

buzz

August 7th – Celebration of Baptism

On Sunday, August 7, we will gather for a celebration of baptism as five youth make a public declaration of their faith commitment to Jesus Christ. Over the past several months, these five young men have completed thirteen sessions with Pastors Neil and Cindy. The topics of the sessions ranged from things such as Who is Jesus, to the meaning of baptism, to Anabaptist history, and more. In addition, they have met one-on-one with one of us to talk about their faith and share about their readiness and desire to be baptized. The Ministry Leadership Council and pastoral team join in affirming these youth in this exciting step of faith formation.

So that all of us can more easily join in this welcoming celebration, we will continue with our summer worship schedule of having one worship service. On August 7, Nurture hour will be 9-10 a.m. followed by worship in the sanctuary at 10:15, and moving to the pond area at the conclusion of the service. (We will return to our two-service schedule on August 14.) You are invited to bring your lawn chairs and blankets for moving to the pond. As a way of celebrating your own relationship with Waterford, we welcome your wearing a WMC t-shirt if you have one.

It is with joy that we introduce you to these five young men who will officially join our faith community through the waters of baptism:

- Axel Brown, son of Melanie and Greg Hire, and Dale Brown, will be a sophomore at Goshen High School
- Matthew Herrmann, son of Jason and Rita Herrmann, will be a junior at Goshen High School
- Colin Judson, son of Chris and Lori Judson, will be a sophomore at Goshen High School
- Jackson King, son of Tillman and Jennifer King, will be a senior at Bethany Christian Schools
- Felix Perez-Diener, son of Gilberto Perez and Denise Diener, will be a junior at Goshen High School

—Pastors Neil Amstutz and Cindy Voth

Affirmation of Pastor Katie

It is with great joy that I pass along to the WMC congregation the results of the vote for the Pastor of Family Life this past week. Pastor Katie was affirmed with a 100% yes vote! Praise be to God!! Even in such a busy travel time for WMC folks, we had significant participation from the congregation in both her candidate weekend events and in the total number of votes cast.

I spoke with Katie and she was humbled by these results and the clarity of her call to WMC. She has formally accepted the PFL position and will decide soon on a clear start date with a target to be no later than October 1, possibly sooner.

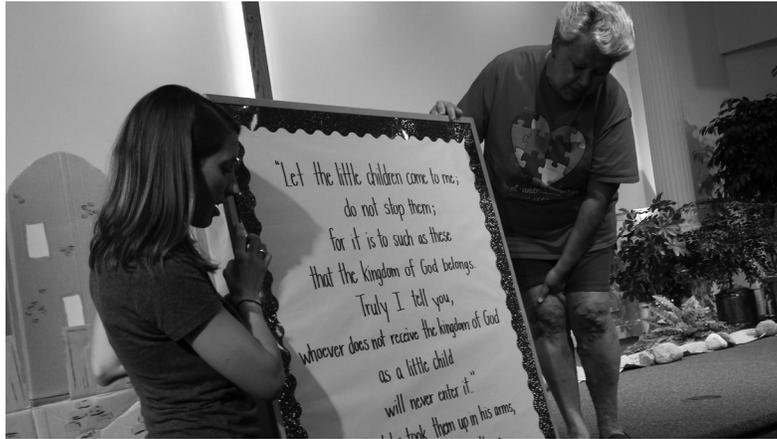
I want to personally thank all the search committee members for their extensive prayers, discussions, and thoughtful contributions along the way. A special thanks to Ron and Vicki Weirich for being such warm, caring, and welcoming hosts to Katie and J.E. in each of their visits to Goshen.

On a related note, housing options are very limited right now in Goshen. If anyone is aware of rentals or other available housing options to recommend, please pass those on to Katie and J.E. Katie's e-mail is katie.johnson.misz@gmail.com.

I look forward to receiving Katie and J.E. into our faith community in a few short months.

—Andrew Hartzler, PFL Search Committee Chair

Bible School Retreat 2016



Captions clockwise from below:

Lorna Claassen helps preschool students with their activities.

Ron Weirich leads the Bible Station.

“Zac and Zoë” played by Felix Perez-Deiner and Samantha Stoltzfus during one of our dramas.

L to R: Elijah Voth, Ethan Claassen, Grant Kauffmann, and Bervalie Lehman join in a time of worship.

Mikki Bowman and Ruthie Saunders display a Bible verse.



Bible School Retreat 2016



Captions clockwise from below:

Lola Gingerich, Nate and Christina Herrmann, and Deloris Wyse serve meals during BSR.

Daphcar Lehman and Isaac Pfahler decorate a banner during Sunday morning BSR.

Pastor Cindy with Bervalie Lehman and Elijah Voth as they practice their Bible memory verse.

Murray and Helen Bowman, assisted by Lorraine Reinford, lead the Creative Response Station.

Axel Brown plays the role of Jesus in disguise on the road to Emmaus.





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- Mikki Bowman
Interim Family Life Co-Coordinator
- Greg Hire
Coordinator of Ministry Gifts
- Benji Hurst
Interim Family Life Co-Coordinator
- Michelle Lehman
Secretary
- Elvina Schmidt
Bookkeeper
- Janet Shoemaker
Coordinator of Administrative Ministries
- Veronica Berkey
Summer Worship Coordinator

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

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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Introducing New Attenders

Meet Rod and Waneda Miller who have been attending Waterford since last November.



Rod grew up near Nappanee, Indiana. He graduated from Northwood High School in 2002 and enjoyed playing football as an offensive lineman. He has five siblings, with all but one living in the Nappanee area. His oldest sister Cindy, lives in Hendersonville, North Carolina, and they like to occasionally travel there. Rod works as a small engine technician at Wakarusa Ag Services and previously worked at a local John Deere dealership for 5 1/2 years. He also currently plays softball in a recreational league in Nappanee.

Waneda grew up near Millersburg with seven older siblings. She has lots of nieces and nephews and they recently attended the wedding of her oldest niece. Waneda works at Heartfelt Creations here in Goshen where she is currently transitioning from production to creative assistant. She enjoys scrapbooking and tending to her plants and flowers in the backyard.

Rod and Waneda were married in Goshen on July 3, 2010, and live near New Paris. They love spending time with their dog, Mia. She's a two-year-old yorkie-poo and Rod is convinced she doesn't know she's not a human!



Our ever-resourceful and talented Interim Family Life Coordinator, Mikki Bowman, fills in a trench that her ever-resourceful husband, Mark, dug this week to allow the laying of electric lines to the solar panels.

Thank You

Thank you Waterford Church Family for your support during the recent death of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Nelta Swihart. We appreciate the caring shown to Nelta over the past five years as well as the recent prayers, cards, expressions of support, and the plant.

—Phil and Rebecca Ramer; Leah, Benji, Katie and Simon Hurst; Abi and Mike Yordy, Michael, Isaac, Sophia and Caroline Damer

Stephen Minister Completes Service



Cathy Hochstetler, who has served the congregation as a Stephen Minister for almost five years, is stepping away from that responsibility. Given her recent yearlong journey with a cancer diagnosis and treatment,

she is focusing her energy on living in the daily presence of God and her family. At a recent group supervision meeting, her fellow Stephen Ministers expressed their individual hopes for her life. Pastor Velma closed with a statement of release and blessing as Cathy uses her Stephen Ministry skills in other facets of her life.

While this is a loss to the Stephen Ministry, the congregation should be aware there are Stephen Ministers available to meet with those who are facing difficulties in their life. Please feel free to express that need to any pastor, Mel & Lorna Claassen, or Liz Gingrich.

—WMC Stephen Leader Team

Next step for Solar Panel Installation

On Saturday, July 30, we are planning another workday and could use a number of volunteers. This time we will install the solar panels on the roof. We will start at 7:00 a.m. and work until noonish. Please contact Aaron Lehman at 574-536-6548 if you are able to help, even if it's only for part of the morning. (See attached photo at left.)