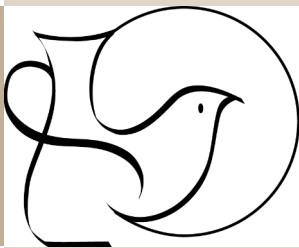




September 27, 2026



# The Waterford Buzz

## **This Sunday:**

9:00 a.m. - Worship

10:30 a.m. - Classes for all ages

## **Welcome Team**

Greeters: Karen Sommers,  
Elizabeth Stauffer

Ushers: Dennis Myers, Douglas  
Graber, Wade Ramer

Audiovisuals: Shawn Stutzman,  
Colin Berkey

Nursery: Michelle Ramer,  
Bervallie Lehman; Lorna  
Claassen, Amelia Green

## **This Week at Waterford**

### **Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. - MYF

### **Thursday**

6:30 p.m. - Stephen Ministers /  
MYF Rm, Rm 15

### **Saturday**

9:00 a.m. - Women's Retreat /  
North Fellowship Hall

### **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

## **Ecuador Four Way Mission Update**

Please mark your calendars for Sunday evening, October 11, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at Waterford Mennonite Church. You are invited to join the founders of Ecuador Four Way Mission for an update on what has taken place since our launch one year ago. Come learn about our first graduate in the nursing program and the growing number of interested students who now have hopes for an education with the aid of scholarships made possible by your generous donations.



### **Four Way Mission US Board Members:**

*Standing, left to right:* Steve Fath, President; Neil Amstutz, Vice President; Josiah Graber-Ditzler, Treasurer; Jerrell Ross Richer, Executive Director;  
*Seated:* Debbie Fath, Secretary; Ursula Hess, At Large

## Life at Waterford

### Last Sunday Attendance

Worship - 190  
Nurture Hour - 207

### Finances – September 20, 2026

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Operating Fund      | \$8,749.00         |
| Mennonite Ed        | \$365.00           |
| Either Fund         | \$4,340.00         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>     | <b>\$13,454.00</b> |
| Four Way Mission    | \$50.00            |
| Children's Offering | \$7.50             |
| Jubilee Fund        | \$60.00            |
| Reparations Fund    | \$100.00           |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>\$13,671.50</b> |

### Looking Ahead

October 4: Sermon: Monica Miller;  
Fruits of the Spirit: Joy  
World Communion Sunday  
(Luke 15:8-32)  
October 11: Sermon: Cindy Voth;  
Fruits of the Spirit: Peace  
(Matthew 4:35-41; 15:22-33)

### Pastoral Team

Cindy Voth, Pastoral Team  
Leader  
Monday - Thursday  
Katie Misz, pastor  
Monday - Thursday  
Ursula Hess - Sr. Adult Chaplain  
Amanda - Interim pastor  
Deron Bergstresser, pastor

### Out of Office

Cindy Voth October 1-4

### 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 no more than 600 words and sent to the editor by 5 p.m. Tuesday preceding publication.  
Janet Shoemaker, Editor  
[buzz@waterfordchurch.org](mailto:buzz@waterfordchurch.org)

## International Day of Peace Youth Conference



Waterford youth, sponsors, and friends lead music at the International Day of Peace youth conference hosted at Waterford last Sunday.

This past Sunday, Waterford hosted 100+ area youth and supporting adults at the International Day of Peace Youth Conference.

The conference was organized by area youth leaders from Indiana Michigan Conference, Central District Conference, and Mennonite Central Committee. The event began at 1:30 with a time of worship. Colton and Shelby Eby organized a youth band with Neer Goswami as song leader, and featured a poem by JE Misz.

After worship, participants chose to attend two of the seven seminars offered. The seminars included topics like nonviolent activism, hearing veteran stories, Why peace?, writing resistance, conscientious objection, bystander training, and a parenting breakout group. Many commented that the quality of speakers was that of a Mennonite Convention. Our AV technicians Colin Berkey and Bob Hochstedler were certainly kept busy!

Another feature of the event was a world map, created by Camila Pérez Diener and Waterford MYF in preparation for the event. Participants were invited to add their prayers for the world to the map. This Sunday, we invite Waterford attendees to add to their prayers. You will find the map in the foyer and beside it, on the small table, sticky notes to write your prayers on.

# Waterford Announcements

This Sunday we will collect **offerings for the Reparations Fund**. You will find people holding baskets outside the sanctuary doors after the service where you can place your offering.

This is the last Sunday to sign up for the **Women's Retreat**, (October 3, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.), at the participation station. Artist Sylvie Gudin Koehn will lead our time together with Visio Divina and centering art. Bring a dish to share for lunch.

If you are planning to join the fun at Knollbrook Farm on Wednesday, bring extra cash if you are interested in purchasing pumpkins, gourds, mums, or other fall décor. There is also a big tube slide for which there is an additional cost. And don't forget to pay the church for your admission—\$9 per person.

**Next Sunday, October 4**, we will share in **communion**. We invite you to prepare your hearts for this sign of God's peace by making peace with God and with your brothers and sisters. And, as did the early church (Acts 2:43-47), we will also collect offerings for the Sharing Fund. This fund benefits people in need within the congregation

**It's time for College Student Care Packages!** You are invited to bring baked goods, granola bars, candy, nuts, Cup Noodles, popcorn, dried fruit, salty snacks, and other shelf-stable items for the next two Sundays for these packages. No fresh fruit, please! Items may be placed on the table near the library.

Don't forget to return your form to participate in **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** by October 4. There's a box on the participation station table to drop your completed form.

If you are **interested in becoming a Stephen Minister**, you are invited to attend an informational meeting during Nurture Hour in the Nurture Wing rooms 34/35 on October 4.

On Thursday an email was sent out from our **Mennonite Education Review Committee with three options to explore for our financial support** of WMC students who attend Bethany. A handful of **paper copies** will be available at the Participation Station for those who did not access it electronically. All are invited to "Eat, Pray, Learn" at 5 p.m. on October 11 for conversation around tables to discuss these options.

The signup sheet for the **fall men's retreat**, Saturday, October 17, from 8:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m., is now at the participation station. Sign up by October 11 if you plan to attend.

## Upcoming Events

### **Advancing Miami Culture Through Traditional Plants, Food and Crafts:**

On Sunday, September 27, Dani Tippmann, of the Miami of Oklahoma will present two sessions at Eighth Street Mennonite Church in Goshen on food sovereignty and the multiple use of plants, one at 11:00 a.m. and one at 12:45 p.m. with lunch in between. Please see the flier on the bulletin board for details about Dani and the lunch.

## MCUSA

**Waging Peace: A Militarism Summit:** Join Mennonite Church USA on **Nov. 6-7** in Leola, Pennsylvania, for "Waging Peace: A Militarism Summit," a two-day gathering to explore faithful responses to war, political polarization, nationalism and violence through an Anabaptist lens. High school youth attend free when accompanied by a youth pastor or sponsor. Learn more and register here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/militarism-summit/>

### **What does it mean to "hold space" for someone?**

In her Menno Snapshots blog, spiritual director Jane Hooper Peifer explores what it means to "hold space" for someone living with deep trauma. She reflects on how compassionate presence, listening and trust can help create room for healing. Read "A 'holding space' story" here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/holding-space/>

## MMN

**Want to stay connected to the heart of the mission in a powerful way?** Subscribe to Mennonite Mission Network's **Prayer Vine** — a monthly newsletter packed with daily prayer requests for our workers, participants and partners around the world. Your prayers make a real difference, and we're so grateful for every one! Visit [MennoniteMission.net/Prayer](https://MennoniteMission.net/Prayer) to subscribe and see all our prayer materials. Let's lift them up together!

### **Nonpartisan Poll Chaplain/ Peacekeeper Training:**

Sojourners Magazine invites you to a nonpartisan training on September 28, at 7 p.m. EDT, to learn how to serve as a Poll Chaplain (an ordained faith leader) or a Peacekeeper (a lay leader)—both are charged with providing a moral presence at polling sites and will be trained to deescalate potential conflict. Learn more and [Register here](#).

The **Center for Community Justice (CCJ)** creates safer communities by promoting healthy communication, conflict resolution, and harm repair. Join us for a **3-day training on September 28-30 from 3:00-6:00 p.m.**, focused on **communication, conflict, and culture**. Participants are welcome to attend for personal or professional development or as a first step toward serving as a volunteer mediator with CCJ. For information and to register, please contact [cbyler@centerforcommunityjustice.org](mailto:cbyler@centerforcommunityjustice.org) or call 574-295-6149. Cost: \$90/person - full scholarships are available for students and potential volunteers.

The Assembly Mennonite Church Green Team is hosting a **watch party to stream Bill McKibben's keynote address** delivered live at [Faith in Place's Environment & Spirituality Summit](#). All are invited to this **free event** on Tuesday, **September 29, 7:00 pm** (doors open at 6:30 pm) at our meetinghouse (727 New York St, Goshen). Bill McKibben is an author, educator, and environmentalist who helped found [350.org](#), the first global grassroots climate campaign, and who recently founded [Third Act](#), a movement for people over the age of 60 to safeguard our climate and democracy. Registration for the watch party is encouraged [here](#).

**Shine Curriculum Workshop:** Join teachers and formation leaders on Saturday, October 10, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Creekside Church of the Brethren, 60455 County Road 113, Elkhart, IN 46517. Shana Peachey Boshart from Shine Curriculum will present this interactive workshop to explore the new features of the curriculum, discuss challenges and successes, and learn from one another. **RSVP by October 4** at [tinyurl.com/Shine1010](http://tinyurl.com/Shine1010).

**Friends of Amigo Banquet**, October 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Pleasant View Church (58529 County Rd 23, Goshen). Join Amigo Centre's staff and board for an evening of delicious food, hear updates and stories from the year, and have an opportunity to give financially to the ministry of Amigo! **RSVP by October 6**

After a period of Israeli restrictions, **money can again be sent to assist Christians remaining in Gaza**. Finding food and other supplies is difficult and expensive, also dangerous. We are in contact with people still surviving in damaged homes and tents and who desperately need help. Please consider a monetary gift to help via a check to Fellowship of Hope, 1614 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Elkhart

## **Opportunities**

**Tutors needed:** The Tutor-CogSci team from the Institute for Educational Initiatives at the University of Notre Dame is recruiting **literacy tutors for elementary schools in Goshen**. Tutors work one-on-one with elementary students for about 25-30 minutes per session during the school day, between 8:30 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. They complete approximately four hours of online training in evidence-based reading instruction and receive ongoing coaching and support. Both volunteer and paid positions are available, with paid rates ranging from \$15-\$25/hour based on education level or reading specialist experience. Interested tutors can apply here: <https://tinyurl.com/TutorND> Program questions can be sent to [tutornd@nd.edu](mailto:tutornd@nd.edu).

**Thrift at Woodland Crossing** is looking for a **Bookkeeping & Operations Coordinator** to join our team. This hands-on position combines bookkeeping, administrative work, social media, pricing, day-to-day store operations, and helping in the warehouse as needed. Part-time or full-time: 20-40 hours/week; Saturday availability is a must. Experience is helpful, but we're willing to train the right person! Send your resume to [elkhartthrift@gmail.com](mailto:elkhartthrift@gmail.com)

**MCC Great Lakes seeking Material Resources Director in Goshen:** The MCC Great Lakes Material Resources Director oversees material resources programming, budget, volunteers and warehouse operations at the Goshen Material Resources Center at the Depot, while providing leadership to the regional material resources team in Goshen, IN, and Kidron, OH. The role builds relationships with volunteers and donors, provides educational and speaking opportunities, and represents MCC through community engagement, travel and regional events. For more information and to apply online by October 9, visit [mcc.org/gl-mr-director](http://mcc.org/gl-mr-director)