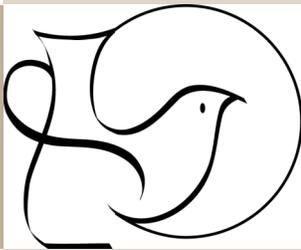


**This Sunday:**

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



March 8, 2026



# The Waterford Buzz

**Welcome Team**

Greeters: Del & Shirley Yoder  
Ushers: Dennis Myers, Ken Otto,  
Denise Diener  
Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler,  
Jordan Kauffman  
Nursery: Amanda and Lacy  
Stoltzfus; Gretchen Bateman,  
Bonnie Miller

**This Week at Waterford**

*Wednesday*

7:00 p.m. - FFMT / FH  
7:00 p.m. - JYF, Venture Club  
7:00 p.m. - MYF

*Thursday*

8:30 a.m. - Mennonite  
Women / MYF Rm  
6:30 p.m. - WMT  
7:00 p.m. - Ecuador prayers /  
Zoom

*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

**From the Beehive: Conversation Café**

*Rose Shetler, Ministry Leadership Council co-chair*

Continuing in the spirit of MELT (Mennonite Education Listening Tour), a natural next step is to hold space for a Conversation Café.

Some of you may remember the “Conversations That Matter” meetings we had here at Waterford Mennonite Church in 2017-2019 in which we used the Conversation Café model. The topics included Immigration, Biblical Interpretation, LGBTQ Inclusion, Politics, Alcohol, and yes, the Mennonite Education Fund.



**What is the Conversation Café model?**

The setting is a casual café where people gather around small tables of four to hear each other around an issue that has the potential to be divisive. The model helps us to engage in conversations that matter in our life together as a congregation. The purpose is not to convince

*(Continued)*

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 257

Nurture Hour - 225

### Finances – March 1, 2026

Operating Fund	\$18,009.00
Menonite Ed	\$4,695.00
Either Fund	\$5,955.00
<i>Budget Total</i>	<i>\$28,659.00</i>
Sharing Fund	\$127.26
Four Way Mission	\$75.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$28,861.26</b>

### Looking Ahead

March 15: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Lent 4: Submission and Power (*John 18:28-40*)

March 22: Sermon: Cindy Voth; Lent 5: Complicity and Innocence (*John 19:1-16a*)

### Pastoral Team

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

### Out of Office

Cindy Voth - March 9-10  
Elvina Schmidt - March 9-13

### 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](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](mailto:buzz@waterfordchurch.org)

someone else that their view is wrong and my view is right. It is not a debate. Rather, the purpose is to be heard and understood and to extend the same courtesy to others. Listening to understand others is key instead of listening to counter and debate.

### The Conversation Café coming up on Sunday, March 15, at 5:00 p.m.

will be facilitated by members of Ministry Leadership Council with guided questions for listening and sharing together around tables. The topic will be the Mennonite Education Fund Guidelines and the broader philosophy around the purpose of MEF in the context of Waterford Mennonite Church's ministries and mission. You are all invited and we need all voices!

On Friday, you received by email the compiled comments gleaned from MELT. (Contact the church office if you need a paper copy.) I hope you take the time to read these before we gather around tables for the Conversation Café.

May we be ever mindful of God's love and grace in each of our lives as we share from our hearts and listen well to others.



## Chili Cook-Off



Our chili cookoff was fun and delicious!

Winner of the golden ladle for their "Heavenly Heat" Chili was Miles Gillette and Logan Beck

2nd Place Jerry Landes with "No Name" Chili

3rd Place Dan Stoltzfus with "Rosita's" Chili

And a special thank you to Fellowship Ministry Team member Rita Herrmann, the master planner of the event!

## Those monthly potlucks

*Counterclockwise  
from front:*

Javi Stoltzfus,  
Max Gillette,  
Jeremiah Voth,  
Sean Zimmerman,  
Charlie Lehman,  
Jamie Lehman,  
Lena Claassen,  
Clara Kauffman,  
Lydia Voth



## MCUSA

Mennonite Church USA responded to the deadly violence in January in Minneapolis with a **statement calling for peacemaking** and urging faith-based action rooted in justice, nonviolence and the teachings of Jesus Christ. Read the statement here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/minneapolis-statement/>

The deadline for MC USA's **2026 -27 BIPOC Scholarship** applications is April 1. The Scholarship aids students who identify as Black, Indigenous and/or People of Color who are members or active participants of an MC USA congregation and who are attending or plan to attend an MC USA-affiliated Mennonite college, university or seminary. Learn more and apply here: <https://bit.ly/49LLYLj>

## Waterford Announcements

This month, in addition to quilting and knotting, **Mennonite Women** will also be putting together sewing kits for MCC. It is exciting to help our sisters around the world with this project that allows them to help with their families' living expenses. Plan to **join us Thursday** anytime after 8:30 a.m. and stay for a few hours or bring a dish to share and eat lunch with us. Ideas for additional projects are welcome!

**Friday, March 20 March Madness Party  
4:00 - 10:00 p.m. or later?? at WMC**

Take advantage of the TV screens in the fellowship hall and cheer on your favorite college basketball teams. Come and go as you please. We will order pizza and aim to have it ready around 6:00. Bring snacks to share and donations to help cover the cost of the pizza. Sign up at the participation station so we know how much pizza to order.

**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.

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 table under the mailboxes. All forms, both completed online and paper copies, should be returned by March 31. Please return paper copies to the office.

## AMBS

**New Anabaptist Witness issue on “A Cry for Peace: Mennonites and Murids in Conversation” available for free online.** This issue includes presentations made at a 2023 meeting of Anabaptist Christians and Murids at the Islamic Center of Taverny (France). The meeting drew together Murid and Anabaptist thought leaders and practitioners to present and discuss the historical narratives of the two communities, their practices of nonviolence, and a shared vision for the common good. [anabaptistwitness.org](http://anabaptistwitness.org)

## 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](http://pathwaysretreat.org).

## Upcoming Events

Bethany Christian Schools’ winter musical, **The Sound of Music**, ends this weekend. Performances are Saturday and Sunday, March 7 & 8, at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for students and \$10 for adults.

**Northern Indiana Amish Quilts**, from the Rebecca Haarer Collection. Goshen College Library Gallery, March 8 – October 4. This exhibit will include quilts from 1880-1945 of various sizes and is free and open to the public. There will be a public reception Sunday, March 15, from 2 to 4 p.m.

You are invited to join **Mennonite Action Michiana for our next Dessert and Solidarity event**, Thursday, March 12, from 7-8:30 p.m. at Fellowship of Hope (1618 S 6th Street, Elkhart). We will hear from Jonathan Breneman and Sarah Nahar about their recent trip to Palestine, their work with Christians for a Free Palestine, and the BDS (boycott, divestment, and sanctions) movement. Bring a dessert to share. Childcare will be provided.

Saturday, May 9 the **Goshen Community Chorale will present *Who Is My Neighbor?***, a community hymn sing held at College Mennonite Church. **Area singers are warmly invited to join the choir for the Spring event; auditions are not required.** [Dr. Regina Shands Stoltzfus](mailto:Dr.ReginaShandsStoltzfus) will serve as liturgist for this sacred concert. Bradley Kauffman is musical director. The program will feature songs from the hymnal *Voices Together* (MennoMedia, 2020), with significant audience participation. The program will hold space for many emotions and sentiments, among them fear, anger, love, resilience, courage, and hope. Interested singers, high school age and adults, may [complete this survey](#) or inquire by email: [goshencommunitychorale@gmail.com](mailto:goshencommunitychorale@gmail.com). Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. beginning March 17.

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](mailto:elizabethmm@goshen.edu) or 574.535.7418.)

**Save the Date: 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. All [tickets](#) are \$25.

**Save the Date for Amigo Centre’s Golf Scramble, May 30** at Klinger Lake Country Club. Proceeds from this event support Amigo Centre’s high-quality summer camp programming, especially providing registration scholarships for low-income youth. Registration coming soon! For more information about sponsoring the event, visit [AmigoCentre.org/golf-scramble](http://AmigoCentre.org/golf-scramble) or call 269-651-2811.