

Provide Meals for Voths



*Lydia on left,
Jeremiah on right*

Please plan on four adults and two children when preparing meals. They do not particularly like olives, mushrooms or broccoli. They generally eat around 5:30, so meals can be delivered then or they can be delivered earlier in the day, if necessary. Please make arrangements for earlier delivery ahead of time.

If you would like to sign up, you can access the meal schedule by visiting TakeThemAMeal.com and locating the schedule by recipient last name (Voth) and password (Voths).

Merry Lea Women's Retreat

Women of all ages are invited to Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center in Wolf Lake, Ind., January 23–24 for a weekend getaway that will include time outdoors, time to reflect on biblical texts related to nature, guided contemplative prayer and spiritual practices workshops. Step out of the whirlwind and make space to listen for God's voice in a beautiful winter setting.

Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, Janie Beck Kreider and Jennifer Schrock will return to provide input for this 3rd annual event. The cost of \$50 includes two meals and lodging; \$30 for students. To register, email Janie Beck Kreider at janiebk@goshen.edu.

Year Of The Bible Film Night Jan. 11

One of the prominent leaders in the Old Testament was Moses. And, as we are reminded, we all have a back story. Join us Sunday at 5 pm in the MYF room for a viewing of "The Prince of Egypt." We'll have popcorn, comfortable seating and a time to reflect on the power of humble beginnings toward leading a nation out of bondage.

What are you bringing with you to worship Jan. 18?



Chris Judson displays what he is bringing to share with the children in worship on January 18. You, too, are asked to bring something from your youth that prepared you or pointed the way toward your later vocation/ministry. The worship theme is "Jesus – preparations for ministry."

Membership Exploration Classes Offered

Pastor Neil will be offering three Wednesday evening sessions that create an introduction to congregational life and membership at Waterford Mennonite Church. For recent attenders or anyone considering taking membership here, this is a good opportunity to meet other recent attenders and learn more of "the basics of Waterford." Letters to many households were already placed in church boxes by January 4, but you are welcome to participate even if you didn't get a letter. Sessions will be from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on January 28, February 11 and March 4. RSVP to Neil directly if you are interested or have more questions.

Fellowship Hall Floors

We will have the Fellowship Hall floors stripped and waxed Monday, January 12–Wednesday, January 14. During this time, we will not be able to have any events in the Fellowship Hall.



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- JD Smucker
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- Judy Kniesly
- Jan Oostland
Facilities Manager
- Courtney Shetler

Pastoral Ministry

- Neil Amstutz
Pastoral Team Leader
- Lyle Miller
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- Velma Swartz
Pastor of Senior Ministries
- Cindy Voth
*Pastor of Community Life
(on maternity leave)*

The *Waterford Buzz* is normally published weekly for members of Waterford Mennonite Church. Items for inclusion should be given to the editor by 5 p.m. Tuesday preceding publication.

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My Coat

A number of years ago I bought a new leather coat. It was soft and warm and I looked pretty good in it. Or rather, I thought it made me look good. It was something that I could wear to church, or to school, and was quite comfortable. I had it for a year when I accidentally tore it on our front door latch. It was a sad day when I realized I could no longer wear that coat to church. But I was not ready to get rid of it. I took duct tape and taped over the torn spot. Within a few months I had other accidents with the coat and added more tape.

Now I have a coat that I still use, but I use it differently. I wear it to work on my car. Even though I continue to get a lot of use out of the coat, it is probably not wise to wear it to church.

We have some hymnals in the sanctuary that are like my coat. They are 22 years old and have been used a lot. They have been taped and repaired. But we can still use them if we give them a new coat. That is why we would like to purchase covers (sleeves) for our hymnals. If you would like to donate money to the cause, this would be appreciated. Our hymnals are an important worship resource. A new cover will give them new life and hold them together for many more years of use.

—JD Smucker

Save Used Postage Stamps

Put any used stamps in Lena Pettiford's mailbox. She will forward them to Alliance Stamp Ministry. They sell them by the pound to stamp dealers and use the income to support the publication and distribution of Spanish Sunday School curriculum. More than 50 lesson series have been published and sent to 19 countries. Learn more and see videos at wn.com/alliance_stamp_ministry.

A View from the Pew

Our beloved Christmas story includes a feature that we give only passing notice to—the star provided for the wise scholars who devoted their lives to the study of the heavens. God, in infinite wisdom, chose the heavens—a star, to announce his eternal purposes to individuals in a foreign land and of a foreign culture.

I find myself wondering if the star continues shining, but embodied in the Holy Spirit. Dare I believe that the Spirit does not shine for the benefit of professing Christians but broods over places least expected. Might we see that light shining above the slums of our cities—the homeless, the hungry, the dark alleys of the drug addicts. Dare I believe it shines above the carnage of distant battle fields, the grieving of new widows and fatherless children.

Allow me further comment. Does the Spirit hover above our communities, our churches, our homes? Does the Spirit rather prefer to shine over the wretchedness of third world poverty? But the most important question—does the Spirit shine in your heart and mine?

—John King