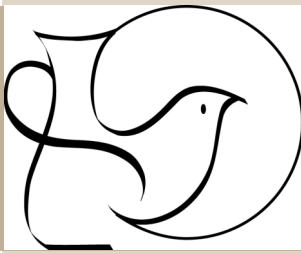




September 13, 2026



The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday:

9:00 a.m. - Nurture classes for all ages

10:15 a.m. - Worship

Welcome Team

Greeters: Carla Miller, Karen Thompson

Ushers: Dennis Myers, Wade Ramer, Denise Diener

Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler, Colin Berkey, Steve Fath

Nursery: Elvina Schmidt, Lacy Stoltzfus; Cheryl Snyder, Bonnie Miller

This Week at Waterford

Monday

7:00 p.m. - MLC / FH

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. - Haystacks & Games

7:00 p.m. - BBI Planning Grp /

Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Reparative Justice Group / Rm 22

Zoom prayers

Monday - 8:30 a.m.

Waterford Mennonite Church

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Goshen, IN 46526

Phone 574-533-5642

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Welcoming Back Pastor Deron!

Cindy Voth, for Pastoral Team

We are gearing up to joyfully welcome Pastor Deron back to his pastoral role at WMC following his three month sabbatical renewal leave! Deron will return to the office on Tuesday, September 29. We invite you to keep Deron and Annette in your thoughts and prayers during these final weeks of his sabbatical. We pray that indeed God has led Deron beside still waters and has restored his soul.

Join us in welcoming back Deron by adding your words of welcome and greeting to the banner in the church foyer. Then, we will hang the banner in his office to help share with Deron our joy and delight that he is back! A special thank you to Melissa Chupp for creating the banner!

During worship on October 4, we will have a time to welcome Deron back as well as to express our gratitude to Amanda Stoltzfus who has been serving as our Interim Summer Pastor. Deron will be sharing reflections about his sabbatical within his sermon on October 18.

Life at Waterford

Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 198

Nurture Hour - 182

Finances – September 6, 2026

Operating Fund	\$10,054.25
Mennonite Ed	\$2,890.00
Either Fund	\$6,845.00
Subtotal	\$19,789.25
Jubilee Fund	\$400.00
Reparations Fund	\$1,700.00
Sharing Fund	\$400.00
Four Way Mission	\$50.00
Children's Offering	\$15.00
Total	\$32,354.25

Looking Ahead

September 20: Scripture & Song:
Water in Scripture

September 27: Sermon: Cindy
Voth; Fruits of the Spirit: Love

Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team

Leader

Monday - Thursday

Katie Misz, pastor

Monday - Thursday

Ursula Hess - Sr. Adult Chaplain

Amanda Stoltzfus - Interim pastor

Deron Bergstresser, pastor

On Sabbatical

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

Guess Who?

"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?"

Melissa Chupp, Lay Ministry Partner Fellowship Ministry Team

The Fellowship Ministry Team (FMT) invites everyone to another evening of food and fellowship with others from Waterford! Instead of meeting at the church, we will be gathering in various homes of WMCers for dinner. The twist is that who you will be dining with will remain a mystery until everyone shows up that night!

This fun evening will be happening on Sunday, October 18, at 5:30 p.m. This week you will find a form in your mailbox (extras at the Participation Station) where you can sign up to HOST the dinner or to be a GUEST in someone else's home for the meal. Hosts will choose how many guests to host in their homes and provide the main dish and drinks. Guests, on the other hand, will travel to someone else's house and will provide either a salad or dessert.

Completed forms can be returned to the collection box at the Participation Station no later than Sunday, October 4. Hosts and guests will be paired by FMT and all will be notified by October 11. Hosts will only be given the number of guests that they will have in their home that evening, as well as any dietary restrictions (if any). Guests will be provided only with the address of their host, the number of guests, dietary restrictions (if any), and whether they should bring a salad or a dessert.

Come and join others for a delight-filled evening of "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?"

MCC Work

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is raising funds to respond to the recent natural disasters in Nepal and Colombia.

Nepal flooding response: MCC is working with local partners to provide food, water purification tablets and other supplies, as well as psychosocial support, to survivors of deadly flooding and landslides. Donate to MCC's response at mcc.org/nepal-flooding.

Colombia earthquake: MCC is also providing emergency relief in Colombia following the 7.4-magnitude earthquake. Donate to MCC's response at mcc.org/colombia-earthquake.



Waterford Announcements

Fall Fun on the Farm: Join us at Knollbrook Farm (15463 CR 46) on Wednesday, September 30, from 6 to 8 p.m. for a bonfire and s'mores, corn maze, and other fall activities. Cost is \$9 per person payable to the church. Sign up at the participation station by September 23 so we can get an accurate head count to the staff at the farm. For more information on what Knollbrook Farm is all about, visit their website at <http://www.knollbrookfarm.com>. Bring extra cash if you are interested in purchasing pumpkins, gourds, mums, or other fall decor.

Waterford Mennonite Church is hosting an **International Day of Peace Youth Conference**, September 20, 1:30 – 4 p.m., for youth and parents. The event is organized by MCC and area Mennonite Churches. Youth Seminar topics include conscientious objection, a veteran story, poetry and bystander training nonviolent activism. Parent seminars are on conscientious objection and parenting for peace. See the posters on the doors and bulletin board for a complete list of events.

Please consider adding your name to the greeter list. There are openings and we would love to have you be part of the welcoming face of Waterford Mennonite Church. Signing up is easy. Just click on this link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fRLd0Ydw_QxRiQUvRhUscNV-k0HV-oTcPnu61NyBcjM/edit?gid=0#gid=0 for Greeter Sign Up. In the future you can find this link in the left hand column of the BUZZ.

Check out the **Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale table by the library** to see how you can volunteer for Waterford's booths at the sale. Besides the popcorn and soft ice cream booths, there are pans, labels and guidelines for baking cookies, pies, cakes, bread, rolls, etc. to be sold.

Collect your coins and encourage your children to save their coins for the MyCoinsCount project at the relief sale. You may drop them in the jug outside the main sanctuary doors on Sunday morning. These coins go directly to programs that provide food to people suffering from war and climate upheaval. We have already received a very generous match of \$1500. Let's see if we can get enough coins in the next three Sundays to match that match! If you would like to match all or part of the money dropped into the coin jar, you can give your donation to Janet Shoemaker to be taken to the sale on September 26.

Upcoming Events

An invitation to a non-violent protest to wars and other violence around the world: Mennonite Action prayers, Tuesday, September 15, from noon until 1 p.m. in the College Mennonite Church sanctuary on the Goshen College Campus. Join a group to pray for people and situations around the world where violence continues—including in the U.S. We pray with songs and silence, scripture, spoken prayers, and candle lighting. All are welcome. Join us for a short time or for the full hour.

Yoder Public Affairs Lecture, September 15, 7 p.m., Goshen College Umble Center and [Livestreamed](#). **Martin Doblmeier**, an award-winning documentary filmmaker whose new film, "**Christianity at a Crossroads**," explores the changing face of Christianity in the United States. The film is intended for broadcast on public television beginning this fall and wide distribution at colleges, seminaries and congregations. For more information, visit the [Yoder Public Affairs Lecture events page](#). Free and open to the public.

MCUSA

"Waging Peace: A Militarism Summit," Nov. 6-7, in Leola, Pennsylvania. Rooted in Anabaptist faith values, the two-day gathering brings Christians together to explore faithful responses to war, political polarization, nationalism and violence. Best-selling author **Shane Claiborne** is the opening keynote speaker. **High school youth attend free** with a youth sponsor/pastor. Space is limited, so register now <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/militarism-summit/>

MMN

Let us turn your group's next trip into something unforgettable! Book your Just Peace Pilgrimage for 2027 and step into stories that still shape the world today. Together we'll walk in solidarity, open our eyes to the beauty and struggle of life, and come home changed. Choose your adventure:

- Civil Rights Pilgrimage
- Christ at the Borders (Arizona)
- Underground Railroad

Perfect for congregations, Sunday school classes, youth groups or any crew ready for more than just another outing. Visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace to explore the journeys and lock in your dates. Your group's most meaningful trip yet is waiting!

AMBS

New *Anabaptist Witness* issue on “**Anabaptist Missiology Revisited**” available for free online. Edited by James R. Krabill, PhD, this issue tells the story of the Association of Anabaptist Missiologists (AAM) and brings together the four papers presented at the initial AAM gathering in 2000 for the first time. Contemporary Anabaptist voices from the global faith family offer responses to each paper. Book reviews discuss intercultural congregations and Muslim-Christian relations. anabaptistwitness.org

Pathways Retreat

Daily prayers have resumed and have a new start time of 8:15 a.m. Learn more at pathwaysretreat.org. Learn what all is going on at Pathways this month in the [link to our monthly newsletter](#).

An Evening of Hope, Resilience & Moving Forward, Friday, September 18 at 5:30 p.m., Greencroft Community Center. Join us for an evening with **Jerrell Ross Richer** as he explores how we can continue moving forward even in times of adversity. Under the theme “**Staying Grounded, Moving Forward**,” Jerrell will share thoughts on navigating challenging times without losing our identity or hope, and on making a difference in our spheres of influence. The evening will include dinner and an opportunity to learn more about MEDA’s impact through stories and updates. Register here: [MEDANetwork RSVP](#).

There’s still time to register for the [Women’s Retreat at Camp Friedenswald](#), September 18-20! This year’s retreat will feature Amanda K. Gross, artist, community organizer, and Author of *White Women Get Ready*, a book about anti-racism and **how white women can work toward dismantling oppressive structures**. We’ll explore patterns of white womanhood that perpetuate harm and consider how they can be transformed. All adult women welcome! There will be opportunities for breakout affinity spaces for Women of the Global Majority, hosted by Nekeisha Alayna Alexis, AMBS Intercultural Competence and Undoing Racism Coordinator.

[Peace Talks](#), an inaugural speech contest hosted by Goshen College, representing five Mennonite/Anabaptist colleges, 7 p.m. in the Umble Center on Saturday, Sept. 19. Peace Talks is a new annual public speaking event for young people to cultivate leadership through faith-based speaking and storytelling about peace and justice. The contest will highlight peacebuilding and courageous communication on the part of college students. Open to the public, also available through [livestreaming](#).

Faithful Witness in Turbulent Times Webinar, September 21, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. In this webinar, panelists will share how the communities where Mennonite Central Committee works are affected by **Superpower/Empire domination** and global inequalities, and how we can commit to being faithful peacemakers. [Learn more and register here](#).

Yoder-Culp Funeral Home is offering an **Advance Funeral Planning Workshop** on Tuesday, September 22, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. over a free dinner at the Funeral Home. The discussion will include the services, merchandise and trust options that Yoder-Culp offers. RSVP to Ethan at 574-533-3153 **by September 18**. See the flier on the bulletin board for more information.

“**Holy Disruption: A Faith that Makes Noise**” is a fundraiser event for Mennonite Action on Thursday, September 24, from 7 to 8:15 p.m., at AMBS. Dessert will be served and there will be a full program in addition to fellowship with the new Director and staff. RSVP to Holly Harris, at holly@mennoniteaction.org or (336) 803-1589.

Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale: Deadlines are approaching soon for the **Pickleball Tournament and Run for Relief**:

- **Pickleball** Mixed Doubles 60+ Friday evening, September 25. Mixed Doubles <60 Saturday morning. Cost is \$40 cash at check-in. Register your team at www.mennonitesale.org/pickleball-tournament by September 21.
- **Run for Relief** is Saturday, September 26, at 8:00 a.m. Sign up on-line at <https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/Goshen/MCCRforRelief>.

Community Peacemaker Teams is marking its 40th anniversary! To celebrate this milestone, CPT is hosting a special online gathering on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 12 p.m. EDT, that brings together stories spanning four decades of peacemaking, solidarity, and transforming violence and oppression. Sign up at cpt.org/forty.

SAVE THE DATE: Lacasa Donor Celebration, Tuesday, October 13, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at The Spohn Ballroom, 109 East Clinton Street. Join us for an evening celebrating the people whose generosity continues to take root in our community. RSVP to Megan Peel at megan.peel@lacasainc.net