

# buzz

## Senior Adult Activity: Hear the Story

Senior Adult Ministry team is hosting an “all group” activity at 2 p.m. Oct. 20. Thavisith Mounsithiraj, better known as T, will share his family’s story of escaping Laos after their country was overrun by the communist party. His father faced arrest and imprisonment because of his important position in the previous government regime. The family consisted of mom, dad, five sons, and one daughter.

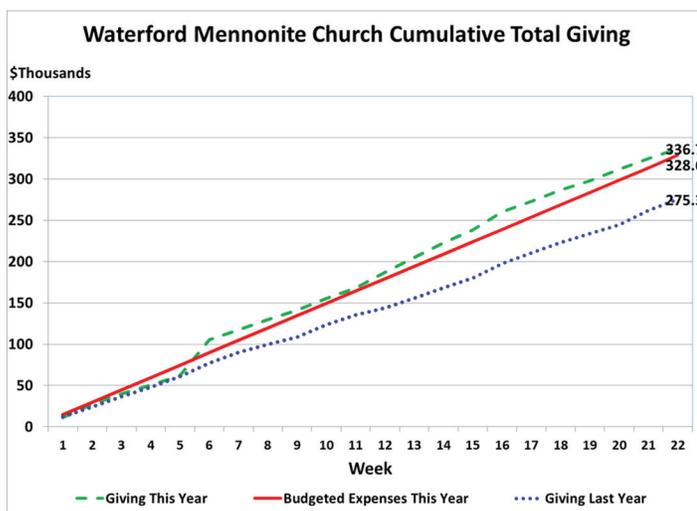
The Mounsithiraj family settled in Nottawa, Mich., sponsored by Locust Grove Mennonite Church through the United Nations Refugee Resettlement program.

T says, “I grew up in a Buddhist home for the first 12 years of my life. I currently serve on pastoral staff at Maple City Chapel. When I am not at home or at church, I can be found pacing the sideline coaching soccer.” T and his wife Jean have six children and live in Goshen.

Come and bring your friends to hear an inspiring story of pain, fear, sorrow, joy, grace and God’s provision.

## Address Change and Auction

Wayne and Ruthie Saunders’ new address is 1815 Holly Ct, Goshen, IN 46526. They no longer have a landline phone. An auction of household and other items will begin at 9 a.m. on Oct. 15 at their former home on CR 23.



## Ecuador in Our Midst

Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer family will be sharing at 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, at Waterford. They say:

“Our family returned to the U.S. in July and we are back in our home in Goshen for the fall semester. We had an amazing six months working with indigenous church leaders and families in the Amazon rain forest and are looking forward to returning in January. We’ll share photos and stories from the past six months and discuss our plans for next year. Come join us for this time of sharing and be sure to invite others who might be interested in our two-way mission with indigenous communities.”

## Solar Power Update

The solar panels installed this summer continue to perform as expected. As of Sunday, Oct. 2, our array will have produced nearly 9 megaWatt-hours of electricity, cancelling out 83% of our electrical usage during that time. This has saved Waterford over \$1,100 in electricity so far and has kept 5 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere. This is equivalent to growing a full-sized oak tree in only six weeks.

## Thanks from Weirichs

Thank you for the gorgeous chrysanthemum sent at the death of my mom, Helen Weirich, and for the many cards sent to indicate the shared grief and thoughtful prayers on our behalf. It has been a mix of joy that Mom has gone home and grieve that our time with her on earth is over.

We also wish to share with the congregation—especially the crew in the sound booth—how much Mom tuned in to the live-streaming on Sunday mornings. When she moved to Mooresville for assisted living three years ago, and became unable to get out to her home congregation, we invited her to join us via live-stream. I often would greet her in front of the camera. Many of our phone conversations included dialogue about a service that she watched. That was a significant ministry—thank you for that! —Ron and Vicki Weirich

## Possible French Translators

To assist conversation while hosting Pierre and Arlette, the following people have agreed to facilitate conversation when households lack a knowledge of French to entertain our guests. Contact them directly and they will accept or decline the invitation depending on their schedules. The committee also encourages you to contact your friends who may know French.

Joelle Friesen, jnfriesen@goshen.edu, senior at Goshen College; learned French in college; spent time in Senegal

Megan Eigsti, megane2@goshen.edu, Danny Aramouni, dfaramouni@goshen.edu, Eliana Nuefeld Basinger, ernuefeldbasinger@goshen.edu, recently returned students from SST in Senegal

Deborah Tshidimu, dktshidimu@goshen.edu, Democratic Republic of Congo; French is her first language

Emily Schaeffer, emily.l.mick@gmail.com, French citizen; French is her first language

Becky and Matt Bateman, beckyeb@gmail.com (574-537-8503), learned some French on SST in college

Ursula Hess, theophyllis2003@yahoo.com (574-971-5491), lived in West Africa

Denise and Gilberto Diener Perez, denisediener@yahoo.com (574-533-6255), linguistically talented

Rod and Lynda Hollinger-Janzen, (574 534-0762), lyndahj@mennonitemission.net, or rod@aimmintl.org,

Irene and Leonard Gross, (574-533-4057), irenegross3@hotmail.com, Irene taught French and German.

Julie Yoder, ericandjuliey@hotmail.com (574-312-4845), exposed to French as a child



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#### Staff Team

##### Administrative Ministry

- Greg Hire  
*Coordinator of Ministry Gifts*
- Mel Claassen  
*Interim Business Manager*
- Michelle Lehman  
*Secretary*
- Elvina Schmidt  
*Bookkeeper*
- Janet Shoemaker  
*Coordinator of Administrative Ministries*

##### Facilities Ministry

- Jan Oostland  
*Facilities Manager*
- Courtney Shetler  
*Custodian*
- Irma Perez  
*Custodian*

##### Pastoral Ministry

- Neil Amstutz  
*Pastoral Team Leader*
- Velma Swartz  
*Pastor of Senior Ministries*
- Cindy Voth  
*Pastor of Community Life*
- Katie Misz  
*Pastoral of Family 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. Monday preceding publication.

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**Celebrating a great staff:** Jan Oostland's birthday gave Waterford's staff a good reason to spend time together over some good Indian food on Sept. 22. We periodically like to get together as many of the staff as we can just for fun and encouragement. In this case, our sung grace for the meal ("Praise and thanksgiving let everyone bring") entertained the servers at Maple Indian Cuisine. After the meal the pastors and Coordinator of Administrative Ministries Janet Shoemaker met for a retreat welcoming Katie Misz as newest member of the pastoral team. It was a blessed time of team-building in space graciously provided by Luke and Becky Gascho.

Pictured (left to right): Facilities Manager Jan Oostland; Coordinator of Administrative Ministries Janet Shoemaker; Worship Coordinator JD Smucker; Secretary Michelle Lehman; Bookkeeper Elvina Schmidt; Custodian Irma Perez; Coordinator of Ministry Gifts Greg Hire; Pastor of Community Life Cindy Voth; Pastor of Family Life Katie Misz; Pastor of Senior Ministries Velma Swartz; Buzz Co-editor Kevin Miller; Pastoral Team Leader Neil Amstutz. Not in picture: Interim Business Manager Mel Claassen, Custodian Courtney Shetler and Buzz Co-editor Sophie Miller. Also visible in background with another group: Waterford youth Simon Hurst, Jackson King, and Jiwoo Wi (back to camera).