

buzz

November 16, 2014

Cindy's Maternity Leave Coverage

Ministry Leadership Council (MLC) is very pleased with how coverage has come together for Cindy Voth's upcoming maternity leave. Cindy, Luke, Elijah, and Thomas are joyfully expecting the twins to arrive around Christmas or New Year's. Following their arrival, Cindy will take twelve weeks of maternity leave. During Cindy's maternity leave Velma Swartz, pastor of senior ministries, will be increasing her time from .5 FTE to .75 FTE to accommodate some of Cindy's responsibilities. With her increase in time, Velma will be the pastor who relates to Adult Nurture Ministry Team and all the ministries under Adult Nurture Ministry Team including all adult nurture classes, Stephen Ministry, Soul Food Wednesday, etc. Also with her increase in time, Velma will cover Cindy's responsibilities related to providing primary pastoral care and visitation for those in the age range of 18-70.

Some of Cindy's tasks will be covered by others. For example, Neil Amstutz, pastoral team leader, will be the pastor to relate to Mission and Service Ministry Team and all the ministries that take place under that umbrella. Neil will also be the pastor who will relate to our Sharing Fund. We are also thankful that Mike Yordy has agreed to preach once a month in Cindy's absence.

We invite the congregation to be in prayer for our pastoral leadership team: for Cindy and her family as they prepare to welcome the twins, and for the remaining pastors as they experience this transition of coverage during Cindy's maternity leave. Please contact Tim Burkholder, chair of MLC, or Neil Amstutz, pastoral team leader, if you have any additional questions related to coverage during Cindy's maternity leave.

—Tim Burkholder and Neil Amstutz

"Coffee with Jesus"



Waterford's four pastors enjoyed a precious weekend away from church Nov. 7-9 at Amigo Centre in Michigan, participating in Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference's annual Pastoral Leadership Team retreat. Guest speaker was Hesston College Bible instructor Michele Hershberger, presenting on the theme of "Radical Hospitality". Part of her message was the premise that biblical hospitality can only be practiced by people who have themselves experienced the unconditionally hospitable love of God. So in lieu of some "input time", participants were invited to "coffee with Jesus" – six to seven hours of silence without speaking to anyone, even over lunch. Walks, naps, praying and spiritual reflection accounted for some of that time. The pastors also appreciated some conversations just for team dynamics. Thanks for the congregation's understanding and for the leadership in worship by Mike Yordy and Loanne Harms in our absences.

Since the church office will be closed Thursday and Friday November 27 and 28 for Thanksgiving, there will be a deadline of Friday, November 21 for the November 30th Buzz.



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- Judy Kniesly
- Jan Oostland
Facilities Manager
- Courtney Shetler

Pastoral Ministry

- Neil Amstutz
Pastoral Team Leader
- Lyle Miller
*Pastor of Family Life and
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- Velma Swartz
Pastor of Senior Ministries
- Cindy Voth
Pastor of Community Life

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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Douglas Cuney Update

Douglas Cuney is working on his second week as a licensed electrician through work release. He is moving into a furnished rental home which does not have a television. If someone has an older television they would like to get rid of, Doug would appreciate it. In the future, he may need some items for this new apartment. He is also needing to get his drivers license, so a used car would also benefit him greatly. God has been blessing and leading Doug in every direction and with every aspect of his life. Once he has a home to live in, he is hoping to be able to start attending church. Doug would like to be part of a Sunday School class. We are hoping that all Sunday School classes will be in prayer to consider this, and that one class will invite him to join their class.

—Russell Hochstetler

Thank You

Thank you to all who wished me a happy 93rd birthday through your visits, singing phone calls, cards, food, and the plant from the Senior Ministry Team.

—Mary Helmuth

Correction

In the memo last week updating our support of Carlos Ramos, it was incorrectly stated to make checks out to Waterford Mennonite Church designating Samaritan Trust Fund. However, all checks should be made out to Samaritan Trust Fund not to the church. Checks can be mailed to the church or given to Darrel Sommers, treasurer of the Samaritan Trust Fund.

Our Trusty Facilities Manager

Jan Oostland is our new Facilities Manager. He started about a month ago and has been working on several projects throughout the property. If you notice any facility issues, please don't hesitate to contact him. His email is facilities@waterfordchurch.org. He is the primary point of contact for any facility issues you may notice.

Building Use

If you would like to reserve the building for any meetings or functions, please contact the office and we will get you a Building Use Agreement form. This form is to note any set-up that your meeting or event may need, as well as to make certain there are no conflicts and that we have the requested areas available.

Are your keys missing?

There have been several sets of keys turned in to the office over the past 3-4 months. If you think that you have lost your keys, please contact the office by December 1. After December 1, we will dispose of the keys.

A View from the Pew

Some years ago, Ted Koppel, a network news commentator, addressed the commencement of Duke University. In it he stated, "When God thundered from Sinai, he gave the ten commandments, not the ten suggestions." And so they are. Eight of the ten begin with "Thou shalt not." The other two are commandments no less.

Truth is no longer absolute, it is negotiable: maybe yes, maybe no. In making truth negotiable, our society is violating the Ten Commandments in their entirety. Maybe yes, maybe no. In doing so, moral law is fast becoming just a memory.

Well, then, what do we do about Jesus? He enhanced the Ten Commandments by not abolishing them, but by building upon them, and in doing so, leads us to a much higher standard of life. But if we refuse to take Jesus' way, what part of "no" do we not understand?

So if we want to ignore the Ten Commandments and the teachings of Jesus, abolish traffic laws, negotiate the rules for games of sports, insist that classroom discipline be all fun, look me up next year and tell me how it's going.

—John C. King