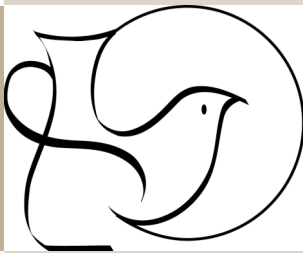




October 19, 2025



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour;
classes for all ages

Welcome Team

Greeters: Susan & Firman
Gingerich
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto,
LaVon Short
Audiovisuals: Colin Berkey,
Dom Ramer

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday

4:00 p.m. - FFMT / FH

Saturday

9:00 a.m. - Men's retreat

Zoom prayers

Monday - 8:30 a.m.

Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

Waterford Mennonite Church

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Goshen, IN 46526
Phone 574-533-5642
office@waterfordchurch.org
www.waterfordchurch.org

Changes in the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team

Bill Minter, for Stephen Leaders

The Waterford Mennonite Church Stephen Ministry Leadership Team (WMC SMLT) is making some small changes. Karl Birky and Anne Lehman have completed the SMLT training and joined the team. New people mean new assignments for team members, although any of us can be asked any questions about Stephen Ministry and if we don't know the answer we'll refer you to the appropriate person.

- Bill Minter will continue to provide administrative and general leadership.
- Kenneth Blount, Mel and Lorna Claassen and Anne Lehman are responsible for coordinating referrals to Stephen Ministers.
- Karl Birky is responsible for communication and awareness activities and for continuing education coordination.
- Bill Minter is responsible for recruitment and training, although we all will work with Bill on recruitment and training new Stephen Ministers.
- Kenneth Blount, Lorna Claassen and Anne Lehman are responsible to coordinate Peer Group Supervision.

We anticipate adding two new Stephen Ministers to the ministry in February and look forward to their joining this caring ministry of Waterford Mennonite Church.

Stephen Ministry at Waterford works very closely with the Pastoral staff as an extension of their caring ministry. We continue to respond to recommendations from the congregation for Stephen Ministers and individuals who might benefit from having their own Stephen Minister to walk with them during a challenging time.

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 219

Nurture Hour - 236

Finances – October 12, 2025

Operating Fund	\$5,070.00
Mennonite Education	\$3,208.00
Either Fund	\$3,165.00
Budget Total	\$11,443.00
Least Coin Fund	\$46.00
Four Way Mission	\$1,000.00
Total	\$12,489.00

Looking Ahead

October 26: Sermon: Cindy Voth;
Envy and Ambition
(James 3:13-4:3, 7-8)

November 2: Sermon: Deron
Bergstresser; Prayer and
Praise
(James 5:13-20)

Pastoral Team

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

Out of Office

Cindy Voth - October 19-22

Office hours this week

Monday - Thursday
9 - 12, 1 - 3
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

SOS

Special Treat for Prairie View Elementary Staff

Luke and Cindy Voth, SOS Coordinators

For over the past 10 years WMC has had a special relationship with Prairie View Elementary School. We are one of three local churches who are in partnership with PVES through a program called “Supporting Our Schools” or, SOS for short. Within our partnership we are invited to support the students as well as the teachers and staff at PVES. Throughout the year, we do a variety of things within our partnership. In August we purchased 100 headphones for students to use during testing. We keep a “granola bar cupboard” stocked in the main office. The bars are offered to students who might arrive too late to get breakfast, or when needed throughout the day.

Our next opportunity to bless and support PVES is providing a special breakfast treat for the 95 staff members on Monday, November 10. This special treat is just to offer a word and gesture of gratitude and encouragement to all involved in the care, nurture, and education of the 430 students who attend PVES. There are two ways you can participate in this gesture of blessing and care. First, you can stop by the Participation Station to sign up to contribute food items for the breakfast — fruit trays to serve 10, baked goods to serve 12 (sweet rolls, muffins, scones, coffee cake, etc.), containers of mixed nuts, or special paper plates and napkins.

The second way you can participate in this gesture of blessing and care is to stop by the paper banner in the foyer on November 2 and 9 to write a note of encouragement and appreciation to the staff. We will hang the banner above the breakfast foods at the school.

Thank you for the ways you participate in helping us to partner with other local churches to provide care and support to one of our local elementary schools.

Thank You

We were blessed by the flowers WMC provided to honor the recent passing of Karla’s father, Leroy Yoder. Also, for the many notes of sympathy. We were especially warmed by those who recounted the support Leroy provided as the Mennonite Board of Missions (now MMN) staff contact to them when they served abroad with the agency. While Leroy was not a stamp collector, he saved all those foreign stamps on the air mail letters he received from you. I (Bill) was the benefactor of all those stamps you licked when I married into the family, and they are part of my growing stamp collection.

—Karla and Bill Minter

Waterford Announcements

This is the last Sunday to sign up for the **Autumn Men's Retreat**, October 25, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Men of all ages are invited to join this retreat of listening, sharing and learning from the season of Autumn. **Sign up** at the participation station.

Sign up for the **Women's Retreat**, Saturday, **November 15**. Karla Minter will guide us in looking at our place in God's world. From 9:00 a.m. to noon, followed by lunch together. **Sign up at the participation station** if you would like to attend. For more information contact Ursula Hess or Judy Snyder.

Endowment Fund Reminder: Applications are now being accepted for the Fall 2025 Endowment Fund distribution. These funds are granted for projects and missions that further the aims of the church, but which are separate from the annual budget. Guidelines and applications can be found on the church website: www.waterfordchurch.org. Completed applications may be emailed to Doug Yoder, chair, at yoder.id@gmail.com, or placed in his mailbox **by October 26, 2025**.

Remember to turn in your **"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner"** paper to the box at the Participation Station by October 26.

Upcoming Events

Celebrate IVEP's 75th anniversary! The International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) is turning 75 and we're ready to celebrate! Come gather with us on **Saturday, October 25**, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Assembly Mennonite Church (727 New York St., Goshen). Together, we'll enjoy snacks, hear stories, share reflections and celebrate the impact of IVEP across generations. RSVP here: [IVEP 75-year Celebration - Goshen, IN | Mennonite Central Committee](#)

Friends of Amigo Banquet at Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship, November 6, 6 p.m. Join Amigo Centre's staff and board for an evening of delicious food, hear updates and stories from the year, and have an opportunity to give financially to the ministry of Amigo! **RSVP by October 23 at bit.ly/AmigoRegistration**. Unable to attend in person but still want to support our work? Donate or purchase something from our wishlist at AmigoCentre.org/Donate

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 knit 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.

MCUSA

Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, MC USA's denominational minister for peace and justice, responded with a **prayer of lament** to the mass shooting at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis. Read and pray along with the prayer here:

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/prayer-of-lament/>

MMN

Support hope for migrating people. Mennonite Mission Network invites **prayer and urgently needed financial support for Joseph and Rachel Givens**, who serve with the Maria Skobtsova Housing Association in Calais, France. Their ministry offers vital shelter and care to migrating people seeking refuge as they journey to England. Visit MennoniteMission.net/Givens and click "Give Now." For more information about their immigration ministry, contact Elizabeth Eby, ElizabethE@MMNWorld.net.

AMBS

Get a seminary education at a distance! Strengthen your leadership skills and deepen your faith — from wherever you are located — through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's distance-friendly MA: Theology and Global Anabaptism; MA in Christian Formation; Master of Divinity; or a Graduate Certificate program. We offer generous need-based financial aid, matching grants and scholarships. Apply today! ambs.edu/degrees-and-programs

Special Event

The **Regional Repair Network Consortium** is hosting a **Reparations Summit** on Saturday, November 15 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Assembly Mennonite Church in Goshen (727 New York Street). This Summit features keynote speaker **Drew Hart**, Professor of Theology at Messiah University, author, and racial justice activist. Join people of faith who are drawn to the work of racial and economic justice to explore the biblical and historical call for reparations, and learn about the new **Reparations-Inspired Fund of Elkhart County**. Collectively committing to reparations is a move toward repair in a time of despair. This is a FREE event; lunch provided. Use this [link](#) to view the Summit schedule and register for this gathering.

Goshen College Library Gallery Exhibit: **Hutterite Life (from 1528): Communal Anabaptists**. The Hutterites, beginning in Moravia but now living in the Western U.S. and Canada, are the oldest and most successful communitarian society in the world. This exhibit is of recent Hutterite material culture in the context of their history (since 1528) and the 500th anniversary of the founding of the Anabaptist movement. Textiles, costumes, needlework, woodwork, basketry, toys, and other handicrafts. The exhibit will honor the scholarly work of Leonard Gross, of Goshen, and Robert Friedmann (1891- 1970). It is sponsored by the Mennonite-Amish Exhibit Committee of Goshen College. Runs to November 16.

Mennonite Action events

While we give thanks for the ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages, suffering in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, United States, and many other places continues. Join **Mennonite Action prayers** on Tuesday, **October 21**, from 12 until 1 p.m. in the **College Mennonite Church** sanctuary. We will pray with silence, songs, spoken prayers, and scripture, lamenting and praying for justice and peace throughout the world. All are welcome for the hour or for part of the hour.

You are invited to join Mennonite Action Michiana for a night of fellowship and learning on **October 21 at 7 p.m.** Dr. Anna Johnson will give a report about her experience leading **Mennonite Action's Palestine Solidarity Delegation in June**. Listen to Anna share about both the suffering and resilience of the Palestinian people the group encountered in the West Bank. Come for dessert (Texas sheet cake!) and coffee in the fellowship hall of **Kern Road Mennonite Church** (18211 Kern Rd, South Bend, IN). For questions, contact mennoniteactionmichiana@gmail.com. *We hope you will join us!*

[Join us for Picket and Pray: Weekly Spiritual Practice and Action for Palestine](#). Wednesdays on Zoom 12-12:30 p.m. ET. Mennonite Action is joining our friends at Christians for a Free Palestine and Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center for a **weekly 30 minute Zoom call for shared spiritual practice**. We will be rooted in the Christian tradition and action to end the genocide and for a Free Palestine. Our time together will include a short program of check-in, prayer, and a collective digital action. **We invite you to join us and invite your friends and loved ones.**

Opportunities

The board of Dove's Nest [MCC] Thrift Shop of Fort Wayne, Indiana, is looking for a **full-time manager to assume managerial responsibilities for Dove's Nest** on March 1, 2026. The candidate must actively support MCC's mission, have retail management or thrift shop experience, the ability to lead and manage paid staff and volunteers, have an understanding of accounting software and be proficient in using Microsoft Office Suite. Duties will include the day to day running of the store, making bank deposits, overseeing customer service, overseeing the effective receiving, processing and merchandising of Dove's Nest donation flow. The manager is directly responsible to the Dove's Nest board and is responsible for hiring employees. Request a more detailed job description and an application form by emailing doves.nest.search.committee@dovesnestthrift.onmicrosoft.com. Or find a [downloadable job description and application](#) here.