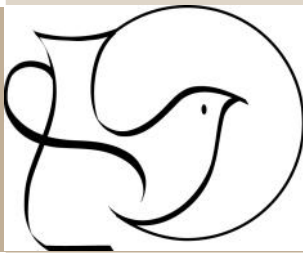


**This Sunday:**

9:00 a.m. - Worship  
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour  
12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Meal  
                  hosted by Koinonia  
12:00 p.m. - Meet & Greet with  
                  the Pastors during lunch  
                  in the MYF Room



**September 7, 2025**



# *The Waterford Buzz*

**Welcome Team**

Greeters: Jon. & Mary Ann  
              Wieand  
Ushers: Douglas Graber, Ken  
              Otto, Len Harms  
Audiovisuals: Glen Kauffmann,  
                  Steve Fath

**This Week at Waterford**

**Tuesday**

7:00 p.m. - Ecuador Prayers

**Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. - Venture Club  
7:00 p.m. - JYF and MYF

**Thursday**

8:30 a.m. - Mennonite Women  
2:30 p.m. - Senior Adult MT /  
              Rm 4

**Saturday**

10:00 a.m. - Bike Ride to  
              Mooney's / Abshire Park

**Zoom prayers**

**Waterford Mennonite Church**

65975 State Road 15  
Goshen, IN 46526  
Phone 574-533-5642  
office@waterfordchurch.org  
www.waterfordchurch.org

**Fernando Daza Wins 2025 Global Citizenship Award**

*Reprinted by permission from the Goshen College website*

When Fernando thinks about the values of a global citizen, he immediately thinks of his mother. She was a woman of strong faith with a servant's heart, and she taught Fernando kindness, compassion, generosity, selflessness, and uplifting others. When someone needs help, Fernando is well-known to say, "I can do that!"

Fernando is a high-achieving student in the business and peace, justice and conflict studies departments and has set challenging goals for himself. He is motivated by curiosity and the desire to learn. He describes having "restless passion." As a first year student he changed his major three or four times, not, he writes, because he didn't know what he wanted to study but because he was curious and passionate about everything.

Fernando values being actively involved in community life. The list of his activities is long and distinguished. He is a Peer Financial Coach with Everence, a member of the Convocation/Chapel Student Committee, a two-time Maple Scholar, a volunteer at the Center for Healing & Hope, a member of the United Leaders of Goshen College, Opinion Editor for the Record, a member of the Community Response Team student subcommittee, an Academic Response Team member, an Orientation Leader for Welcome Week, a leader with the Prevention Intervention Network, and the longest-serving leader of the Latino Student Union. He is also [a member] at Waterford Mennonite Church, where he actively participates with the Young Adult group. Fernando writes that all of his leadership roles were shaped by his lived experience as an immigrant and as a first-generation, queer, Afro-Latino college student in the U.S. He has worked to promote diversity

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 195

Nurture Hour - 189

### Finances – August 31, 2025

Operating Fund \$3,630.00

Mennonite Education \$2,511.10

Either Fund \$3,715.00

**Budget Total \$9,856.10**

Welcome Spaces \$2,000.00

Four Way Mission \$75.00

**Total \$11,931.10**

### Looking Ahead

September 14: Sermon: Cindy

Voth; The Lord's Prayer

(Matthew 6:13)

September 21: Koinonia

Revelation Drama; The Lord's

Prayer

### Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team

Leader

Monday - Thursday

Deron Bergstresser

Tuesday - Friday

Katie Misz

Monday - Thursday

### Out of Office

Katie Misz - September 10-11

Elvina Schmidt September 7-13

### Office hours this week

Monday - Thursday

9 - 12, 1 - 3

Friday 9 - 12

**Greeter signup:** <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/>

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](mailto:buzz@waterfordchurch.org)

and learning across languages, ethnicities, and affinity groups, and his activities celebrate culture and resilience. He shows respect to his peers and is respected by them for his gracious attitude and desire to listen and learn. He has felt personally challenged to embody peacemaking and global citizenship values through action. At a recent United Nations Seminar in New York City, he came away inspired about the power of nonviolence and conflict resolution "as a daily practice that promotes justice and creates safer spaces." He writes, "What fills my cup is knowing that my actions help current students feel seen and supported, and hopefully inspire prospective students to see a place for themselves here. That sense of belonging through leadership is what has carried me this far, and it's what I hope to continue offering to others."

Congratulations Fernando!

## Sewists Needed

How exciting to have so many school kits collected this year! 290! Now is the time to replace the bags and we need your help! If you can sew a straight line and read directions, Karen has a supply of fabric cut for this use. Our goal is to have 400 bags by next spring. Each bag made counts, so ask Joyce Bontrager or Karen Hostetler and we will be glad to give you ready-to-sew pre-cut fabric and instructions for making the bags in your home. We have volunteers who will insert the drawstrings later. As you complete bags, you can return the finished bags and pick up more fabric.

Sharon Swartzendruber sews bags during Mennonite Women on the second Thursday of each month. We have a second sewing machine that can be used during our meeting time, or you can bring your own if you would like to join her.

All are welcome to join the fun sewing, knitting, quilting or knotting at **Mennonite Women on September 11**, starting at 8:30 a.m. Some come for a few hours and others for the day. The carry-in lunch is yummy and the Least Coin offering has been generous.

*Joyce Bontrager, Mennonite Women President*

## Waterford Announcements

This Sunday will be our **September fellowship meal** hosted by the Koinonia class. Please bring a dish or two to share and your own table service. Waterford has included an invitation in the Goshen College announcements for students to visit Waterford and Young Adult class, with a special mention of monthly potlucks. We encourage you to be generous with your portions the next couple of months to **accommodate potential college visitors!**

**New Attenders are invited to a Meet 'n Greet with the pastors during the meal.** Go to the beginning of the line and take your full plates and your questions about Waterford to the MYF room.

If you would be willing to **drive college students to and from WMC** on Sunday mornings, please contact Katie Misz.

Renew your **Rejoice!** subscription by filling out the pink form in your mailbox (more on the table below) and returning it to the church office mailbox with your check for \$40, payable to WMC, by September 14.

**Pumpkinvine Bike Ride.** Saturday, September 20, meet at 10:00 a.m. at Abshire Park and bike the Pumpkinvine trail to Mooney's Ice Cream. If you are not up to biking, plan to meet the group at Mooney's for lunch or an ice cream treat around 11:00. Mooney's opens at 11:00, so if you are a fast biker, you may have time to go on past Mooney's to ride a bit further and come back to Mooney's by 11:00. Sign up at the participation station and indicate whether you will bike or meet at Mooney's. **NOTE:** Mooney's will only accept cash as payment, so plan accordingly.

Sam Stoltzfus and her partner Leif Billings are looking for a **1-2 bedroom apartment to rent** through next summer. They have been looking for two months and are struggling to find a place. If you or someone you know has a space available, please contact Sam at [samlinkstoltzfus@gmail.com](mailto:samlinkstoltzfus@gmail.com).

If you are **interested in learning the Lord's Prayer in American Sign Language** during our Dwelling in the Word series, here is a good tutorial created by a local Presbyterian pastor: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQo\\_p7Zu2nc&t=628s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQo_p7Zu2nc&t=628s). You can also watch and learn from the weekly videos by Naomi Ross Richer. Here is this [week's video](#). Each week we will add the video that corresponds with the sermon topic.

## Upcoming Events

**HOPE IN A TIME OF PERIL:** A Webinar, September 10, 6 p.m. Across the nation and within our communities, immigrant families and allies are contending with aggressive immigration raids, addressing fear and uncertainty, and responding to the impacts of family separation with care and compassion. Please **join the Interfaith Immigration Coalition** for a webinar to hear updates on federal government actions, understand how immigrant families are navigating these incredibly difficult circumstances, and learn how people of faith are mobilizing boldly to stand for welcome. [Register here](#).

**Free community concert!** Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m., at Sauder Concert Hall, Goshen College. This concert will feature **Seth Crissman and Greg Yoder**, the founders of The Soil and The Seed Project, a community-supported ministry that creates music, art and Little Liturgies to nurture faith in Jesus through the ordinary moments of life. The free event — hosted by Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Faith Formation Collaborative — is open to the public and will also feature local musicians. Come listen, sing along, learn about this exciting initiative and get beautiful, free resources! [ambs.edu/soil-and-seed](http://ambs.edu/soil-and-seed)

**Teach Me, O LORD: A Faith Formation Workshop for Teachers, Parents, Caregivers, Church Leaders,** Thursday, Sept. 11, 8:30–11:30 a.m. at Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship, 2509 Berkey Avenue. The Soil and The Seed Project founders **Seth Crissman and Greg Yoder** will offer a faith formation workshop, which will build on the resources they create that weave together original music, visual art, prayers and invitations to theological reflection that grow out of the Anabaptist tradition of Christian faith and practice. Children are welcome to attend; childcare and/or child-friendly activities will be available. There is no cost to participate, but [registration](#) is encouraged.

## Mennonite Action

**[Courage School](#):** Mennonite Action invites you to join a 4-week online organizing training series called **Fall Term Courage School** beginning in early September. The goal of this training series is to provide Mennonite Action participants with the analysis, courage and concrete skills you need to meet this moment. Learn more and register [here](#).

In solidarity with our Palestinian and Mennonite siblings, we are launching a **Mennonite Action Michiana Calling Campaign for Gaza** during and around the September 9 action in Washington, DC. With your help, we will call our Representative and Senators **every 30 mins from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. September 8, 9 and 10.** [Find out more about this calling campaign](#), read a sample script and [sign up here](#). If you sign up, we ask that you call all three elected officials during your 30-minute time slot. You may sign up for more than one time slot and one day. We are inspired by the calling campaign Mennonite Action Harrisonburg has been running for over 3 weeks! Our representatives must know: **no business as usual during genocide.** [Join us!](#) All are welcome and encouraged to participate in this action!



## MCUSA

**MC USA's 2025 convention** in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 8–12, **set records for attendance and racial diversity**. Of the 1,640 registrants — the highest turnout in three conventions — a record 17.2 percent (282 attendees) identified as Black, Indigenous or people of color. More importantly, BIPOC voices filled prominent leadership roles at the national convention. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/intentionality-drives-belonging](https://mennoniteusa.org/intentionality-drives-belonging)

## Pathways Retreat

Pathways Retreat is **offering a variety of programs and workshops**, including an Enneagram Introductory Workshop, Honoring our Pain for the World, Attuning to the Season, Contemplative Practices in Four Traditions, Advent Night Visions, and Weekly Yoga. Clergy Inner Soul and Group Spiritual Direction groups are forming to meet monthly September - May. Learn more at [pathwaysretreat.org](https://pathwaysretreat.org).

***The Courage to Love: Anabaptism@500***. [Hear César García, General Secretary of Mennonite World Conference](#) at Greencroft on Friday, September 19 at 10:30 a.m. When we meet together as Anabaptists from around the world, and with leaders of other Christian traditions, it is a time of learning from each other and building a common mind for being the church together in the world. César García will give a public presentation about the 500th commemoration of Anabaptism in Zurich in May, as well as the 100th celebration of Mennonite World Conference. The public is invited.

**Evergreen Singers** will have their fall concert on September 21 at 2:30 p.m. in the Goshen Greencroft Community Center. Ten of the 40+ singers are from our Waterford Family. All are welcome!

The Fall Decorations and Dried Flower booth at the Relief Sale would greatly appreciate **donations of all natural dried flowers and grasses** along with traditional fall decorations such as gourds and corn. If you have questions please reach out to Ruth Andrews at 765-860-4047.

## Opportunities

**Seeking an Executive Assistant to the President and Vice President/Academic Dean:** Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, is accepting applications for this full-time position. The person in this key executive-level position plays a central role in the leadership infrastructure of the seminary, supporting and extending the work of the President and Academic Dean through high-level administrative coordination, strategic alignment and institutional representation. This is a highly relational and detail-oriented role, ideal for someone who can manage complexity with grace, think strategically, act diplomatically, maintain confidentiality and communicate effectively. See the [full job description](#).

**Civil Rights Pilgrimage** — This special pilgrimage, **tailored specifically for young adults**, will be led by MC USA executive director Glen Guyton. Join for a unique multiracial pilgrimage through the southern United States with opportunities for shared learning and deep understanding of the racial divides that our society perpetuates. **Date: October 28 – November 2, 2025; register by September 15.**

**MCC's Seeking Shalom Peace Camp:** Young adults ages 18-30 are invited to explore the meaning of shalom as a wholistic sense of peace at MCC's Seeking Shalom Peace Camp on November 1-8. The camp will begin at **Camp Friedenswald** in Cassopolis, Michigan, on November 1-4, diving deep into God's word and into practical tools of peacebuilding. We will dream possibilities of shalom for our communities and gain tools for engaging conflict effectively. On November 5-8, we will transition to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and participate in the Christian Community Development Association's (CCDA) annual conference. This is a rich opportunity to hear from leaders across the country, connect with community development organizations, experience worship and attend workshops. **Learn more and register by October 5 at [mcc.org/seeking-shalom](https://mcc.org/seeking-shalom)**