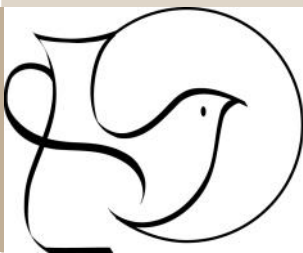




June 15, 2025



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture hour
electives for all ages

Welcome Team

Greeters: Barb & Jerry Landes
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto,
Carla Miller
Audiovisuals: Shawn Stutzman,
Jeff Claassen

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. - Haystacks &
Games; Fellowship Hall
7:45 p.m. - MYF convention
meeting

Saturday

10:00 a.m. - Potawatomi Zoo
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

Welcoming Jocelyne and Germain to MC USA Convention

Cindy Voth for BBI Planning Group

We are getting excited to welcome Jocelyne Ahoga and Germain Dossou, delegates from Benin Bible Institute (BBI). This visit, unlike previous visits, would have the unique goal of having our BBI Delegates participate in the national conventions of Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA. Jocelyne and Germain visited with us in Goshen in the fall of 2024 before traveling to visit with our siblings at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church in Ontario.



After their visit last fall, during our debriefing zoom meeting with leadership from St. Jacobs, we wondered about the possibility of inviting BBI to send delegates to North America during the summer of 2025. The BBI Board was excited about this possibility and unique learning opportunity of connecting with our broader denominations and being able to serve as international representatives with Mennonite Mission Network.

Since COVID, we have been experiencing considerable delays in our BBI friends being able to receive interviews at the US Embassy to apply for visas. Due to the quick turnaround, new delegates would not have had time to secure an interview and a visa. However, thanks to quick thinking from our friends at St. Jacobs, we remembered that Jocelyne

See BBI Guests at Convention on page 3

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

No Services at Waterford

Finances – June 8, 2025

Operating Fund	\$3,800.00
Mennonite Education	\$1,240.00
Either Fund	\$1,775.00
<i>Budget Total</i>	<i>\$6,815.00</i>
J. Walsh Memorial	\$20.00
Total	\$6,835.00

Looking Ahead

June 22: Sermon: Katie Misz;
The Vibrant Church
(2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5)
June 29: Welcoming New
Members

Pastoral Team

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

Out of Office

Cindy Voth - June 17
Deron Bergstresser - June 17
Katie Misz - June 19

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?

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

Thank You

Dear friends,

Thank you for the lovely orchid given to me at the time of my Dad's death. It's hard to imagine going through life's passages without you. I'm so grateful to be part of this community!

Marge Gingerich

From Endowment Grant Recipients:

Dear Waterford Church,

On behalf of all the volunteers at Indiana AID and the immigrants that are detained, we'd like to express our sincere gratitude for your donation to our cause. We are able to reach many more immigrants with emails, video calls, commissary help and reading materials. Thank you!

Indiana AID

Dear Waterford Friends,

Thank you for contributing \$1500 from your Endowment Fund to enable us to provide more mobility scooters at Follow Jesus 25, this year's Mennonite Convention. We are grateful for your gift to those who need wheels to help them access all that the denominational gathering has to offer. We are also deeply grateful for the gift of our relationship with Waterford Mennonite Church and for all your support for Anabaptist Disabilities Network in multiple ways. Thank you for being a partner in our ministry.

Jeanne Davies, Executive Director

Stephen Ministries Update

WMC Participates in Local Stephen Leader Network

Lorna Claassen

Once a year WMC Stephen Leaders meet with Stephen Leaders from College Mennonite Church and Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship.

While all Stephen Ministry programs have the same purpose of caring for others and function with the same model, it is helpful to have a local support network of Anabaptist churches.

During our meeting, we share challenges, joys and ideas for Continuing Ed. Since all Stephen Ministers have the same training, we have in the past shared Stephen Ministers. WMC has benefited from meeting with Stephen Ministers from these two churches.

Preliminary plans are being made to conduct a joint Stephen Minister training course for the three churches.

BBI Guests at Convention (cont. from page 1)

and Germain had been granted multiple year visas which meant that we could invite them to return again this summer. They were both excited for this opportunity to interact with members from St. Jacobs and Waterford, as well as connecting with our broader denominations.

Jocelyne and Germain will first travel to Canada before flying to North Carolina for the MCUSA Convention on July 7. They will be presenting a seminar on Thursday afternoon, “Benin Bible Institute: Training for Service.” During the convention, they will be hosted in an Airbnb with Cindy and Lydia Voth, Len Harms, and Rod Hollinger-Janzen.

We invite you to three specific ways of interacting with our upcoming time with Jocelyne and Germain:

- We invite you to join us in praying for Jocelyne and Germain as they travel to North America, participate in two national conventions, and share with others in a variety of settings.
- Since Jocelyne and Germain are not coming to Goshen (they will fly back to Benin from NC), we would like to take Goshen to them! Please stop by the foyer on June 15, 22 or 29 to write your words of greetings on a banner. Then, we will take the banner with us to NC and hang it up in our Airbnb. (Thanks to Melissa Chupp for creating the banner!)
- Are you traveling to NC for the convention? If so, we invite all WMCers to have lunch with Germain and Jocelyne on Thursday, July 10, at 12:15. We will find a corner in the lunch hall of the convention center. So just grab your food and then we will eat together. (Over lunch on Wednesday, Germain and Jocelyne will be having lunch with those from our BBI Planning Group, along with some of our MYF and MYF Sponsors to dream together about a Youth Trip to Benin in 2026).

We continue to be grateful for our partnership with BBI and for the gift of being able to send and receive delegates. Thank you for covering our time together with your prayers.

Waterford Announcements

Let's go to the zoo! Meet at Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 21, and spend as little or as much time there as you like. Admission is: \$14 - ages 15-61, \$12 - ages 3-14 and adults 62+, and children under 2 are free. Sign up at the Participation Station.

VBS registration is here! Do you know someone who will be in **Kindergarten to 6th grade this fall** who would like to attend the VBS? This year, we are teaming with Assembly, Berkey, Faith, and Silverwood for the VBS at Silverwood Mennonite Church from July 29 (Tuesday) to August 1 (Friday), from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Register your child(ren) by July 6 at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfthiYpIk_u2uehUGuGMyG2B77JI_PBtWVVRlc8fh-4ojvmQ/viewform.

MCUSA

Check out the **MC USA checklist for youth leaders** to help faith formation leaders prepare their youth for Follow Jesus '25, MC USA's national convention, here: convention.mennoniteusa.org/the-experience/program-documents/

From Spirit-led conversations to glam-bot-style selfies, the **exhibit hall at MC USA's Follow Jesus 25** national convention promises to be more than just a showcase — it's a hub of connection, celebration and discovery. Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/fj25-exhibit

Mindy Nolt, who attends Blossom Hill Mennonite Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, reflects on how difficult it can be to **find time and space to rest** and regain her energy, especially as a Christian woman who has experienced the pressures that the Christian patriarchy has placed on her. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/protecting-our-energy

Mennonite Church USA Moderator Jon Carlson echoes Paul's **call for us to be reconciled to God and one another**. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/reconciled/

AMBS

Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible: Sept. 10 – Oct. 21.

Join Drew Strait, PhD, and Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, PhD, to study pertinent Scripture passages and reflect on how these texts contribute to a robust and biblically based practice of peace and justice today. This online short course of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary lasts six weeks. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by Aug. 20 to save \$50.

ambs.edu/online-short-courses

Take a seminary course this fall!

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's distance-friendly options include Earthkeeping; Faith Formation and Spirituality: Children; Luke-Acts: Gospeling Peace Amid Empire; Mennonite Public Faith and Christian Nationalism; Reading Cultural Contexts; Somatic Spiritual Practices; and more. In-person courses are also available. Some courses may be audited. Nonadmitted students get 50% off their first three credit hours! Courses run Sept. 2 – Dec. 12; sign up by Aug. 25.

ambs.edu/upcoming-courses

Next Sunday, **June 22**, is the first of three Sundays that **we will worship outside from our church pavilion**. Once again, there will be some chairs set up under the pavilion roof, but if you have lawn chairs, please bring them, or blankets, to sit on. The service will also be live streamed to the inside sanctuary for those sensitive to sun, heat or less than even ground.

Upcoming Events

MCC Grandparents' Day Kit Packing: What better way to spend time with your grandchildren than volunteering together to pack kits for MCC? Grandparents are invited to bring their grandchild(ren) to an MCC kit-packing event at the MCC Material Resources Center in Goshen (1013 Division Street) on Wednesday, June 25 from 9:30 a.m. - noon or Friday, June 27 from 9:30 a.m. - noon. Please register for one (or both) time slots by visiting mcc.org/goshen-grandparents or by calling 574-534-4071.

2025 Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale: This year the **Fall Décor and Dried Flower booth** will have more space and a great need for more fall decorations. We would like your assistance in growing and/or drying items for sale in the booth. We would greatly appreciate dried flowers and grasses along with traditional fall decorations such as gourds and corn. We cannot be successful without your generous help! For more information, contact Ruth Andrews at 765-432-7517.

SAVE THE DATE: Join us on November 7 and 8 for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) **Northern Indiana MCC Comforter Bash**. People of all ages are invited to knot comforters at Pleasant View Church (58529 County Road 23). For more information about the event visit mcc.org/northern-in-comforter-bash or contact LaVera Schlabach (574.538.9629) or Donna Stoltzfus (tdstoltz48@gmail.com). A handmade comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Times: Friday the 7th, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday the 8th, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are especially needed on Saturday! Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day on Saturday. Must be present to win.

Opportunities

Since time immemorial, [Western Apache and other Native peoples have gathered at Oak Flat](#), also known as Chi'chil Bildagoteel, for religious ceremonies that cannot take place anywhere else. This arid desert ecosystem is recognized as a **Traditional Cultural Property on the National Register of Historic Places** and was safeguarded from mining activities since 1955 through the actions of President Eisenhower. On May 27, the Supreme Court refused to hear a case to protect the Western Apache sacred site Oak Flat from destruction. The proposed mining operation not only poses a threat to indigenous sacred sites and religious practices, but would severely deplete and contaminate the area's vital water resources. **MCC and Creation Justice Ministries held a webinar** on Tuesday, June 3 to talk about **ways to help protect Oak Flat** from destruction. Check out [this link](#) for a recording of the webinar.

MC USA is seeking an archivist coordinator for the Elkhart office. The coordinator oversees the accessioning, arrangement, description and preservation of permanent records for MC USA in textual, photographic, audiovisual, micrographic and multimedia formats. View the job description here: mennoniteusa.org/employment/archivist To request an application form, contact HR@MennoniteUSA.org or call 574-523-3027.