October 26, 2025

The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:
9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour; classes for all ages
2:00 p.m. - MYF barn party / at Mariko & Jeff Claassen's

Welcome Team
Greeters: Barb & Jerry Landes
Ushers: Mark King, Denise Diener, Wade Ramer
Audiovisuals: Shawn Stutzman, Jordan Kauffman

This Week at Waterford
Tuesday
6:00 p.m. - Worship MT
Wednesday
7:00 p.m. - MYF, JYF
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

Senior Adult Event

Ursula Hess, for Senior Adult Ministry Team

SAMT is inviting all senior adults to an afternoon of fellowship and music with harpist Anna Hagen on November 16 at 3 p.m. at WMC.

Anna Hagen is a young woman who plays the harp professionally, performs in church events at weddings, in theatres and with orchestras. Anna writes, "I started playing professionally at age fourteen. Soon, I mixed my love of public speaking into my playing and expanded from just background music to being the entertainer. Programs pushed me to discover new genres of music, expanding from my love of medieval and classical music into requested genres like Pop, Jazz and Rock & Roll."

She will play for us and bring her CDs for purchase.

You can learn about her different size harps and sample her Christmas album at annahagenharpist.com/meet-the-harps/

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance
Worship - 160
Nurture Hour - 191

Finances – October 19, 2025

Operating Fund	$6,480.00
Mennonite Ed	$10,925.00
Either Fund	$6,230.00
Budget Total	*$23,635.00*
Facilities	$2,000.00
Jubilee Fund	$60.00
Four Way Mission	$50.00
Total	**$25,745.00**

Looking Ahead
November 2: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Prayer and Praise
(James 5:13-20)
November 9: Sermon: Cindy Voth; Holistic Health: Spiritual
(John 11:1-46)
All Saints Ritual

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

Out of Office
Cindy Voth - Oct. 30 - Nov. 3
Karen Hostetler - Oct. 27 - Nov. 9

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?

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

Beware the Tiger

Wednesday, October 15 was Fall game night. Besides the usual haystacks and table games, there was pumpkin painting and fall-themed trivia.

Although there wasn't face painting, Ron Weirich decided to become the pumpkin. He asked Em Hunsbaker to paint his face and this is what he got.

Katie Misz and Lydia Voth painted their pumpkins like doughnuts with frosting and sprinkles.

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Thank You

JOEL SUIN LANKAS
MAASAI INTERGRATED DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES
677 NGONG HILLS
00208 NGONG, KENYA

22/10/2025

To Waterford Mennonite Church, Goshen, IN, USA.

Appreciation!

I hope this letter finds you in good health. I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support and generosity in funding my university education. Words cannot fully capture the profound impact this has had on my life, and I feel incredibly blessed to be part of a Christian community that not only preaches love and faith, but also lives it through action.

Thanks to the contributions from the Waterford Mennonite Church Endowment fund and the Perez Diener family through my colleague and neighbor Ariana Perez Diener, I have been able to pursue my studies with a clear mind and focused heart, free from the overwhelming burden of financial stress. This opportunity is truly a gift, one that I do not take for granted. It is allowing me to build a better future where I can give back to the community, just as you have supported me.

I want to express my personal appreciation. Your kindness and belief in my potential are deeply moving. Your generosity has not only made my education possible but has also inspired me to give my best in all that I do. I will honor your investment in me by working hard, staying committed, and using my education to make a positive impact in my community.

Thank you once again for making this dream a reality. Please know that this coming Friday, I will be graduating from Marist International University College, with first class honors, having completed my course in Strategic Development. I hope to have the opportunity to thank you in person one day.

With heartfelt appreciation and blessings from my family and my larger family of my parents, my siblings, and the community at large.

Pass my regards and greetings to all members of Waterford Mennonite Church,

Joel Lankas, my wife Natalia Lankas, my niece Regina, and my children Matthew, Kenneth, Ester, and Bridget.

To Waterford Mennonite Church

I would also like to give my thanks to you, Waterford and the Endowment Fund Committee for supporting Joel's dream to get a university degree. When I first arrived at my MCC service placement in Kenya, Joel was one of the first people to welcome me to my workplace and neighborhood. He was not only a colleague but a mentor, a friend, and a running buddy! He taught me about Maasai culture, how to work with communities and the ins and outs of getting around my village and town.

I have seen the hard work that Joel has put into his education and the education of his children and adopted niece. Throughout his time at university he always gave me updates on his classes and grades. I can attest that he is a very dedicated and hardworking student and I was not surprised when he told me he is graduating with First Class Honors.

I can already see the difference in Joel since he started his studies. He is more confident and has more skills to bring to his work with Maasai Integrated Development Initiatives.

Thank you again to you all, members of Waterford, for living out your faith, and lifting up other people all across the world.

Sincerely,

Ariana Pérez Diener

Back left to right: Regina, Bridget (baby), Natalia Lankas, Denise Diener, Camila Pérez Diener, Gilberto Pérez, Joel Lankas Front left to right: Ester, Mathew, Kenneth, and Davy (neighbor)

Kittens for Adoption

Landon Kauffman is in the veterinary science program through Fairfield High School. They have three kittens being spayed in November who need homes. If you would like to adopt a kitten, contact Landon at landonkauffman4@gmail.com.

Waterford Announcements

Endowment Fund Applications are **due this Sunday**, October 26. 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.ld@gmail.com, or placed in his mailbox.

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

Bethany Fall Fish Fry, November 7 at Bethany Christian Schools. Dine-in will be from 4:30 to 8 p.m., and carryout (Adult Tickets Only) from 4 to 8 p.m. There's an online website where you can also purchase tickets or make a donation. Be sure to select Anna Schrock, Ethan Claassen, or Neer Goswami as the recipient. We'll be at church this week to sell in person, at a table by the library. Be sure to come and find us!

Let's bless and support **Prairie View Elementary Schoo**l by **providing a special breakfast treat** for the 95 staff members on Monday, November 10. 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.

Opportunities

Support Peace and Justice in Palestine. Want to do something to support Palestinians and learn God's way of peace in the Holy Land? Join MennoPIN (Mennonite Palestine Israel Network) and Mennonite Men as we travel to Palestine and Israel to plant olive trees, meet Palestinian peacemakers, and connect the land to Jesus' way of peace. Help raise $50,000 to replace up to 3,000 olive trees lost to ongoing conflict—restoring livelihoods and helping Palestinian families remain on their land. Then, travel with us to Palestine and Israel, February 4–19, 2026, to plant trees, meet Palestinian peacemakers, and visit sacred sites. This transformative journey connects faith, justice, and action as we follow Jesus' call to peace. Find more information at bit.ly/PalestineCoverLetter and bit.ly/PalestineFlyer

MCUSA

Stanley W. Green, executive conference minister of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference, shared **four realignments to heal and renew the church** in his recent article for Leader magazine (reprinted by MC USA, with permission). Read it here: https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/realigning/

MMN

Your congregation, Sunday school class and other groups are invited to **join Mennonie Mission Network in a seven-day Civil Rights or Christ at the Borders Just Peace Pilgrimage** to explore how God is weaving justice and reconciliation in U.S. and other communities. Engage firsthand with people, churches, and organizations who share how they pursue peace. Through group reflection, prayer, and worship, process these experiences and connect them to your faith; then return home as "changed people" who can inspire and lead change in your own community. For more information about a pilgrimage for your group, contact Stephanie Weaver, StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net. www.mennonitemission.net/JustPeace.

AMBS

Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program. Encourage someone you know who has gifts for ministry to check out this distance-friendly undergraduate-level program of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Journey helps participants nurture their leadership abilities, grow in spiritual practices, and deepen their understanding of Anabaptist theology and ministry with the guidance of a dedicated pastoral mentor and experienced facilitators. The Winter 2026 cohort begins Jan. 23; those who apply by Nov. 14 can save $100! ambs.edu/journey

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

If You Knew Me, You'd Love Me
FINDING COMMON GROUND THROUGH STORY AND SONG
November 2, 2025 | 4:00 p.m.
$20 suggested donation
Little Theatre at Moreau Center for the Arts
Saint Mary's College
18 St. Mary's College, South Bend, IN
rippleeffectchoir.org

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.

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.