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

Welcome Team
Greeters: Jerry & Joyce Troyer
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Wade Ramer, Denise Diener
Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler, Steve Fath

November 9, 2025

The Waterford Buzz

This Week at Waterford

Monday
3:30 p.m. - Fellowship MT

Tuesday
3:00 p.m. - Senior Adult MT
4:00 p.m. - FFMT / FH
7:00 p.m. - Ecuador Prayers / Zoom

Wednesday
6:30 p.m. - MLC / FH
7:00 p.m. - Venture Club
7:00 p.m. - JYF, MYF

Thursday
8:30 a.m. - Mennonite Women / MYF Rm

Saturday
9:00 a.m. - Women's Retreat / Fell. Hall
1:00 p.m. - MYF leave for Fall Retreat

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

Holistic Health Worship Series

Loanne Harms & Cindy Voth for Worship Ministry Team

The word holistic is an interesting one, one that while referring to the 'whole' of life, actually looks like it refers to something "holy"…which makes it a perfect title for our upcoming worship series, Holistic Health.

The dictionary, or actually AI, will say: 'Holistic means viewing something as a whole, complete system rather than a collection of separate parts. It emphasizes the interconnectedness and interdependence of the parts and their relationships to the whole.'

Worship Ministry Team has been reflecting on the various components of each of our lives, and the ways they are interconnected and interdependent with each other. One area of health, or unhealth, impacts another area within our lives. We began to wonder what it might look like to spend time considering how we are invited into holistic health as we strive to be faithful followers of Jesus.

We have crafted a nine week worship service around this important topic of holistic health. We will have three Sundays before Advent and then will pick the series back up in January after Epiphany. Together we will focus on our spiritual, sexual, physical, emotional/mental, and relational health. As we begin this series, we invite you to lean with us into self and communal reflection as we listen for God's invitation for each of us in each of these areas within our lives.

Continued, page 2

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance
Worship - 219
Nurture Hour - 222

Finances – November 2, 2025

Operating Fund	$7,505.00
Mennonite Ed	$625.00
Either Fund	$4,740.00
Budget Total	*$12,870.00*
Gaza Relief	$1,000.00
Total	**$13,870.00**

Looking Ahead
November 16: Led by Spiritual Formation & Nurture Ministry Team; Holistic Health: Spiritual
November 23: Sermon: Nancy Kauffmann; Holistic Health: Sexual
(Exodus 1:15-22)

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

Out of Office
Janet Shoemaker - November 9-16

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

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

Throughout the series we will hear stories from others at Waterford about their experiences in the various areas of health. Each week we will receive the gift of liturgical dance by Lanya Stoltzfus as she leads us into reflecting on the theme of the day. Next week on November 16 our Spiritual Formation and Nurture Ministry Team will be leading a contemplative worship service. Then on November 23 we will welcome Nancy Kauffmann as our guest preacher. Nancy is Mennonite Church USA's Interim Denominational Minister of Church Safety.

Worship Visual Arts: As we enter this series of Sundays on Holistic Health, we will have the opportunity to reflect on the connection of many of these separate parts and to help create a visual reminder of them all. Each week during the series you will be asked to contribute things to be added to a collage that will be hung within the sanctuary. Baskets at the doors will be made available for each week's items. You need not include names on any items.

Here is a list of each week's focus along with ideas for items to contribute to the collage:

- Nov. 9: Holistic Health—spiritual: we'll use the candles used up front
- Nov. 16: Holistic Health—spiritual: copy of a favorite scripture verse, a poem, or writing
- Nov. 23: Holistic Health—sexual: something you find speaks to your sense of self (perfume, after shave, razor, gym membership card, nail polish, necktie, etc.)
- Jan. 4, 2026: Holistic Health—physical: something medical, an adhesive bandage, a splint, gauze, medicine bottle, etc.)
- Jan. 11 & 18: Holistic Health—emotional/mental: incense, CD, mantra, yoga pose, stress ball, anything that helps you relax or focus)
- Jan. 25: Holistic Health—relational: photo of friends, family, social media post, address book page, thank you card, etc.)
- Feb. 1: Holistic Health—relational: (although we are not including financial in this series, we did focus on this last year and want to include it in our collage, so) check book page, check, balance sheet, small coins, etc.)
- Feb. 8: Holistic Health—weaving it together and final collage (hopefully)

Thank You

Thanks to many of you, the mentor pairs were able to take an amazing amount of food to the Window on Wednesday evening the 5th! We learned from them that they had already seen a major increase in the number of people who had come for assistance in the first week of November. This is an important and concrete way that all of us together could take the James message of faith being accompanied by action seriously. Thanks again, everyone!

Bonita Schrock, Mentor/Mentee Coordinator

Christmas Season

Christmas Prelude Orchestra

JD Smucker

It seems like ever since I began attending Waterford, there have always been many people in the congregation who play instruments. Our church has tried to affirm the musical gifts and talents among us, inviting string quartets, and other instruments in our worship time together. Over 10 years ago we made the effort to get all of our instrumentalists together before Christmas to do some music making. A medley of Christmas carols was chosen, at a difficulty level that was easy for those who had been playing an instrument for at least a year. As a result, between 15 - 25 people each year bring their instruments to church to join in a Christmas prelude. We will be doing this again on December 14 to start the service. Instrumentalists will come around 8:15 and we will play through the music a couple times and then share with the congregation.

Vyron and Elvina are leading the congregational singing, and a few of these songs may be accompanied by the orchestra.

Music is a sweet gift from God. Everyone who participates with their instrument will be given a gift for their effort. In addition, some fruit and donuts will also be available before the service for those needing added motivation. If you are interested in joining in with your instrument you can sign up at the Participation Station or let JD know and he can give you a copy of the music ahead of time to practice. For those who have done this for many years, just show up at 8:15 to tune, and we will all look forward to what you will bring to worship in our Christmas Prelude Orchestra on December 14.

Maple City Health Care Center is aware that many of our patients, who already struggle financially, face a huge new challenge as their SNAP food benefits have now become uncertain due to the government shut down. We are inviting churches and individual church members to partner with us in offering support to our patients who are now struggling more than ever to put food on their table. Your contribution will provide grocery store gift certificates for vulnerable families in our community. **For Details**: Providing Food for Vulnerable Families in our Community

Relief Kits

MCC Relief Kit Project

Dee Birkey

"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." -1 Peter 4:10

During the 2025 holiday season Waterford Mennonite Women again invites your participation in collecting Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Relief Kit supplies. You will find content lists on the table outside the church library.

Every donation makes a difference. Here are three participation options:

- Purchase items for a complete kit
- Purchase individual items
- Make an online donation at mcc.org Just click **GIVE** in the homepage banner.

In times of crisis, relief kits provide valuable supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by conflict or disaster and send a tangible message that their needs are not forgotten.

Last year, MCC shipped 21,401 relief kits to Cuba, Malawi, Palestine (Gaza), Ukraine and Zambia.

Waterford Announcements

This Sunday is Guess Who's Coming to Dinner night at 5:30. If you signed up to participate, don't forget to go!

This is the last Sunday to sign up for the **Women's Retreat,** next 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. For more information contact Ursula Hess or Judy Snyder.

Thanksgiving is fast approaching and we have so much to be thankful for. Plan to join **Mennonite Women** this coming Thursday, November 13 and share some of your most thankful moments this past year. Come anytime after 8:30 a.m. and stay as long as your schedule allows. The carry-in lunch is yummy and the Least Coin offering is given freely. Ideas for additional service projects you might be willing to work on are welcome.

Senior Adult Ministry Team is **inviting all senior adults to an afternoon of fellowship and music** with harpist Anna Hagen on Sunday, November 16, at 3 p.m. at Waterford Mennonite Church. Learn about Anna and her harps at annahagenharpist.com/meet-the-harps/

Court Chupp is looking for a 1 bedroom apartment in the Goshen area. Or if you are aware of anyone with an extra spare room or basement room, please contact him at 574-536-9625.

Upcoming Events

Come find JE Misz at Fables Books in Goshen on November 9, 1-3 p.m. for their "Meet the Author" event. He will be selling signed copies of his book, *A World We Might Have Built.* All proceeds of the book go towards relief efforts in Gaza. At the event, Fables is also supporting the Window, so bring along some frozen meat, canned or boxed soup, breakfast cereal, baby formula, or holiday meal staples.

Please join us for **Taize-inspired worship** on Sunday, November 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Walnut Hill Mennonite Church. These community-wide services of contemplative song, Scripture, and prayer are generally on the second Sunday of the month at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to be on the email list for the Taize worship, please contact Carmen Horst at cshorst@gmail.com

The **Open Fifths tenor-bass ensemble** celebrates 10 years with two concerts in November: **Sunday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.** at the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary chapel, Elkhart, and **Monday, Nov. 24, 7:30 p.m.** at College Mennonite Church, Goshen. "This Shining Night" features some of the group's favorites from across the decade and alumni singers will join for several pieces at the second concert. Tickets are just $10 and $5 for students when purchased in advance, or $15/$7 at the door. Tickets are available at Fables Books in Goshen. The group will also perform several numbers at Fables on "First Friday," Nov. 7 at 7:00. Jeff Miller and Ben Hochstedler are members of The Open Fifths.

AMBS Alumni Recognition Reception: Monday, Nov. 10, 8–9 p.m. The recipients of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's 2025 Alumni Ministry and Service Recognition, Michele Hershberger (MA 2000) and Robert (Jack) Suderman (MRE 1975), will be honored during this Zoom reception. All are welcome! Registration is required to receive the link: ambs.edu/alumni.

MCUSA

Executive Director Glen Guyton urges MC USA to face challenges with faith, reimagine its structure, and engage congregations in shaping a hopeful, Christ-centered future together. Read his Menno Snapshots here: https://www.mennoniteusa.org/the-future-of-mennonite-church/

The **MC USA Archives is seeking a volunteer to manage and update MennObits**, the online searchable public database of Anabaptist/Mennonite related obituaries. The primary task is entering information into the database. The volunteer would also review newspapers and funeral home websites in regions of concentrated Anabaptist/Mennonite populations to find related obituaries to enter. Managing MennObits requires your own computer and about 12 to 16 hours of time per month working from your own home. An Archives staff person will provide training and orientation. If interested, please contact Devon Miller at DevonM@MennoniteUSA.org.

AMBS

Webinar series: Find your way at AMBS! How can faith speak to issues that matter? Gain inspiration and insight from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary faculty in these webinars geared toward young adults. The webinars will be held from 8 to 8:30 p.m. on the following Tuesdays: Nov. 18: Find Purpose in the Mission of God, with Joe Sawatzky, PhD; Jan. 20: Find Hope in the Midst of Despair, with Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, PhD; and Feb. 17: Find Meaning in Life, with Sunghyun Lee, PhD. Attend any or all of the webinars! Register to receive the link: ambs.edu/find-your-way

Pathways Retreat

Pathways Retreat is offering a variety of programs and workshops: Attuning to the Seasons, Contemplative Practices in Four Traditions, Honoring our Pain for The World, Intro to Reiki, Advent Night Visions, and Weekly Yoga. Learn more at pathwaysretreat.org.

Upcoming Events

Goshen Call To Action. Join a respectful, bipartisan discussion with local leaders on the new Indiana state tax law and its impact on the future of local funding and community services in Goshen. Wednesday, November 12, 5:30 p.m. Goshen Theater, 216 S. Main Street. Doors open at 4:45 for concessions and conversation. Invited speakers: Mayor Gina Leichty, County Councilor Steve Clark, Rep. Joanna King, Sen. Blake Doriot. Free and open to the public. Respond **here** if you plan to go.

The ***Regional Repair Network Consortium*** is hosting a **Reparations Summit** on Saturday, November 15 from 9 a.m. to 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.

Mennonite Action's next Mass Call is on November 20 at 8 p.m. EST. **This one marks a milestone–**two years ago, congregations across the U.S. and Canada rallied together in response to the escalated violence against Palestinians. This call is an opportunity to **reflect, mourn, celebrate, and recommit** to the work of justice. We're reorienting ourselves to Palestinian liberation and the struggle against fascism's dehumanization at home in North America. Make plans to attend! **RSVP today for The Anniversary Call, on Zoom**.

Bethany high school play this fall is ***Gathering Blue***, based on the book by Lois Lowry and dramatized by Eric Coble. In this companion story to *The Giver*, we find a society in which children are treated as commodities, the weak are discarded, false narratives are used to control the people, and artists are manipulated by the powerful. Three gifted children discover the hidden truths and unite to create for a better future. Shows will be Friday & Saturday, November 21 & 22, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, November 23, 3 p.m. with tickets at $10 for adults, $8 for students. **Tickets Sales begin Monday!**

Plant trees for justice. Join Anabaptist Climate Collaborative, the City of Goshen and other congregations to **plant trees on Saturday, November 22, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Oakridge Park, 715 N 1st St, in northern Goshen.** These trees are part of a federal grant to plant trees in neighborhoods that are overburdened by pollution and have received a lack of investment. Trees sequester carbon, moderate and clean the air, and bring beauty and peace to neighborhoods. Bring gloves and shovels if you have them. Minors should be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Please register ahead of time, and ask any questions, by contacting Doug Kaufman at 574.536.6151 or director@anabaptistclimate.org.

MCC's Immigration Network invites you to a special **two-hour virtual training** designed to help your church understand immigration enforcement, know your legal rights as a faith community, and develop a plan of action in case immigration agents show up at or near your church community. Register and more information. **English sessions:** November 25; **Spanish sessions:** November 11 and 18.