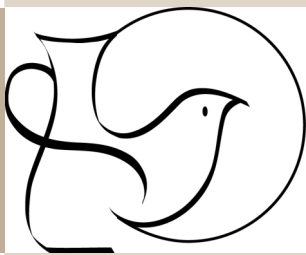




March 22, 2026



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:

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

Welcome Team

Greeters: Del & Shirley Yoder
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Len Harms, Ken Otto
Audiovisuals: Shawn Stutzman, Dom Ramer
Nursery: Cynthia & Gordon Bontrager; Lorna Claassen, Hannah Claassen

This Week at Waterford

Monday

7:00 p.m. - MLC / Rm 11

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - Venture Club

7:00 p.m. - MYF, JYF

Zoom prayers

Monday - 8:30 a.m.

Thursday - 8:00 p.m.



All In Survey Coming

Lyz Zimmerman, for the All In Committee

As previously announced, Waterford has been selected to participate in the All In: Immersive Worship for Everybody project with Anabaptist Disabilities Network and Mennonite Health Services Association. We will work at reimagining worship so that people of all ages and all abilities can fully participate, lead, and share their gifts.

As we begin this journey, we want to hear from YOU.

We'll be conducting a diverse set of surveys to learn more about your experience with worship, gather anonymous data for grant reporting purposes, and compile your ideas for making our services more welcoming and accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

The goal of our committee is to hear from as many people in our congregation as possible.

How to Participate:

In order to reach our congregation in a way that works for each individual, there will be several survey options:

Continued...

Waterford Mennonite Church

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

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 208

Nurture Hour - 202 (+13 —
Gelassenheit retreat)

Finances – March 22, 2026

Operating Fund	\$8,701.00
Mennonite Ed	\$3,115.00
Either Fund	\$9,055.00
<i>Budget Total</i>	<i>\$20,871.00</i>
Least Coin Fund	\$54.00
4 Way Mission	50.00
Total	\$20,975.00

Looking Ahead

March 29: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Palm Sunday
(*John 19:16b-22; 12:12-27*)

April 5: Sermon: Katie Misz;
Easter: Death and Resurrection
(*John 20:1-18*)

Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team
Leader

Monday - Thursday

Deron Bergstresser

Tuesday - Friday

Katie Misz

Monday - Thursday

Out of Office

Katie Misz - March 22-28

Cindy Voth - March 24 - April 1

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

1. A traditional paper or Google form survey with 4-6 questions and the expectation of a written response.
 - a. Paper copies will be available on the table with our visual option and can be returned to John and Diana Hershberger's church mailbox.
 - b. The Google Form survey will be sent out to all members of the congregation in a link in the weekly announcements.
2. A visual/ creative option: Melanie Hire graciously designed a "Draw and Share" poster for individuals to draw and write ideas about accessibility, inclusion, and barriers felt during worship.
3. The option to meet with a member of the 'All In' team and verbally share answers to the survey questions and see where else the conversation goes.
4. Visits to youth Sunday School classes to incorporate specific activities for children and youth to collect data on how they feel during worship.

Throughout the project you may notice new elements in worship such as creative practices like art, drama or multi-sensory experiences that help all of us grow in faith. We invite you to participate fully, share your ideas and join us in creating a space where everyone belongs!

Lyz Zimmerman, on behalf of the All In Committee

Members are Lorene Miller, Project Leader; Katie Misz, Jerry Landes, Em Hunsbaker, John and Diana Hershberger, and Lyz Zimmerman.

Threshold Choir

Threshold Choirs are organized to sing for those at the thresholds of life. Their vision is to create "a world where all at life's thresholds may be honored with compassion shared through song." The Goshen Threshold Singers are one of nearly 200 chapters in six countries.

The Goshen Threshold Singers will present a program for WMC senior adults entitled, "Songs of Peace and Comfort." They may also give the audience the chance to experience a "song bath" of calming and comforting songs they sing to those nearing death or experiencing aging or health challenges.

All Senior adults are invited to come to the church on Sunday afternoon, March 29, at 3:00 for this program.

(Quoted text taken from the Threshold Choir website.)

Easter Lilies

Ursula Hess, chaplain for senior adults

For the past several years we have had a lovely tradition of delivering Easter lilies to our senior adults who are unable to attend church. This year, we are planning to bless 19 of our seniors with flowers and a visit. I invite you join in the ministry and care of some of our most senior adults by signing up to deliver a lily. To sign up, please stop by the Participation Station where you will be able to indicate who you would like to deliver the flower to. Then, after worship on Easter Sunday (April 5) please find the lily with the name of your recipient and then deliver the flower as a gesture of care and love from Waterford Mennonite.

Waterford Announcements

It is time for **Pastor Deron's major 4-year review**. This review invites the congregation to offer their feedback to Pastor Deron's ministry among us. You can access the review form at this [LINK](#). If you prefer filling out a paper form, you will find some copies on the first table under the mailboxes by the bulletin board. All forms, both completed online and paper copies, should be returned by March 31. Please return paper copies to the office.

Requests for Spring Endowment funds will be accepted until March 29. The complete guidelines and request forms are available on the WMC website under the Resources tab. Questions may be directed to Doug Yoder, Phil Habecker, or Susan Gingerich, and applications can be mailed to Doug Yoder or placed in his church mailbox.

You are doing it!! We now have 260 completed school bags for next fall. I think we will meet our goal of 300 soon! Karen is doing a great job of cutting material to size and providing instructions as needed. There continues to be a completed sample under the mailboxes, where you can pick up more material and return completed bags. If anyone has extra cording, that would be appreciated as well. —Joyce Bontrager

Upcoming Events

GC Spring Mainstage: Poor Clare: The Goshen College theater department will present **Poor Clare** by Chaira Atik as its spring mainstage production. There will be five showings, all held in Umble Center: Friday, March 20, Saturday, March 21 & 28, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 22 & 29, 2:30 p.m. This hilarious, anachronistic telling of the real story of St. Clare considers the cost of doing good—and how little has changed for the haves and the have-nots in nearly a millennium. Tickets are available at goshen.edu/tickets. **Note: this show is loosely rated PG-13 for interest and adult language.**

GC Senior Art Exhibit Opening Reception: Five students in the Goshen College Class of 2026 will present their artwork in a senior show, running from **March 20 to April 5 in the Music Center's Hershberger Art Gallery**. An opening reception will be held in the gallery on **Sunday, March 22, from 6 to 8 p.m.**

MCUSA

Nathan Luitjens reflects on MC USA's annual **Conference Ministers' Retreat** and how MC USA leaders are re-centering their work around God's dream of shalom, reconciliation and faithful presence in local contexts. Read his Menno Snapshots blog here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/focusing-on-what-matters/>

Webinar recording available: In **"Engaging Our Grief and Finding Resilience,"** hosts Ann Blackwood and Ruth Johnston explore how grief shows up in our lives and in the world, providing tools and practices to move through it with honesty, care and spiritual resilience. This webinar was sponsored by The Corinthian Plan, MC USA's health care and wellbeing plan for pastors and church workers. Watch the recording here: <https://bit.ly/4aQ9to8>

MMN

South Africa Racial Justice Pilgrimage: This solidarity learning pilgrimage will explore the long history and legacy of settler colonialism and apartheid. The pilgrimage will focus on the social constructs created around race, land dispossession and how they so thoroughly defined, and continue to define, South African society. **September 9-22, 2026**; the optional safari extends the trip by 3 days. **Registration deadline: July 15.** Contact Stephanie Weaver at StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net or visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace to learn more!

AMBS

AMBS Trees of Life Retreat:

May 29–30 (Friday at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary; Saturday at Camp Friedenswald). This retreat led by Janeen Bertsche Johnson, MDiv, DMin candidate, will weave together study of biblical texts about trees; understanding of trees as organisms and within ecosystems; ecological issues; and spiritual practices. It can be taken for credit or as a noncredit retreat. Limit: 15 participants. Register by May 4 for the for-credit course or by May 22 for the noncredit retreat. ambs.edu/trees

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

Pathways Retreat

Pathways Retreat is offering variety of programs and workshops:

- Pausing in the Wilderness of Lent
- Attuning to the Seasons
- Honoring our Pain for the World
- God's Wonderful Creatures
- Weekly Yoga

Learn more at pathwaysretreat.org.

State funding supporting **The Window's meal deliveries** has been delayed this fiscal year, creating a temporary gap. The community is stepping up so neighbors continue receiving meals and connection. Just \$25/month helps keep meals moving, and one-time gifts are also welcome. Help spread the word and learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/goshenwindow>.

Amigo Scrapbooking, Quilting, and Crafting Retreat, 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 March 27** at bit.ly/AmigoRegistration.

Spring is in the air! Join the fun at the **March Crafting Day on March 28** at East Goshen Mennonite Church, lower level, from 10 to 2. Bring a lunch! We will be making plantable seed papers, decoupage seedling pots, denim placemats and pinatas. No skills required and all items made will be sold at the Relief Sale. **RSVP by March 25** to crafting.mMrs@gmail.com

During 2026 **Mennonite Historical Society** will conclude more than a century of promoting public understanding of Anabaptist-Mennonite history and contemporary Mennonite life and thought, with a mission that served the overarching goal of deepening commitment to Christian faith. Mennonite Historical Society invites all to **join a celebration of the Society's work** and impact on Saturday, March 28, 2026, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on the campus of Goshen College, College Mennonite Church, South Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. RSVP via [this link](#) or by contacting Elizabeth Miller at Goshen College (elizabethmm@goshen.edu or 574.535.7418.)

Two "No Kings" Protests, Saturday, March 28:

1. Mennonite Action Michiana is joining other groups demonstrating against rising authoritarianism, ICE violence, and the ongoing violence in Palestine **at the Elkhart Civic Plaza, Main Street, downtown Elkhart, from 10 to 11 a.m.** Suggested signs include: God Loves Palestinians, God Loves Immigrants, Let Gaza Live, Jesus Was a Refugee, Blessed Are the Peacemakers. We will meet at the Mennonite Action Michiana table (recognizable by the banner "Jesus Was a Refugee") at 9:45 a.m. and then stand together during the demonstration.
2. **Goshen Youth United** invites you to their rally **from 12 noon to 3 p.m.** at the former **courthouse in downtown Goshen.**

Love Rules: Palm Sunday Action - "We Make Indiana" invites local congregations to walk a Palm Sunday path together through downtown South Bend on March 29, 2026, demonstrating our renewed commitment to feed the hungry, heal the sick and welcome the stranger. Convene at Howard Park at 2 p.m. to **walk through downtown** past government buildings with palms, banners, and songs. We will reconvene at the park* at 3:15 for a brief commitment service and refreshments.

*Zion Community Church in case of rain, 211 S Peter St, South Bend

Northern Indiana Amish Quilts, from the Rebecca Haarer Collection. Goshen College Library Gallery, now to October 4. This exhibit will include quilts from 1880-1945 of various sizes and is free and open to public.

John McCutcheon Benefit Concert! Join us for a wonderful evening of music with the one and only John McCutcheon! A portion of the proceeds will go towards supporting the work of Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN). May 1, 2026, 7 p.m. at Waterford Mennonite Church. You can buy tickets (\$25) at: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork1/1953412>