Community Services is seeking volunteers for spring and summer Wednesday mornings, 9-noon. Help us with seeding starts, building projects, spring garden prep, planting, community gardening and more! We are also looking for volunteers interested in working cash crop fields, or helping with tilling and tractor projects. We have fun opportunities for GROUPS—school, corporate, and youth volunteers. We love to host groups in the garden! If you are interested in getting your hands dirty, please check out our website churchcommunityservices.org/vol to fill out the application and get started!

Upcoming retreats at Amigo Centre: Journeying Together with Grief, April 11-13, led by David and Naomi Wenger; Women's Retreat, May 9-11, led by Sharon Brugger Norton; Scrapbooking, Quilting, & Crafting Retreats, April 4-6, Sept. 26-28 and Dec. 5-7.

Anabaptism at 500 Essay Contest Offers College Scholarship Opportunities. Want to earn a scholarship for college? The **Living Forward: Anabaptism at 500 Essay Contest** is your chance to showcase your writing skills and win financial support for your education. Eligible students are invited to submit an essay to compete for a scholarship for the 2025-2026 academic year. The student with the best essay will receive a scholarship of $1,000 and the first runner-up will receive a scholarship of $500. **Submission deadline is April 19, 2025.** Find more details and application information at https://www.mennomedia.org/living-forward-essay-contest/