

buzz

December 7, 2014

Fall Mission Weekend

Thank you to all who participated in our Fall Mission Sunday on November 23. We had an inspiring morning with our guest speaker, James Krabill; we filled our stomachs with food from around the world during our fellowship meal and once again we were challenged to broaden our visions to encompass all of God's magnificent creation.

We also received a record amount for our fall mission special offering—thank you! The total received was approximately \$7,000, which will be divided equally between the Elkhart County Jail Chaplaincy, Ross Richer Ecuador Ministry Support Team, Goshen Ministerial Emergency Fund, and WMC's Jubilee Fund.

Several people have requested a copy of the benediction that James shared with us during the worship services and so it is being reprinted here. May this benediction continue to inspire, challenge, and bless us as we strive to be faithful to God in all things and in all ways.

An Indian Benediction

Now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God the Father be with you;
and may the Holy Spirit come upon you
and disturb you and trouble you,
and set before you an impossible task
and dare you to do it;
until in your desperation
you fall on your knees
and remain there ["tarry" in the original]
until he fills you with his power
which alone will enable you to do it;
and then...but only then,
may the Lord grant you his peace.
Amen.

—Cindy Voth, pastor of community life

Christmas Music Group

December 14. Mark it on your calendar. Conrad, it is time to dust off that cello you haven't played since high school. Anne, the flute is calling you. Andrew, you can play in church. We will be having our annual Instrumental prelude of Christmas carols before our worship services. The music is good for all ages to play. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. with donuts in mouth and music in our hearts.

More information to come. Send JD a note at jd@waterfordchurch.org if you are able to participate. The more the "merry-er" (Christmas pun).

—JD Smucker

Card Shower for Ryan Miller



Ryan Miller is serving this year at Camp Menno Haven and his birthday, December 18, is quickly approaching! All are invited to shower Ryan with birthday cards to let him know that we are thinking of him and lifting him up in our prayers as he continues in his time of service. Ryan's email address is ryanmiller2014@gmail.com and his mailing address is:

Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center
9301 1575 E Street
Tiskilwa, IL 61638

Update on Douglas Cuney

Doug has the paperwork complete and will move to his own apartment on Wednesday. His company will move him and supply him with many things. I will get a list of other needs after Wednesday. His sharing last Sunday in another church went well and he feels ready to share some with our church.

—Russ Hochstetler



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Children's Christmas Program

Plan to join toddlers through sixth graders for our annual Christmas program next Sunday, Dec. 14, for an exploration of traditions from around the world.

As part of our Year of the Bible series, it will begin at 5 p.m., with finger food and fellowship following. Because it's closer to the supper hour, we especially encourage bringing fruits and other nutritious foods along with your Christmas goodies.

Shoebox Greetings

What do you say to a family member you haven't seen in months? "Welcome home!" (insert hug here) or maybe "My how you've grown" or "Is that a beard you are trying to grow?" Whatever the case, we have an opportunity to reconnect with our college students who have been away at their schools of learning for the past few months. They will be coming home for Christmas break soon. You will notice a special welcoming area for our students near the library, and you are invited to stop by and welcome home those who are back from college. A hug, a smile, a greeting, are all welcome.

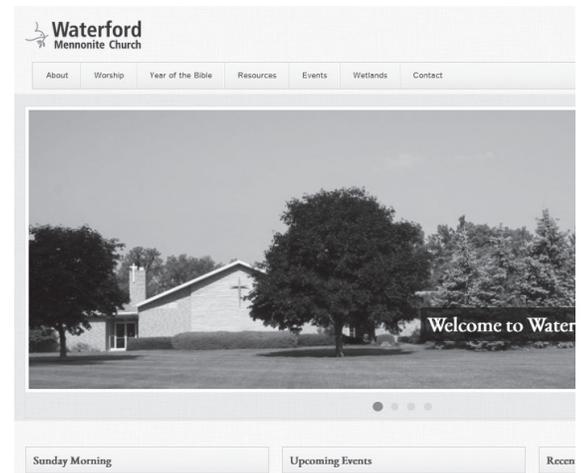
If you happen to have a shoebox at home that you could spare, please bring this along too. We will be sending care packages to students in February to remind them that they are a part of our church family, even during those times when they are away from us.

Thank You

We have sensed God's comfort and care through your generous expressions of sympathy after the hospitalization and death of Del and Byron's father. We are thankful for kind words, food and gifts to show your support and love. We thank God for you, our Waterford brothers and sisters.

—Del, Shirley, Byron and Becky Yoder

Website Face-lift



If you have been to our website in the past few weeks, you should notice some exciting changes. We have updated our website with a new look, new features and some new information. It is now more visually appealing with Year of the Bible resources available. The new live streaming url is <http://www.waterfordchurch.org/stream> or you can access the live streaming by entering the url or going to waterfordchurch.org and click on Live Worship Streaming under the worship tab. The old url for streaming will no longer work. This new streaming will allow mobile and mac users to view the services. Our new website is more user friendly and we are in the process of adding new features. Make sure you check it out!