



January 11, 2026

The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour;
classes for all ages
5:30 p.m. - Open Mic Night

Welcome Team

Greeters: Miranda Pfahler,
Karen Pfahler
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto,
Denise Diener
Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler,
Steve Fath

This Week at Waterford

Monday

7:00 p.m. - MLC / FH

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. - MennoMedia mtg

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - VC, JYF, MYF

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

Introducing Jim and Libby Morrical

Libby grew up in Goshen and Jim grew up in Southern Indiana. We met while attending the University of Evansville and married in 1988. After living in Evansville for a year, we moved back to Goshen.

Libby has been a life-long educator, teaching in the Evansville, Concord, Goshen and Wa-Nee school systems, specializing in Math and Special Education. Libby is retiring from Northwood High School this spring. Jim has worked for several area manufacturing companies in various support roles. He is currently self-employed, running our online eBay sales business.

We have three adult children, Christopher, Benjamin and Kathleen. Christopher is married to Kaitlyn and they live in Goshen with our three grandchildren Lucas, Weston and Avery. Benjamin lives in Indianapolis and Kathleen lives in Riverside, California.

Libby enjoys gardening, reading and cooking in her spare time. Jim has been hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail the last several years and enjoys going to garage sales and flea markets. We enjoy playing tennis, traveling and spending time with our family.

We are happy that Waterford is our new Church Home.



Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 238
Nurture Hour - 233

Finances – January 4, 2025

Operating Fund	\$4,780.00
Mennonite Ed	\$2,325.00
Either Fund	\$5,735.00
<i>Budget Total</i>	<i>\$12,840.00</i>
Sharing Fund	\$400.00
Four Way Mission	\$75.00
Benin Youth Trip	\$1,000.00
Total	\$14,315.00

Looking Ahead

January 18: Panel; Holistic Health: Emotional/Mental
January 25: JE Misz; Holistic Health: Emotional/Mental (Mark 2)

Pastoral Team

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

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?gid=0#gid=0

The *Waterford Buzz* is published weekly for members of Waterford Mennonite Church. Items for inclusion should be sent to the editor by 5 p.m. Tuesday preceding publication.

Janet Shoemaker, Editor
buzz@waterfordchurch.org

Mennonite Education

MELT-ing Together (Mennonite Education Listening Tour)

JD Smucker, for Ministry Leadership Council

In January and February of 2026, a small group of listeners would like to hear what your perspectives are on the Mennonite Education Fund and reflections on the last congregational meeting. In that meeting, there seemed to be unfinished discussion related to the future funding choices available for those students interested in attending Bethany. With the introduction of larger state vouchers and the expansion of grades offered at Bethany in recent years, MLC would like to hear more from the congregation regarding the issues you see that have not been addressed.

Maybe you are more comfortable sharing one on one, at home, or at the Brew or in a small group. Our group called MELT (Mennonite Education Listening Tour) would like to hear from you. It may take just a few minutes, or as long as you need, for us to learn from your perspective and to add your voice to the conversation. Those persons listening have no agenda other than to get a clear understanding of your perspective.

The anonymous results will be shared with MLC in March, to help direct future decisions, discussion, and improvements to our MEF guidelines. We are a faith community, called to share in each others lives. Sometimes when money is part of the conversation, we find it challenging to understand each other's perspectives. But there is hope. The listening has already begun—around the table (with ice cream) and in other settings. Let's continue to learn from each other as we journey toward mutual support that embraces the future of our congregation.

Sign up at the participation station, on classroom clipboards, or contact JD directly to initiate a conversation. Someone from the listening tour will be in touch with you.

Thank You

Dear Waterford Mennonite Church:

Thank you for your generous contribution to Mennonite Men. We are truly grateful for your gift. Your ongoing support means a great deal to Mennonite Men and enables us to continue our important work of supporting new churches, promoting healthy masculinity, and caring for God's creation. We deeply appreciate your generosity and look forward to another year of making a positive impact through our projects.

Together for God's shalom,
Steve Thomas, Co-director of Mennonite Men.

Thank You

The haystack fundraiser was again a great success. We raised \$5,944.00 and have been told there will be a few more donations coming later this week. Thank you for your generous donations. This will support Carlos with \$550 a month for another year. Below is his thank you. A special thanks to Pathfinders and Seekers Sunday classes for your meal preparation and work. As we have said before, it is not easy to ask for financial help, even on another person's behalf. To observe the generosity of those being asked, is quite humbling.

Thank You,

David Gingerich and Karen Sommers

To: Waterford Mennonite Church Congregation.

Hello everyone, I want to thank all of you for walking this journey along with me and to support me economically and with prayers. I'm very glad and blessed to have you guys in my life and help me to reach my goals. It has not been an easy journey but with your help and support, the weight of my cross doesn't feel too heavy. I want to give a special thanks to Sunday School Classes to make the fundraising meal happen.

Right now I'm working very hard to acquire an apartment or house to live through a government program. I'm hoping that the new Mexican president really makes all the things she promised happen. Once again THANKS TO ALL OF YOU. GOD BLESS YOUR HEARTS, LIVES AND FAMILIES.

Carlos Ramos.

MCUSA

Spiritual director Wendy Janzen offers five simple, embodied **spiritual “pocket practices”** to use anytime to feel more grounded, connected and spiritually supported. Read her Menno Snapshots blog here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/pocket-practices/>

If you are a Mennonite working or teaching in a public school setting, you are invited to join the upcoming **Mennonite Public Educators Zoom meeting** on Monday, Feb. 2, at 4 p.m. Our topic will be student behavior, discipline and restorative justice within your classroom and your school as a whole. Register here: <https://forms.gle/CdbeMF1kKfroTfft8>

MMN

Can a gap year change your life? Only if you're up for adventure! **Service Adventure** applications are now open for the 2026-27 term. Service Adventure is a 10-month volunteer experience for young adults ages 17-20. Live in community with peers and unit leaders, serve with local nonprofit agencies, and grow in your faith with a supporting church congregation! Learn more and apply at MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure.

Waterford Announcements

This Sunday, we are returning to our Holistic Health series. This week, you are invited to **bring something medical for our worship arts collage** to represent physical health such as an adhesive bandage, a splint, gauze, medicine bottle, etc. There will be baskets at the doors to place these items.

Everyone is invited to **Open Mic night** beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday. Come and be amazed at the talent at WMC! Don't worry about missing that Sunday night popcorn—we'll have it ready and waiting!

Mennonite Education Fund: It is time for students and college students to submit applications for the 2026-27 school year. This past week parents and families were sent an email with the application form and guidelines. If you would like a printed copy of these documents please contact Karen Hostetler at karen@waterfordchurch.org. For 2026-27, students in grades 5 -12 attending Bethany are eligible to apply. Applications are due February 28, 2026.

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 next webinar, **Find Hope in the Midst of Despair**, with Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, PhD, will be held on **Tuesday, Jan. 20, 8–8:30 p.m. ET**. Register to receive the link: amb.edu/find-your-way

Upcoming Events

Goshen Public Library Senior Social: **Cybersecurity Lunch & Learn**, Wed., January 14, 10:15 a.m. Learn how to stay safe online with a special focus on **avoiding scams, protecting your personal information, and recognizing red flags**. A free lunch will be provided. Registration is **required**, and space is limited so please be sure to sign up today: <https://bit.ly/Library-Social-Jan>

Former Labor Secretary Robert Reich is teaching his last class of Wealth and Poverty. This is the subject of Goshen College's **Yoder Public Affairs film screening** on January 14, 2026, at 7 p.m. in the Umble Center. Please click the link to learn more: <https://www.goshen.edu/about/news-events/events/yoder-public-affairs-film-screening-robert-reich-in-the-last-class/>

Anabaptist Disabilities Network and Herald Press invite you to a **webinar with Tatum Tricarico**, author of **Blessed is the Body, a Lenten devotional** centered around disability justice. In this daily devotional, Disability rights activist Tatum Tricarico helps us turn the tables on Lent. Rather than a time of feeling condemned or guilty, Lent is when we can take a breath and finally say I am human, and still, I am beloved by God. During the webinar Tricarico will share insights from her book and have time to answer questions. Please join us on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom: <https://MCUSA.zoom.us/j/89439571091>

Shake off the winter doldrums by joining us for a **Crafting Day at East Goshen Mennonite Church on January 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** All materials needed for these crafting days are always supplied with no skills needed! Everything made will be donated for sale at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale. Items being made this time will be pinecone/gum tree ball wreaths, Morse code bracelets and denim baskets. If you have old jeans to get rid of, we'll take them! We are open to any project ideas. Please rsvp to crafting.mmrs@gmail.com by Jan 20. Hope to see you and feel free to bring a friend and a sack lunch!

Opportunities

Pathways Retreat offers a variety of programs and workshops: Honoring our Pain for the World, Attuning to the Seasons, Dream Weavers Reflection Group, Grief and Joy Watercolor Workshop, Weekly Yoga, and Men's Group Spiritual Direction. Learn more at pathwaysretreat.org. Follow this [link](#) to the monthly newsletter

Changes / Corrections to the directory

Please make the following changes in your church directory:

Brenda Janzen has a new phone number and email: 574-312-5345, bsjanzen76@gmail.com.

Wilmer Hollinger's address should be 1300 Greencroft Dr, not 1801.