

January 25, 2026

The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:

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

Welcome Team

Greeters: John, Diana and Jeff Hershberger
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Carla Miller, Ken Otto
Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler, Jeff Claassen
Nursery: Judy Snyder, Laura Dick; Julie Zehr, Layna Stoltzfus

This Week at Waterford

Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - MSMT / FH

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - Venture Club, JYF
7:00 p.m. - MYF / Fell. Hall

Zoom prayers

Monday - 8:30 a.m.
Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

New Members Class

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader

Have you recently decided to make Waterford your new church home? Or have you been attending Waterford for a period of time (months, years, decades) but have not yet become a member? Our Pastoral Team will be holding a class in March for anyone who is interested in becoming a member at Waterford Mennonite Church. The class will meet for two Thursday sessions on March 5 and 12 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the church. During our sessions we will spend time getting to know each other, share the leadership structure of WMC, visit with each of the pastors and learn about our areas of ministry, and have time for any questions you might have. We anticipate receiving new members within worship services after Easter in April.

We would love to have you join us! Please RSVP to Pastors Cindy, Deron, or Katie by February 22. Please also let us know if you are interested in being part of the class but have a schedule conflict for the proposed meeting dates/times.

Waterford Mennonite Church

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

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 228 (+30 Winter Youth Retreat)
Nurture Hour - 199

Finances – January 11, 2026

Operating Fund	\$8,951.00
Mennonite Ed	\$3,140.00
Either Fund	\$4,855.00
<i>Budget Total</i>	\$16,946.00
Four Way Mission	\$50.00
Total	\$16,996.00

Looking Ahead

February 1: Sermon: Deanna Beth Chupp; Holistic Health; Relational (*Proverbs 2:1-8*)

February 8: Panel: Cindy Voth, John Hershberger, Gilberto Pérez, Jr., Brent Beck; Holistic Health: Relational

Pastoral Team

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

Out of Office

Katie Misz - Jan. 26-Feb. 2
Janet Shoemaker - Jan. 26-30

Office hours this week

Monday, Wednesday-Thursday
9-12, 1-3
Closed Tuesday & Friday

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.

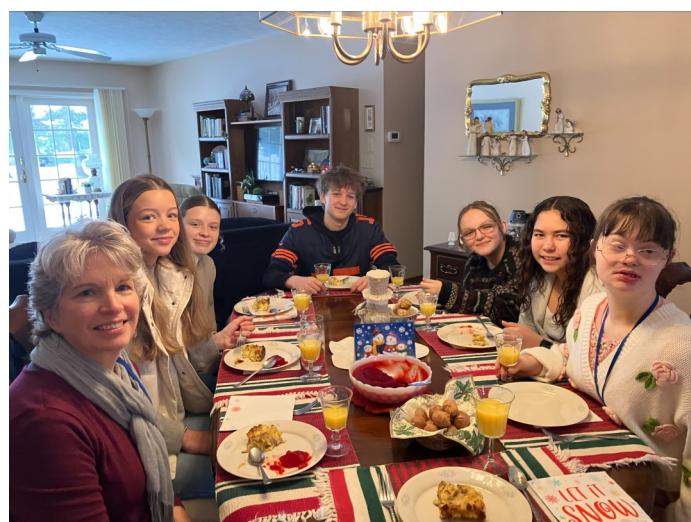
Janet Shoemaker, Editor
buzz@waterfordchurch.org

Winter Youth Retreat

Waterford youth (MYF and JYF) attended the Amigo Winter Retreat the weekend of January 16-18. The weekend included down time, playing table games, outdoor and indoor activities.



On Sunday morning, Esther Farmwald prepared a brunch for those youth who were unable to attend retreat.



Waterford Announcements

Holistic Health: This week, you are invited to **bring something** that represents **mental or emotional health** such as: incense, CD, mantra, yoga pose, stress ball, anything that helps you relax or focus. There will be baskets at the doors to place these items.

On February 1, in place of our regular first Sunday potluck, an African ground nut stew meal will be provided to **raise funds for the youth trip to Benin** this coming summer. This trip will serve as WMC's biennial visit exchange with Benin Bible Institute. Come with an empty belly and an open wallet.

2nd Annual Chili Cook Off: **Sunday, February 22, 5:30 at WMC.** Does your chili charm the taste buds of all who partake of it? Find out by participating in a friendly chili cook off. If cooking chili is not your thing, sign up to bring a side dish to share and "Taste and See" which chili you think is worthy of the Golden Ladle. Sign up by February 15 at the Participation Station!

Stop by the Participation Station to see the photos from our November **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** event and a thank you card from the staff at **Prairie View Elementary School** for the snacks provided for them in November.

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.

MCUSA

MC USA is launching a new collaborative workshop series to help churches and leaders practice **healthier ways of navigating conflict**. The first training kicks off in Beaverton, Oregon on March 12-14! Register here: https://mcusa.formstack.com/forms/conflict_transformation_2026

MC USA Executive Director Glen Guyton outlines a strategic-planning post-mortem of MC USA's Reimagination Process, identifying **10 key pitfalls the church must avoid** to ensure meaningful, Spirit-led denominational renewal. Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/post-mortem>. Visit the Reimagining MC USA web portal here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/reimagining-mennonite-church-usa/>

Upcoming Events

An Egyptian Street Food Fundraiser will be held at Sunnyside Mennonite Church Saturday, January 31, 5:00–7:00 p.m. at Sunnyside Mennonite Church (23786 Sunnyside Ave, Elkhart). The meal will feature Koshary to support Rachelle, an employee at Thrift at Woodland Crossing, as she begins her fight with cancer. Suggested donation: Give what you can — every dollar helps. RSVP to Haiam at mhaiamg@gmail.com

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!

Become a Service Adventure leader! Are you sensing God's call to mentor and guide young adults as they grow in faith, service and community? Want to live in beautiful places like Anchorage, Alaska or Colorado Springs, Colorado? Answer the call and become a Service Adventure unit leader! Unit leaders mentor the young adults in the unit and provide some oversight and guidance for the household. Ages 24+ should contact MichaelO@MennoniteMission.net

AMBS

Online Short Course: Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication: April 15 – May 26. Join Betty Pries, PhD, CMed, to explore the possibilities and pitfalls of courageously engaging differences within congregational life in this six-week online short course of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by March 25 to save \$50.

ambs.edu/online-short-courses

Voices in Color for Social Justice: Center for Healing & Hope and artist Francisco Ávila invite you to attend this art exhibit opening and reception on Sunday, January 25, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at Center for Healing and Hope (400 W Lincoln Ave). Meet the artist, see the works, and hear the stories behind them.

All are welcome to join Mennonite Action Michiana for an evening of dessert and fellowship on January 27, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship (2509 Berkey Avenue, Goshen)! Energized by December's Courage School training, we are gathering to discuss opportunities to support our immigrant neighbors and take action for Palestine. We will hear from a few representatives from local organizations connected to this type of solidarity and advocacy work and have opportunity to network and discuss ideas. Dessert, tea, and coffee will be provided, as well as childcare. Come meet the team and discover ways to get involved!

The **Goshen College Choirs** will present their annual **Winter Choral Concert** in Sauder Concert Hall, Saturday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sauder Concert Hall. Performing are the Goshen College Chamber Choir and Voices of the Earth, conducted by H. Roz Woll, and Vox Profundi, conducted by Jeshua Franklin. Tickets at goshen.universitytickets.com/

Opportunities

The Trail of Death: A Pilgrimage of Remembrance, Lament and Transformation: May 11–21. Participants in this pilgrimage will trace the route of the U.S. military's 1838 forced removal of Potawatomi people from their ancestral homeland in northern Indiana to present-day Osawatomie, Kansas. This intensive graduate-level course of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary can be taken for credit, audit or no credit (trip only). Limit: 15 participants. Sign up by April 1. ambs.edu/trail-of-death

Celebrating 50 years of More-with-Less! Herald Press and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) invite you to **share stories of food, joy, and resilience** to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the *More-with-Less* cookbook. This beloved cookbook's call to thrift, Christian compassion and abundant living is just as urgent and relevant today as it was in 1976. Go to <https://bit.ly/MoreWithLess50> to learn more and to submit stories, blessings or ideas for simple approaches to sharing food and fellowship. Please share your story by February 15 for a chance to be featured in the 50th anniversary edition or additional digital resources—and receive a chocolate oatmeal cake recipe as thanks!

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes is seeking a Donor Relations Associate: This full-time position contributes to the overall fundraising efforts of MCC by serving as a major gift officer in the Great Lakes region. The Donor Relations Associate will be the face of MCC to many of our top donors and constituent groups, with a strong focus on personal contacts with major donors. The position is eligible for remote, hybrid or in-office work location within the Great Lakes region. For more information and to apply by January 30, visit mcc.org/gl-dr-associate

Goshen College seeks four staff members for a \$5 million storytelling initiative that will launch two podcasts, a speech contest, a documentary film and a storytelling conference on climate change. The college is seeking a **senior producer, content production manager, events manager and marketing manager**. The storytelling initiative, More Than Just Stories, is part of a national campaign by Lilly Endowment Inc. in support of Christian faith and life. For details, visit www.goshen.edu/about/employment