



buzz

Neighborgoods Sharing

When my father-in-law was helping me open the pool this past season, he said a phrase I haven't heard before. We were trying to tighten the plastic coupling onto the filter intake to stop the slow drip, and I didn't have an extra pipe wrench.

"Why don't you call one of your Mennonite friends?" he said.

And I was trying to figure out if he was kidding or serious, but I figured on the safe side and told him I wasn't sure if my friends (Mennonite or not) had this type of wrench.

Perhaps I should have called Jan or Conrad or Matt or Jeff, but I didn't. In fact I believe in the next try, we were able to budge the coupling off and reset the gasket and retighten it.

Within a church of our size with so many connections, it should be easy to call the right person for the right tool. (And, with such a network of people and tools, we shouldn't feel compelled in each new task to buy a new tool for that one job.)

It would be nice, wouldn't it, to be able to go to one place and search for the tool or one-time use thing to borrow for a time and return it?

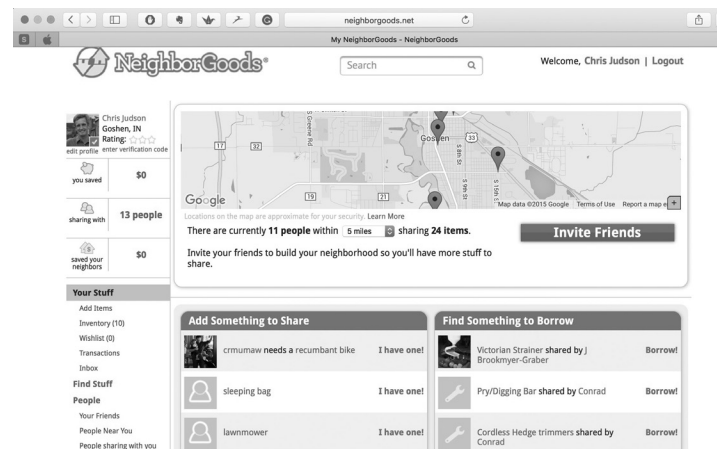
Neighborgoods.net is a free community sharing site that addresses that particular issue, and neighborhoods and groups are using it to help manage the searching, scheduling and returning of "borrowed" tools and things. About a year ago, Gelassenheit started a group for some of us to catalog and share our resources within one another.

The sign-up process is typical for a website such as this and adding your inventory is straightforward. Aside from sharing with the public (if that is what you wish to do), you can create a private group for a particular neighborhood or Sunday School class or family or whatever network of people you desire. You can even create a "wish list" for items that you are looking to borrow, and the site gives the opportunity for others to respond to that list.

If anything, Neighborgoods.net is a reminder that we can continue to share our resources instead of replicating items that eventually will sit unused with the other lonely tools and stuff.

Feel welcome in adding the Gelassenheit group to your profile (<http://neighborgoods.net/groups/gelassenheit>) and if you have further questions, please let me know.

—Chris Judson



Spring Break 2016

Don't forget to stop by the Participation Station to sign up if you are interested in learning more about one of our two service learning trips over Spring Break! One group will head to sunny Mashulaville, Mississippi, and another group will be heading to sunny Honduras! If there are still spots remaining on December 1 for the trip to Honduras (there is space for up to 12 individuals) we will be opening it up to others outside the congregation who might be interested in going. So please stop by the table and sign up if you have any interest in either one of these exciting opportunities!



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Thank you to Kathy Emery

For many years, the MCC Michiana Relief Sale has been a significant event in our church community every September. Waterford Mennonite contributes in various ways to help make this event a success, from sausage frying, to quilt making, to selling popcorn, to working in the dairy bar and many other activities.

Kathy Emery has been our church's representative and coordinator for the MCC Michiana Relief Sale for the past nineteen years! She has helped to publicize the event to our congregation, sign up volunteers for the various activities, and attended organizational meetings and publicity dinners with the relief sale committee. We are deeply grateful for Kathy's willing heart and efficient work in this role. Please take a moment to tell Kathy "thank you" when you see her!

Kathy has asked to be relieved of this responsibility. We appreciate that she is offering this opportunity to someone else now so the new person will have almost a year to prepare and get involved.

The Missions and Service Ministry Team invites you to prayerfully consider this opportunity to contribute to the mission of our church and of MCC. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Cindy Voth or Eldon Stoltzfus, MSMT partner.

Thank You

Thank you Waterford church family for the beautiful plant, your prayers, the many cards and your visits upon the death of my father.

—Ken and Jane Otto

Waterford's Jubilee Fund

Throughout the week we have a variety of visitors that stop by our church office. Some of our visitors come through our doors seeking assistance for current financial hardships they are experiencing. They too are God's beloved children.

A couple years ago we also wanted to have a fund in place to assist those from our community who walk through our doors throughout the week with financial burdens.

To that end we created a "Jubilee Fund." We are aware that there are many people in our community struggling to make ends meet due to job loss, health issues, medical payments, or just not being able to earn enough to pay the bills and feed their families.

We are thankful to partner with Kroger in Goshen where we have an account so that we can send our community visitors there to receive our funds to go towards their groceries and/or gas.

This ministry to our community is contingent upon gifts designated specifically for the Jubilee Fund.

We ask that you prayerfully consider if you would like to contribute to this fund to further enable us to respond to the needs of the visitors who walk through our doors.

If you are interested in contributing, please mark your contributions for the "Jubilee Fund."

—Cindy Voth, for the pastoral team

Tree Planting

Wednesday, Oct. 28, Andrea Nichols, a local arborist (far left, standing), led a group of Waterford Mennonite people out to brave the chilly, rainy day and plant three trees around the church property. She shared multiple helpful tree-planting facts with the group. Phil Ramer, seen digging here, is joined by Jan Oostland (right), Rebecca Ramer (newly-appointed CCMT lay leader), Neil Amstutz and an Eighth Street Mennonite guest (kneeling).

