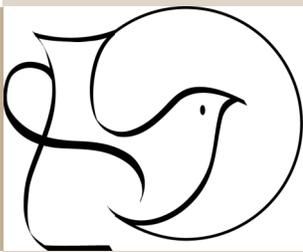




February 22, 2026



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:

9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:30 a.m. - Nurture Hour;
classes for all ages
2:00 p.m. - Prepared Churches
Workshop / Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. - Chili Cook-off / FH

Welcome Team

Greeters: Leroy & Joyce
Bontrager
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Carla
Miller, Ken Otto
Audiovisuals: Shawn Stutzman,
Jeff Claassen
Nursery: Cynthia & Gordon
Bontrager; Neer Goswami,
Brenda Janzen

This Week at Waterford

Wednesday

7:00 - MYF
7:00 - JYF; VC

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

Volunteer Appreciation

Join the Family Life Ministry team and children’s cluster in saying a hearty THANK YOU to all the youth and children’s sponsors and teachers. This Sunday we celebrate “Volunteer Appreciation” in showing appreciation for the time and attention shown by our volunteers. We are grateful for the 42 volunteers who prioritize the needs and care of the younger generations. They create an atmosphere of joy and love. They are creative and consistent. They hear and tell stories, and they remind our youth and children that they are important to God.

Remember to pray for and support these volunteers today! And we invite you to consider if you might be interested in serving with Waterford in this way!

—Pastor Katie Misz, Laurina Graber Ditzler (Lay Ministry Partner of Family Life Ministry Team), and the children’s cluster: Amy Zoller, Amanda Stoltzfus, and Melissa Chupp

The JYF went ice skating at Iron Works in Mishawaka on February 11.

Photo by Katie Misz



Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 198

Nurture Hour - 177 (+32 Koinonia Retreat)

Finances – February 15, 2026

Operating Fund	\$8,805.00
Mennonite Ed	\$3,115.00
Either Fund	\$3,370.00
Budget Total	\$15,290.00
Benin Trip	\$272.00
Sharing Fund	\$835.00
Least Coin Fund	\$42.00
Four Way Mission	\$50.00
Total	\$16,489.00

Looking Ahead

March 1: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Lent 2: Obvious And Hidden
(John 13:1-17)

March 8: Sermon: Cindy Voth; Lent: Standing Up, Standing Back
(John 18:12-27)

Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader
Monday - Thursday

Deron Bergstresser
Tuesday - Friday

Katie Misz
Monday - Thursday

Out of Office

Pastors - February 24-26
Katie - February 27-March 3

Office hours this week

Monday, Wednesday-Thursday
9-12, 1-3

Tuesday & Friday
9-12

Greeter signup: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/>

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

Koinonia Class Retreat

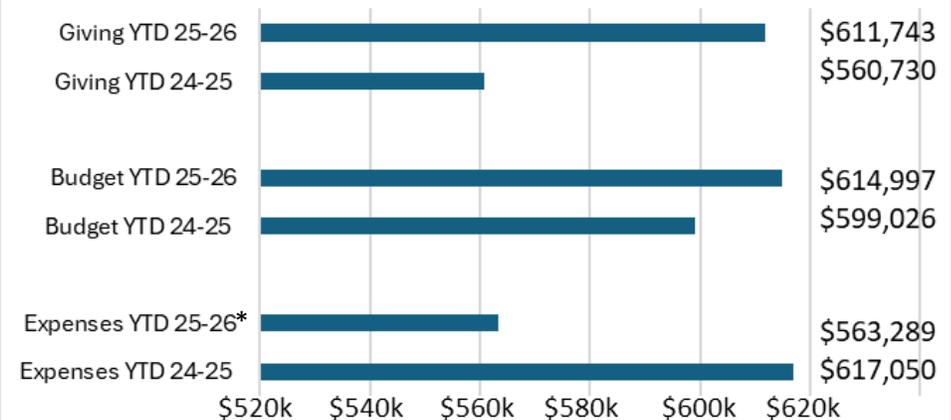
Koinonia had a great time on their retreat at Amigo last weekend with winter hikes, road construction and a very special unicorn birthday cake for Lydia Maust!



Photo credits: above—Tyler Kronk; top and right—Em Hunsbaker

January Financial Report

WMC Giving Report May 2025 to January 2026



*The Expenses line does not reflect extra budgeting for the end-of-year transfer of money into “funded” accounts. These accounts include building maintenance and pastoral sabbatical coverage.

Waterford Announcements

This Sunday:

- Remember to turn in your **ballot for the affirmation of Ursula Hess** for Chaplain for Senior Adults by noon today. Please return marked ballots to the basket on the table outside of the office. There are extra ballots by the basket for those who need one.
- If you signed up for the **2nd Annual Chili Cook Off this evening**, the fun begins at 5:30 p.m.
- The Pastoral Team will be holding **New Members Class** meetings this spring. **Please RSVP** to Pastors Cindy, Deron, or Katie **today** if you are interested in being part of the class.
- **Waterford will host a free MCC Workshop, “Prepared Churches—Solidarity with Immigrants”** from 2 to 4 p.m. in our sanctuary. If you are concerned about how we can support our immigrant neighbors, consider attending. See the MCC announcement below for details.

This is the final reminder that **Mennonite Education Fund applications for the 2026-2027 school year are due on Saturday, February 28, 2026**. If you need application materials, please contact Karen Hostetler at karen@waterfordchurch.org. If you have questions, please contact Becky Bateman at beckyeb@gmail.com.

Next Sunday is our **March fellowship meal**, hosted by the Koinonia class. Plan to stay. And bring a dish, or two, to share.

If you are interested in **leading a June elective**, please contact a pastor by Sunday, March 1.

Upcoming Events

MCC Workshop: Prepared Churches—Solidarity with Immigrants: Sunday, February 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. at WMC. With recent changes to immigration enforcement policies, faith communities are facing new challenges in protecting and accompanying immigrant neighbors. Join Abraham Diaz Alonso (MCC Central States Immigrant Program Coordinator) and Galen Fitzkee (MCC U.S. Legislative Associate) in this workshop to help your church understand immigration enforcement, know your legal rights as a faith community, develop a plan of action in case immigration agents show up at or near your church community, and learn how faith communities can advocate for policy change. We will cover a variety of topics that affect our congregations and the most vulnerable among us. More information at mcc.org/goshen-prepared-churches

An invitation from **Michiana Voices for Middle East Peace: [Resisting Militarism in the Age of Hopelessness: An evening with Sahar Vardi](#)**. Sahar Vardi is an **Israeli anti-militarist and anti-occupation activist from Jerusalem**. She is a researcher and campaigner on issues of militarism in Israel and globally, including export of Israeli militarism worldwide. The conversation with Sahar will be facilitated by Mennonite Action Michiana’s Anna Johnson. Time: February 24, 2026 at 7p.m., Walnut Hill Mennonite Church (909 N 6th St, Goshen).

MCUSA

MC USA’s **Women in Leadership ministry** welcomes three new steering committee members who will guide efforts to empower women, dismantle patriarchy and strengthen justice-centered leadership across the denomination. Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/wil-steering-committee/>

Nancy Kauffmann, senior consultant for **Church Safety at MC USA**, warns that churches must consistently follow their abuse-prevention policies to ensure real safety, accountability and trust for all. Learn more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/safe-church-policies/>

MMN

Mennonite Voluntary Service
Live out your faith through service! Applications are open for the 2026-27 term. This one-year volunteer experience is open to individuals age 20+, with the option to extend placements for an additional one to two years. Serve with nonprofits addressing critical community needs, such as health, education, immigration and more. You won’t do it alone, though! By living with peers in a unit house and growing with a local faith community, MVSers join in the global movement to work for peace and a more just world. Ready to jump in? Go to MennoniteMission.net/MVS to learn more and apply. Placements are available in the following locations: Alamosa, Colorado; Chicago, Illinois; San Francisco, California; and Tucson, Arizona.

AMBS

Online Practical Leadership Training modules. Grow your leadership skills through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's affordable short-term online modules! March–April offerings include Effective Church Boards; Anabaptism and Professional Organizations; Being the Church amid Polarization and Conflict; and From Fixing to Listening: Coaching for Leaders. CEUs available. Check out our full list of modules! ambs.edu/plt

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

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 Osawatimie, 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

Mennonite Action mass call, Thursday, February 26 at 8 p.m. During the call, you'll hear reports back from the Target action organizers and participants, from our December To Build Our Courage tour and from Mennonite Action participants who were part of a **recent delegation to the West Bank**. In addition, we'll announce our next opportunity for collective action in March. We look forward to joining with you in community and resistance. [Please register here.](#)

Please join us for the next **crafting day** on Saturday Feb 28 at East Goshen Mennonite Church from 10-2. Bring a lunch. We will be continuing with our denim baskets along with making finger pin cushions, playing card holders, painting/decoupage wooden crates and decorating candles. We could use 2-litre bottle size caps, pretty paper napkins and any size unused pillar candles. All items made will be sold at the Relief Sale in September. RSVP by Feb 25 to crafting.mmsr@gmail.com.

EMU Chamber Singers Concert: College Mennonite Church, Sunday, March 1 at 7 p.m., or Belmont Mennonite Church, Sunday, March 2, 7 p.m. Come enjoy this internationally-acclaimed chamber choir for an inspiring concert titled "When the Earth Sings: creation, community, & the care we choose." As we sing on the theme of creation care, we recognize our place here on earth, acknowledging the brokenness of the world and its inhabitants, and our commitment to being in relationship with all of creation. Concerts are free of charge, and a love offering will be taken to support the choir's travel expenses.

[Everence Financial®](#) is hosting a **FREE educational Medicare webinar** on Monday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m. During this workshop, Everence discusses the important details you need to know about retirement income and transitioning to Medicare, including: Enrollment details and deadlines, budgeting for health care and income in retirement, what your options are if you continue to work, when to start Social Security, prescription drug coverage, and plans that supplement Medicare. [Register here](#) for online seminar. For additional information and a list of future workshop dates, visit www.everence.com/medicare-mondays.

Mennonite Men will be hosting a **men's retreat at Camp Friedenswald** with **RawTools founder Michael Martin**, March 6-8, 2026. The theme of the weekend will be "Becoming Malleable Men: Practicing Faith and Being Formed." Registration at friedenswald.org/retreats/.

The **2026 Religion and Science Conference**, with keynote speaker Dr. Wesley J. Wildman, will feature three lectures, two of which are free and open to the public: Friday, March 6, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 7, 10:30 a.m. This year's topic is "The Future of Spirituality: From Temples to Toolkits." Find details at the link above.

Amigo Scrapbooking, Quilting, and Crafting Retreat, March 6-8 & April 10-12. Treat yourself to a weekend of intentional time spent on creative projects, and let Amigo take care of the finer details! Extend the weekend; arrive early and stay late. Register by February 20 and March 27 at bit.ly/AmigoRegistration.

Opportunities

Everence College Scholarships Applications are due February 28. Everence offers \$1,000 scholarships to students enrolled in college. For more information, [click here.](#)

Submissions for the **27th annual high school essay contest** are due **Friday, February 27**. The contest is open to all Anabaptist youth of high school age and to all youth who attend Mennonite high schools within the United States. Grand prize: \$1000! [View contest rules and submission](#)