

November 15, 2026

The Waterford Buzz

This Sunday
9:00 am Worship
10:30 am Nurture Hour – classes for all ages
5:00 pm Congregational Meeting
6:30 pm MLC

Welcome Team
Greeters: Carla Miller, Mary Ann Wieand
Ushers: Mark King, Ken Otto, LaVon Short
Audiovisuals: Bob Hochstedler, Jordan Kauffman
Nursery: Diane Bodiker, Neer Goswami; Michelle Ramer, Zeke Ramer

This Week at Waterford
Monday
8:30 am Zoom prayers
Wednesday
6:00 pm Haystacks & Games
Thursday
7:00 pm Restorative Justice Group / Rm 22

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Advent Collage Mural

by Loanne Harms, Worship Ministry Team

Our Advent theme this year is "God's Dream" which is drawn from one of the assigned Narrative Lectionary texts of Job 33:14-16, "God speaks in one way, in two ways, but no one perceives it. In the dream, a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon humans, during their slumber on a bed, then God opens people's ears."

Our Worship Ministry Team is inviting everyone of all ages and abilities to help create our Advent artwork collage mural of a night sky. To participate, each person will create a night sky image on a small piece of provided multi-media paper (just 4" x 6"). Then the individual pieces will be placed side by side to create a mural that will be installed on the south wall of the sanctuary and its image projected on the screen during worship services in Advent.

You may have seen Van Gogh's "Starry Night," which could be your inspiration. However, we have *all* seen a night sky, and some have witnessed northern lights, so there is inspiration to be found in memories and nightly views.

This Sunday, November 15, there will be a 4 x 6 bulletin insert as well as some art coloring supplies available as you enter the sanctuary. (Feel free to also bring along your own favorite art supplies to use!) You are invited to create your artwork throughout the service and nurture hour, and/or to take the paper home to complete and return by the end of the nurture hour on November 22. Almost any medium will work to create the image, such as crayons, colored pencils, markers, colored pens, watercolor, etc. They may be unsigned or signed on the back, so that the collage is cohesive.

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LIFE AT WATERFORD

Last Sunday Attendance
Worship – 213
Nurture Hour – 196

Finances – November 8, 2026

Operating Fund	$6,975.00
Mennonite Ed	$3,747.25
Either Fund	$2,265.00
Subtotal	**$12,987.25**
Children's Offering	$1.00
We Are Farmers	$500.00
W. Hollinger Memorial	$25.00
Jubilee Fund	$50.00
Total	**$13,563.25**

Looking Ahead
Nov. 22: Sermon: Senior Adults; Fruit of the Spirit: Self-Control *(Matt. 7:24-27; Luke 12:35-40)*
Nov. 29: Sermon: Deron Bergstresser; Advent 1: God Dreams of Hope *(Hab. 1:1-7, 2:1-4:3, 17-19; Matt. 26:36-38)*

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

Out of Office
Cindy Voth Nov. 16-18, 21-30
Katie Misz November 15

Office hours this week
Mon, Wed, Thu 9-12, 1-3
Tue, Fri 9-12

Greeter sign-up:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fRLdoYdw_QxRiQUvRhUscNV-koHV-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.
Judy Beachy, Editor
buzz@waterfordchurch.org

Completed images may be turned into the marked box at the Participation Station by end of nurture hour on November 22 so that we can have them up and ready for the first Sunday of Advent on November 29.

As always, we are thankful for the diverse gifts and talents within the congregation and the many ways they are shared. We look forward to the combination of those gifts with this Advent visual.

Welcome the Schmuckers



Ida is the proud mother of two amazing daughters and three cats. She, LeAnna, and Savannah enjoy art, crafting, the beach, and the outdoors. They live in Milford and will soon move into their new Habitat house on the edge of Milford.

Ida works in the kitchen at Bethany during the school year and has worked at Camp Mack during the past several summers. She also owns Purrfect Creations by Ida, a small business making custom crocheted items. LeAnna and Savannah are both students at Bethany Christian Schools. LeAnna is in grade 6 and runs cross country. Savannah is in grade 5. They are both enjoying their first year at BCS.

Ida says, "My daughters and I are excited to be a part of WMC, and we look forward to making new friends and worshipping together with you."

Thank You

Dear Waterford Church,

Thank you for surrounding us with your love and care during the preparations and the events of Wilmer Hollinger's celebration of life last weekend. Church staff gave unsparingly of their time and attention to make this a deeply meaningful time of gathering for our family. We felt so supported by the presence of many of you. Thank you for all the delicious meals provided for us on both Friday and Saturday. Your bouquet still cheers us with its beautiful colors and its message of warmth and blessing.
The family of Wilmer Hollinger

Thank you for making the 2026 Northern Indiana MCC Comforter Bash a great success! We knotted a total of 470 comforters thanks to the help of 358 volunteers on Friday and Saturday. MCC is grateful for your part in providing warmth and hope to people around the world.

Waterford Announcements

Today:

- **Fall Congregational Meeting**, this evening at 5:00 in the fellowship hall. Bring your packet of information that was in your box two Sundays ago. And please bring finger foods to share. Absentee ballots are due by noon today.
- Today is the last day to sign up to play in the **Christmas Orchestra** on December 6. Please either sign up at the Participation Station or contact JD Smucker directly. He will get music to those who need it by next Sunday.

Calling for vocal musicians to join me in singing a **choir number for Advent** on December 20. All ages who love to sing are invited. Please sign up at the Participation Station. The first rehearsal will be Sunday, November 22, at 8 a.m. We will sing "Christmas Sanctus" by Susan and Lee Dengler. – Bob Brenneman

Opportunities

Church Finance Administrator Job Opening: Assembly Mennonite Church (727 New York St, Goshen) is seeking a part-time Church Finance Administrator (10–20 hrs/week) to support the congregation's ministries. Responsibilities include bookkeeping, budgeting, financial reporting, payroll, personnel records, and donor database management. Compensation is $24–$29/hr based on experience. Interested candidates should send a resume and brief letter of interest to the Assembly Finance Committee: finance@assemblymennonite.org.

Mennonite Mission Network is looking for a detail-oriented **Senior Finance Assistant** to support our payroll and accounting work. Full time, hybrid or in-office in Newton, Kansas, or Elkhart, Indiana. To learn more and apply, visit: mennonitemission.net/Employment

Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes seeks a **Plain Community Liaison** to develop, analyze, implement and evaluate engagement with Plain communities. This full-time position sets broad goals for building relationships with key representatives in Plain communities and is based in Goshen, IN or Kidron, OH. View the full job description and apply online by December 4 at mcc.org/plain-liaison

MCUSA

Resolution guidelines for 2027 Delegate Assembly: The MC USA Executive Board has appointed a new Resolutions Committee and published guidelines for developing resolutions ahead of the 2027 Delegate Assembly, to be held July 9 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Congregations and area conferences wishing to submit a resolution have until Nov. 11. Read more here: https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/resolution-guidelines-2027/

MMN

Anchorage Unit Leader: Do you feel God's call to mentor and guide young adults as they grow in faith, service and community? Are you excited about the idea of living in beautiful Anchorage, Alaska? Answer the call by becoming a Service Adventure unit leader with Mennonite Mission Network. In this role, you'll mentor young adults and provide oversight and guidance for the household. Applicants 24+ should contact MichaelO@MennoniteMission.net

AMBS

New! Ecotheology studies at AMBS. Explore ecological concerns across theological disciplines through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's ecotheology offerings. Distance-friendly options include guest courses, a 21-credit-hour Graduate Certificate in Ecotheology, and an 80-credit-hour Master of Divinity with a major in Peace Studies: Ecotheology. A 52-credit-hour campus-based Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies with an Ecotheology concentration is also available. ambs.edu/ecotheology

New Buzz Editor

Judy Beachy, the new administrative assistant, is now editing the Buzz! If you have announcements or articles for the Buzz, please send them to buzz@waterfordchurch.org. Remember, **items are due by 5:00 p.m. the Tuesday before publication**. Please limit articles to 600 words if possible.

Upcoming Events

Goshen College Fall music productions: Sauder Concert Hall in the Music Center. All events are $10 for adults; $8 for seniors/youth; and free for GC students, faculty and staff. Tickets available at goshen.edu/tickets. They will also be livestreamed.

- **Community School of the Arts Winter Choral Showcase,** Sunday, November 15, 4 p.m., Three youth choirs will perform: Rejoice (grades 3-5), directed by Kristin Kauffman, and Sommo Voci (grades 9-12), directed by Kristin Kauffman, will perform alongside Shout for Joy (grades 6-8), directed by Katie Thornthwaite.
- **Youth Honors Orchestra Concert,** Tuesday, November 17 at 7 p.m., A youth orchestra comprised of Elkhart County strings players in grades 7-12. The YHO is conducted by Nathan Berkey.
- **Lavender Jazz,** Friday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m. Lavender Jazz, Goshen College's big band**.**

Goshen College Fall Mainstage: The Metromaniacs, Nov. 13, 14 and 21 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 15 and 22 at 2:30 p.m., Umble Center. It's springtime in Paris, 1738. Metromania, the poetry craze, is the latest thing. A French farce, adapted by American comic maestro David Ives.

Gospel Echoes Team Annual Fish & Chicken Fry: Saturday, November 14, at the Shipshe Auction-Antique Building, in Shipshewana. Dinner is from 4-7 p.m., Gospel Echoes Teams Concerts at 5:30 p.m.

Advent Chapel: Lighting the Campus, November 22, 7 p.m., Church-Chapel Sanctuary. Students, faculty, staff and community members are welcome to mark the coming of Advent by illuminating the campus. Everyone is invited to the Church-Chapel to sing and hear Scripture before processing by candlelight to Schrock Plaza. There, President Rebecca Stoltzfus will invite all to illuminate the campus, and the trees will light up along with everyone's candles.

Women's Christmas: An Evening Retreat at Pathways Retreat
Saturday, January 23 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm (simple meal included with cost) Based on an Irish custom celebrated on Epiphany, this evening retreat for women is "an invitation to rest, to reflect, and to contemplate where you are in your unfolding path." Go to www.pathwaysretreat.org for more info and to register.

Mennonite Arts Weekend: Join us at Mennonite Arts Weekend, February 5-7, 2027, in Cincinnati, Ohio. This weekend celebrates the creativity and discipline of Anabaptist Mennonite artists. Presentations by musicians, visual artists, writers, and craftspeople start on Friday evening and conclude with Sunday morning worship. Activities and workshops designed specifically for children (pre-K - high school) are planned. **Early-bird registration ends Nov. 30, 2026**. Find the list of presenters and registration/location information at https://mennoniteartsweekend.org.