



buzz

Teachers for a Year – How will this work? Week 3 of 4

We are excited to offer our children Sunday School teachers for the school year! Children's Cluster wants to be your "Teacher Support Team" as you go about teaching for the school year. We are willing to help you throughout your teaching journey. We want you to feel equipped and confident. We want you to stay connected with your Sunday School class. We want you to find joy spending time with children.

Here are a few ways we will help:

- We will be available to help with ideas or answer questions.
- We will help mentor teachers who feel they need a little guidance.
- We will help you become part of a team of teachers who can meet together and brainstorm learning activities that go along with the curriculum to keep you and the students engaged.
- We will work at assigning someone from your Adult Sunday School class to connect with you each week.
- We will establish a yearly sub list to more easily find subs.

We need volunteers for positions of lead teachers, assistant teachers, and substitute positions for preschool through high school ages.

- Lead Teachers: work directly with curriculum planning and structuring the Sunday School hour. As lead teacher, you see the "big picture" as well as plan the weekly lessons. This could be a single person, or a team of 2 teachers who alternate Sundays.
- Assistant Teachers: assist specific students and guide learning in small groups and hands-on activities.
- Substitute Teachers: 4-5 people who are committed for the school year to fill in as needed for a lead or assistant teacher. Substituting would allow you to be in the classroom some Sundays during the year, but not full time.

- All of these positions are very important to make our children's Nurture Hour a success!

We realize that the summer gets busy with activities, so we are asking that you take time now to think about teaching for the 2016/2017 school year. Closer to the beginning of the year, we will get you started with information, curriculum, supplies, and help you with any questions you might have.

On April 10, 17, and 24, there will be a station in the foyer where you can come ask questions and sign up to volunteer to work with our children. Thank you for thinking about teaching for a year!

—Children's Cluster: Mikki Bowman (Interim Family Life Coordinator), Ron and Vicki Weirich (Family Life Ministry Team lay ministry partners), Kent Myers, and Amanda Stoltzfus

Generosity update: Five Sundays to go

Thanks to those households who have been responding to our invitation to increased generosity at the end of our fiscal year, either through regular increases in their giving or through one-time special gifts.

We have made good progress toward our goal of being able to make our third and fourth quarter contributions to the more than 20 local and denominational ministries we support through our spending plan. We are thankful that for the first time, our giving for this fiscal year to date exceeds our total for the same time period a year ago. This is significant, given that earlier we were as much as 10 percent behind last year. Thank you for your generosity.

A significant challenge remains in achieving our goal, however. With our current projected expenses, we would need approximately \$120,000 in the remaining five Sundays, an average of \$24,000 per Sunday, to make these contributions and "fund" several future expenses. So far this quarter, offerings have ranged from about \$15,000 to \$29,000, averaging about \$18,000. As together we remember the gracious God who gave us his son, please join us in helping to continue living out God's vision through our generosity.

—Facilities & Finance Ministry Team

Introducing Jim and Lenora Coyle



In July 2014 Jim and Lenora Coyle moved to College Green in Goshen after having lived in Elkhart. For 23 years they wintered in Mission, Texas. Jim grew up in Goshen and Lenora north of Middlebury. They have been married for 48 years and together they have four daughters and two sons.

Jim is a “jack of all trades,” having worked different jobs in the RV industry, woodworking, and owning a fix-it shop. He has a shop in their basement to repair things for people. He enjoys being able to fix something that no one else was able to. Lenora worked at Miles Laboratory for 30 years as a laboratory attendant and then moved into clerical work. She enjoys playing games, walking and reading. She also enjoyed knitting and crocheting until it became too painful for her hands.

Their connection to Waterford is that Lenora is Ron Weirich’s aunt.

Thank You

This April I will be graduating from Goshen College (major in Biochemistry, minors in Spanish and music), and as this chapter of my life comes to a close I want to extend my deep gratitude to you for all of the support I have received through the years. I have been very blessed to have a home congregation that supports me in many ways: prayers, conversations, care packages, and monetary assistance. I want to particularly recognize the incredible financial support I have received from this congregation. Know that it has definitely helped to make attending a Mennonite college more affordable for me and that it is greatly appreciated.

—Leah Amstutz

Endowment Fund applications invited

The Endowment Fund Committee again welcomes applications for projects that would benefit from assistance from Waterford’s Endowment Fund. Based on the December 31 balance, \$4,400 will be available in this cycle of grants. The deadline to prepare applications for this cycle is April 1.

Waterford’s Endowment Fund was established to serve as a way to support the ongoing work of Jesus at Waterford. Ministry teams, recognized groups within the congregations, and individuals representing outside agencies are all invited to apply for grants. Past distributions have supported continuing education for ministry teams, special events, housing projects, mission organizations and more. We welcome being inundated with requests, as these applications represent creative approaches to ministry. Applications are available in the literature racks located near the mailboxes.

If you have questions about the process of preparing an application, please contact a member of the committee listed below.

Contributions to the fund are welcomed at any time. If you have questions about contributing, please contact a committee member. The Mennonite Foundation also provides excellent assistance in considering creative ways of being generous with the financial resources we have been entrusted with.

—Vyron Schmidt, interim chair of the congregation; Dave Hochstetler, lay ministry partner for Facilities & Finance Ministry Team; Jerry Detweiler; Kathy Myers, Jon. Wieand; Neil Amstutz, pastor of family life and financial stewardship

Thank You

Thank you for the lovely orchid flower plant. It cheered me in my room at the Gables as I recovered from surgery. Thank you, also, for the prayers, cards and visits. I am blessed by being a part of Waterford and its caring community.

—Kathy Couch



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