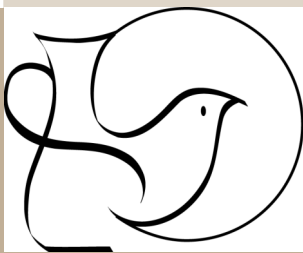




June 7, 2026



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:

9:00 a.m. - Worship
 10:30 a.m. - Elective classes for all ages
 12:00 p.m. - Fellowship Meal

Welcome Team

Greeters: Court Chupp, Jon. Wieand
 Ushers: Dennis Myers, Wade Ramer, Len Harms
 Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler, Shawn Stutzman
 Nursery: Amanda Stoltzfus, Barb Landes; Cheryl Snyder, Bonnie Miller

This Week at Waterford

Thursday
 8:30 a.m. - Mennonite Women / MYF Rm
 7:00 p.m. - FFMT / FH
 7:00 p.m. - Ecuador Prayers
 Zoom prayers
 Monday - 8:30 a.m.

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

June Worship

Cindy Voth, for Worship Ministry Team

“Most of scripture speaks to us while the Psalms speak for us.” This quote, from biblical scholar Bernhard W. Anderson, highlights the ways the psalms gift us with language to address God within the full scope of human emotions and experiences. Anderson also writes in his book, *Out of the Depths: The Psalms Speak For Us Today*, that “The Psalms may speak ‘for’ us... thereby teaching us how to pray with others in the various times of our lives.”

During the month of June, we will dwell each week with a different psalm. Together we will listen to the invitation to be drawn into the language and purpose of the psalm. We will consider how the psalm might continue to speak for us today in 2026 within our daily lives as followers of Jesus.

Date	Theme	Preacher; special elements
June 7	Psalm 121 A psalm of trust	Cindy Voth
June 14	Psalm 46 A psalm of sacred pause	Deron Bergstresser
June 21	Psalm 8 A psalm of creation	Aaron Lehman and Oliver Kauffman, interviewed about their experience as our reps to the Anabaptist Climate Collaborative
June 28	Psalm 23 A psalm to engage our five senses	Cindy Voth; Sabbatical blessing for Pastor Deron, Amanda Stoltzfus as Summer Interim Pastor; Communion

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 221

Nurture Hour - 209

Finances – May 31, 2026

Operating Fund	\$11,725.00
Mennonite Ed	\$4,255.20
Either Fund	\$4,220.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$20,200.20</i>
Jubilee Fund	\$60.00
Reparations Fund	\$1,415.31
Four Way Mission	\$75.00
Benin T-shirts	\$20.00
Benin Trip	\$1,000.00
Total	\$22,770.51

Looking Ahead

June 14: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Psalm of Sacred Pause
(Psalm 46)

June 21: Sermon: Aaron Lehman, Oliver Kauffman; Psalm of Creation
(Psalm 8)

Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader
Monday - Thursday

Deron Bergstresser
Tuesday - Friday

Katie Misz
Monday - Thursday

Ursula Hess

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 no more than 600 words and sent to the editor by 5 p.m. Tuesday preceding publication.

Janet Shoemaker, Editor
buzz@waterfordchurch.org

A Memorial Gift to WMC

Estate Gift

Jim Gascho, Treasurer

Occasionally Waterford Mennonite Church is the recipient of a memorial Estate Gift. This happens when individuals include WMC in their End of Life Will, Estate Trust Documents, or as the Beneficiary of an IRA account or other forms of investments. It's a great way at end of life to give back to the church which has nurtured you, given you the opportunity to grow, and encouraged you in your walk with God.

Dave and Julia Leatherman were long-time members of Waterford. Julia died August 29, 2024, and Dave died October 10, 2025. They have given an estate gift to WMC of \$25,440. Pastor Deron met with family members to discuss any special family requests for use of the gift. Our Facilities and Finance Ministry Team evaluated how best to use this generous gift and gave a recommendation to our Ministry Leadership Council. They looked at areas of ministry that were especially close to Dave's and Julia's hearts.

In their lifetime, Dave and Julia made several mission trips overseas, primarily Africa, some being medical mission trips. They represented WMC on one of the exchange trips with our partners, Benin Bible Institute. They also had a heart for our youth. This summer, \$5,000 will go to support our youth on their trip to Benin.

Julia was very engaged with Mennonite Women for many years. We want to recognize her in this area of ministry. Julia's sister, Joyce, now gives leadership. WMC Mennonite Women will receive \$4,000.

Locally Dave and Julia had interest in caring for the oppressed and marginalized within our community. Center for Healing and Hope, a local ministry which provides medical assistance to those without insurance and addresses immigrant issues, will receive \$5,000.

To lend ongoing support for special needs, \$10,000 will be added to our Endowment Fund.

Dave and Julia, with their interest in missions, not only went on short term mission trips, they also supported others in going. The balance of \$1,440.00 will go into our Short-Term Service Fund.

What a privilege it is for us to experience the generosity of Dave and Julia and to see their legacy of caring for others and love for the church carried on in this way.

Directory Change

Please make the following change to your directory:

Karen, Lee and Isaac Pfahler have moved to

1704 W. Pike St
Goshen, IN 46526

Pastoral Review

Pastor Deron's Major 4-year Review

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team Leader

Earlier this spring Pastor Deron's review was conducted via a survey document prepared by WMC's congregational coach, Marty Lehman. There were 63 people who participated in the review. Marty compiled the results in themes and a further summarization follows:

Pastor Deron is widely appreciated as a gifted preacher and compassionate pastor whose presence has enriched the church community. Respondents highlighted his strong preaching, noting his ability to bring fresh insight to familiar Scripture, as well as his meaningful use of music, drama, and the arts in worship. His calm, caring, and non-anxious personality was frequently mentioned as a strength, especially in working with senior adults and those facing health challenges.

Many expressed gratitude for his gentle spirit, calm presence, listening skills, compassionate pastoral care, and ability to connect personally with people. Memorial services and senior visitation were described as thoughtful, meaningful, and handled with care. His contributions to ministry teams, men's small group ministry, Sunday School classes, retreats, and book studies were seen as enriching and spiritually formative. Deron's passion for justice and ability to contribute unique perspectives to the pastoral team were also valued, along with his visible engagement in the wider Goshen community through music, public events, and advocacy efforts.

A recurring theme was the importance of balance and self-care. Numerous respondents urged Deron to continue to protect time for his own spiritual nurture, physical well-being, family, and friendships so that the emotional weight of ministry does not become overwhelming.

Overall, respondents described Pastor Deron as a significant gift to our church whose ministry has strengthened and enriched the congregation.

A small sampling of comments made in the review:

- His modeling of study and spirituality has been a challenge for my own spiritual practice and his contribution to musical worship has blessed my soul.
- I know I have been impacted by Deron when it is Friday, and I am still thinking about what he preached in his sermon a week earlier.
- Deron, you have moved into a very different congregation from your previous role, and you have demonstrated a strong commitment to your role as a pastor and servant leader in a larger community. Keep bringing the wisdom you gained from all of your experiences to us and help keep us focused on commitment to our community, especially the weak and vulnerable ones.
- I deeply appreciate Deron's heart for peace, reconciliation in relationships, and justice and healing for all peoples.

Conclusion: Pastor Deron is a deeply valued member of the pastoral team, appreciated for his gentle spirit, calm presence, listening skills, Spirit-led sermons, compassionate pastoral care, and ability to connect personally. He is encouraged to continue to build relationships with our Senior Adults, to invite the congregation into contemplative faith practices, and to use his wide gifts in worship through music, preaching, and leading.

Thank you to those who participated in this review. Truly, we are blessed to have Deron's pastoral leadership among us. Thanks be to God!

Thank You

Dear Waterford Mennonite Church,

Thank you so much for your \$1,000 gift from the Endowment Fund to sponsor Goshen Community Chorale's spring event, "Who Is My Neighbor?"

Thank you to those of you who joined us for this 5-year celebration hymn fest of Voices Together (MennoMedia 2020), and for joining us in song and spoken words of inspiration. We are grateful for our community!

Warmly,

Goshen Community Chorale Board and singers from WMC:
Bob Brenneman; Colton Eby; Shelby Miller Eby; Jeff Miller; Kay Miller,
Board President; Rose Shetler; Colleen Stoltzfus

Waterford Announcements

This Sunday:

- All are invited to stay for the **fellowship meal** after the nurture hour which will be hosted by the Seekers class. Bring a dish—or two—to share! You may also bring your own table ware.
- **We will meet outside** in and around the pavilion for our worship service. There will be some chairs under the pavilion, but you are welcome to bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on the lawn. The service will be livestreamed into the sanctuary for those unable to withstand the heat or uneven ground.
- We will begin our **June nurture hour electives**. Look for a bulletin insert this week with the description and location of each elective. *For those participating in the story-telling elective, this Sunday's prompt is: Talk about an experience/event or set of experiences that significantly changed your way of viewing things.*

It's June already and what we planted in the spring is growing. So is the attendance at **Mennonite Women** with ladies coming when they can and doing what they enjoy. It is so exciting to see the projects they are completing. Come join the fun and fellowship anytime between 9 and 2 this coming Thursday. Hopefully you can stay for the carry in lunch and bring whatever you choose to share for our "Least Coin Fund". Women sharing their life stories has also been enriching.

Our next "**Guess Who's Coming to Dinner**" will be on June 28! Please return your forms to be a host or a guest to the box at the participation station by May 31.

Vacation Bible School July 21-24: We will partner with local Mennonite churches for Bible School! Hosted at Silverwood Mennonite Church. Follow the link for registration. Invite your friends, neighbors, grandkids, and more! Interested in volunteering? We need activity station leaders, group leaders, drama team, and worship band participants. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Amy Zoller alziu91@gmail.com.

Court Chupp is looking for a full-size box spring for his mattress. If you can help him, please contact him at 574-238-8968.

Upcoming Events

Unmasking and Dismantling Settler Colonialism: CPT Delegation to Turtle Island August 9-17, 2026: Do a deep dive into the historical and current realities of colonialism and explore ways we can get involved in the decolonization process. We will visit Grassy Narrows (NW Ontario) and meet Indigenous community leaders and allies in Winnipeg and Kenora. Through this delegation we will explore themes such as environmental racism, class oppression, police and prison abolition movements, Indigenous solidarity, and allyship. **Application deadline is June 10.** Learn more details at https://cpt.org/delegations/tisn?blm_aid=29906

Experience the joy of music with the **Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster (MCCL)** Wednesday, June 10, 7 p.m. at Olive Mennonite Church. MCCL is a community choral arts program in Central Pennsylvania serving more than 160 children and youth in kindergarten through grade 12. Representing nearly 55 congregations, 45 schools, and 15 denominations, singers develop a rich musical repertoire from around the world and across time while being equipped for a lifetime of service to the church and community. No tickets, but a freewill offering will be taken.

Join **Mennonite Action Prayers** on Tuesday, June 16, from noon until 1 p.m. in the College Mennonite Church sanctuary. This month, as we celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary, our theme prayer will be "This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine" (Voices Together, 710). We will pray for people in Iran, Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank, Israel, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, Venezuela, Cuba, in addition to the United States. We will pray with songs, scripture, silence, and spoken prayers. Come for the hour or stop in briefly.

Hosted jointly by Mennonite Action and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), **Faith in Action Peace Camp** will take place this fall, September 3-7, in the Chicago area. During this peace camp, we will dive deep into Anabaptist traditions of nonviolent resistance and explore embodying these practices in our current social context. We will hear from local leaders and partners who are living out their faith through nonviolent action and standing in solidarity with communities impacted by violence. Throughout this peace camp, we will explore:

- Theological grounding for activism and nonviolence
- History of peace movements around the world
- Stories from Chicago partners practicing nonviolent action during ICE raids
- How to be trauma-informed in this work

[Applications are live NOW](#) and the deadline is June 21. After the \$250 registration fee, MCC covers all costs of travel, lodging, and meals.

You Came to Visit Me: An Incarceration Learning Experience. Join MCC for a three-day learning experience in Goshen on July 24-26. Hear directly from people with lived experience of incarceration, explore what Scripture says about justice and restoration, and engage honestly with the policies and structures that shape these realities. Together we'll discover what it means to realize the Kingdom of God both practically and faithfully. Learn more and register: mcc.org/goshen-visit-me

Open Door Mennonite Church in Jackson, Mississippi, is sponsoring a weeklong residential experience, Jul 26-Aug 1, for rising high school juniors and seniors at no cost to participants. **Peace Lab** creates a safe space for a diverse cadre of teens to hear from experienced peacebuilders who are doing the work daily, visit sites where history happened, learn faith-based peace practices to take home, build relationships, and have fun. More information: opendoormennonite.org/summer-peace-lab

MCUSA

One of the ways that Mennonite Church USA creates and nurtures missional peace churches is through **church planting**. MC USA helps support church plants through the Thrive: Church Planting Grant, a renewable \$5,000 annual grant. Learn more and apply by July 31 here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/thrivegrant>

Ten Hispanic students, all active pastors, were the first cohort to graduate from the new **Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies** program offered by **Hispanic Ministries** of Mennonite Church USA and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/first-cohort-graduates/>

MMN

Mobilize for peace with us

Mennonite Mission Network places volunteers in 177 placements — from local communities across the street to countries around the world — to share the peace of Christ with all people. Now we need your help. By donating to the **Mennonite Mission Network Fund**, you can help equip more workers, strengthen more communities, and expand the reach of Christ's peace. Will you join us? [Visit MennoniteMission.net/Mobilize](http://VisitMennoniteMission.net/Mobilize) today and **help us reach our goal of \$350,000.**

AMBS

Online Short Course: Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible: Sept. 16 – Oct. 27. Join Paul Keim, PhD, and Drew Strait, PhD, to study pertinent Scripture passages and reflect on how these texts contribute to a robust and biblically based practice of peace and justice today. This online short course of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary lasts six weeks. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by Aug. 26 to save \$50. ambs.edu/online-short-courses

Pathways Retreat

Pathways Retreat offers a variety of programs and workshops this month:

- Attuning to the Seasons
- God's Wonderful Creatures
- Created to Care Youth Summer Camp

Inner Soul Groups are forming for fall 2026 through spring 2027. Daily prayers continue through June 30, then break for summer. Learn more at pathwaysretreat.org.

2026 Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale:

- Plant enthusiasts, share your plants at the Relief Sale. Now is the time to nurture your indoor plants or pot up your perennials as you divide them. A good plant sale depends on healthy established plants. Please consider what you could contribute to the sale. If you specialize in violets or succulents, they are always popular.
- Start collecting your coins for MyCoinsCount to bring to the Relief Sale in September to support MCC's water projects around the world. A calendar to help you collect is available on the [Relief Sale website](#).
- Follow the Relief Sale on Facebook, Instagram and X/Twitter, and check out the website for more information.

Opportunities

Invitation from **Downtown Ministries** to join **Mentor Trainings** at Goshen First Brethren on June 24, July 1 & 8. Mentors become a participant's friend and support system by encouraging participants, building relationships, listening, and walking alongside them throughout a 10-week class experience. Classes include:

Faith & Finances: a class that helps individuals build healthy financial habits through budgeting, stewardship, saving, and biblical financial principles.

Jobs for Life: a program focused on job readiness, confidence, workplace skills, and helping individuals pursue long-term employment and stability.

Ready Now Recovery: a class designed to support individuals navigating addiction recovery and life transformation through encouragement, accountability, faith, and community support.

Healing From Trauma: a class that creates space for individuals to process difficult experiences, find healing, build healthy coping skills, and restore hope through supportive community and faith-based encouragement.

Become a mentor by registering at: <https://www.downtownmin.org/mentortraining>. They are also looking for individuals who may feel called to help **facilitate or support classes** like Ready Now Recovery or Healing From Trauma. Whether you have experience leading groups, or simply have a heart for serving others, you are invited to **fill out the information** at <https://www.downtownmin.org/serve>

We Make Indiana is hiring for a **new community organizing position** based in **Elkhart County** to grow its network of faith communities committed to effecting change across our region and state. They're especially looking for people who:

- care deeply about community and want to make change happen
- are strong relationship-builders
- are energized by leadership development
- can work across lines of race, geography, and faith tradition

They invite the position to be shared with younger leaders or others who may not already see themselves as leaders but have the gifts for it.

Application and information are available here: wemakeindiana.org/apply