



# buzz

## Dwelling in the Word

At WMC we have a rich history of engaging in Dwelling in the Word series in which we dwell together with a biblical passage over several Sundays. Beginning August 21 we will spend four Sundays dwelling with Matthew 14:22-36. During this series, “It is I...Come”, we will join Jesus and the disciples on the water. We will be invited to come away to Jesus, to come and bring our fears, to come beyond our comfort zones, and to come and be healed. In each and every instance the calling and invitation comes from Jesus and we are invited to respond.

I wonder.... How do you come away to Jesus amidst the busyness and demands of life? In this text we are told that Jesus goes to the mountainside by himself to pray. What and where are your mountainsides, your holy grounds where you are removed from the pressures and distractions of life and spend time alone with God? On August 21 we will consider the model that Jesus set before us as well as hear the invitation to come away to Jesus.

“Mama, I’m so scared! It might be a ghost!” These words spoken by one of my sons speaks of the depth of his fears for what might lurk under his bed or in his closet. As we grow up the fear of ghosts might change. However, I would assert that although the fears change, we could each still be challenged to name our ‘ghosts.’ On August 28 we will wrestle with the difficult questions: What do we fear? What do we do with our fears?

Throughout the Gospels we see time and time again Peter taking the initiative among the disciples and being the first to speak or to act. Here in Matthew chapter fourteen it is Peter who asks Jesus to invite him out of the boat and onto the water. How do we, like Peter, demonstrate our eagerness to get beyond our comfort zones? What doubts keep us firmly rooted in the boat? On September 4 we will place ourselves

in the boat and imagine Jesus inviting each one of us to step out of the boat, step beyond our doubts, and beyond our comfort zones.

We will conclude our series on September 11 by dwelling with the final three verses. In these verses we read of people coming from a distance to just touch the edge of Jesus’ cloak as they sought his healing. What within us needs healing? What is causing pain or sickness? What prevents us from being whole? On this concluding Sunday we will be invited to come to Jesus to be healed.

During this series we will repeatedly return to the profound and transformative invitation from Jesus: “It is I...Come.”

—Cindy Voth, Pastor of Community Life

Date	Preacher	Biblical Theme	Invitation
August 21	Cindy Voth	Jesus goes away to pray (14:22-24)	Come away to Jesus
August 28	Velma Swartz	Disciples are afraid: “It’s a ghost!” (14:25-27)	Come and bring our fears to Jesus
Sept 4	Cindy Voth	Peter joins Jesus on the water and sinks (14:28-33)	Come to Jesus by moving beyond our comfort zone
Sept 11	Neil Amstutz	People come to Jesus to be healed (14:34-36)	Come to Jesus and be healed

## Back to two worship services?

In the spring, we named the intention to have just one worship service during the months of June and July due to lower expected worship attendance and the desire for a temporary respite on the demands of everyone with official Sunday morning duties (volunteer and staff). We extended the single service to August 7 for the baptism celebration. But some may now be wondering, “Why return to two services?” And for some who personally prefer a single service, we recognize there may not exist a truly satisfying answer to that question.

The easiest initial answer is that we said this would be temporary from our two-service pattern that was established over four years ago. A longer-term change from this pattern probably calls for more deliberate discussion and discernment within the congregation. A secondary kind of answer would point back to the reasons for going to two services in 2012, boiling down to hospitality and allowing room for growth. Because of some attendance growth the previous years, we were feeling full in worship. We wanted to keep the needs of visitors in mind, recognizing that a nearly full sanctuary has little capacity to welcome more people.

—Waterford Pastoral Team

## Membership Transfer

After receiving six new congregational members by membership transfer in June & July, pastors and Ministry Leadership Council are also pleased to recommend Katie Hurst as a congregational member, to be received in the early worship service on August 21. Katie’s membership is transferring from Pleasant View Mennonite Church, north of Goshen, where she was baptized in junior high. She and her family began attending Waterford six years ago. Katie is a third-year student at Goshen College and has been our Buzz editor the past three years. Please join us in welcoming her.

## Some Thoughts on Grieving

We grieve the loss of a family member. We grieve the loss of abilities. We grieve the loss of treasured belongings.

We grieve the loss of past opportunities. We grieve, because we are human.

In the three columns below are some quotes that give a glimpse of my grieving process over the past 14 months.

—Ursula Hess

*“The stages of grief were never meant to tuck messy emotions into neat packages. They are responses to loss that many people have, but there is not a typical response to loss, as there is no typical loss. Our grief is as individual as our lives.”*

—Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

*“They say there is a reason / they say that time will heal / but neither time nor reason / will change the way I feel / For no one knows the heartache / that lies behind our smiles / no one knows how many times / we have broken down and cried / We want to tell you something / so there won’t be any doubt / You’re so wonderful to think of / but so hard to be without”*

*“Please be gentle with me for I am grieving. The sea I swim in is a lonely one, and the shore seems miles away. Waves of despair numb my soul as I struggle through each day. My heart is heavy with sorrow. I want to shout and scream and repeatedly ask, “Why?” At times, my grief overwhelms me, and I weep bitterly, so great is my loss.*

*Please don’t turn away or tell me to move on with my life. I must embrace my pain before I can begin to heal.”*

*“I am allowed to be sad. I am allowed to be angry. I am allowed to be heartbroken. I am allowed to cry. I am allowed to want time to myself. I am allowed to feel joy. I am allowed to feel stronger. I am allowed to remember in ways that work for me. I am allowed to feel all these things as I mourn the loss of someone I loved.”*

*“When you tell a griever to let the past go, your message to them is leave your loved one behind and move forward. This hurts more than helps.”*

*“The journey of grief is long, lonely and plagued by darkness. We often find ourselves all alone on this empty road where no one stops for a moment to dry away our tears, to say a comforting word, or to just give us a silent hug. As for the world, the grieving ends with the funeral service.”*

—Narin Grewal

*“Healing, like grief, is perpetual. It doesn’t happen in a day or a moment. It is a lifelong journey. Because grief is a lifelong journey.”*

—Kelly Gerken

*“You don’t ever have to apologize for feeling sad. You aren’t being too sensitive. You aren’t imagining things or being overdramatic. You’re being true to yourself by honoring your emotions, and that is never something you have to feel ashamed of. Whether you have a need that isn’t being met, an old wound that’s been reopened, a person in your life who is making you feel small, a painful memory of something from the past, or emptiness from the loss of someone you care about, there is always something underlying our sadness, and whatever it is, it’s important and valid. Whatever it is, it deserves to be expressed and felt.”*

*“As the world moved on, I stood frozen, broken, and shattered. My world would never be the same”*

—Angie Cartwright

## Prairie View Support

Some of you may be wondering how Waterford Church supports Prairie View Elementary. In addition to the two meals we provide for the beginning of school and for parent-teacher conferences, we also remember the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week in May and provide funds from the church budget for special classroom projects.

There are several ways that you can add to our support of Prairie View.

1. Pray for the teachers, principal, school counselor and other staff including those from our congregation: Kay Miller, Jennifer King, Marge Gingerich, Janette Amstutz, Brent Beck, Lori Judson and Jenni Samuel.
2. Pray for the students.
3. Contribute boxes of facial tissues for the classrooms. (Bring these to church to be delivered.)
4. Donate new, or very clean, used, underwear of various children's sizes. (Bring these to church also.)
5. Shop garage sales for gently used sweatpants sizes 4-10; can also use a few bigger sizes. (Bring these to church also.)
6. Contribute gently used tennis shoes of various sizes for boys and girls. Do not donate socks.
7. Let Len Harms know if you would be willing to contribute money for special occasional needs, such as eye glasses or medications.
8. Volunteer for working with students in the classroom. (This requires a full background check. Cost is \$16.)
9. Men can volunteer to help with Real Men Read in October and November for four weeks. (Simple, free background check done by the school)
10. Women can volunteer for Spring into Reading in the spring. (Simple, free background check done by the school)

There are two other significant volunteer opportunities for those who want to make a year-long commitment:

1. The school is looking for one person who could come in two times a week to do laminating for the teachers. (flexible schedule; free limited background check needed)
2. The school could also use a person, or team of people taking turns, who could come to the school every morning to supervise Minds-in-Motion. Times are Mondays 8:30-9:00; Tuesdays-Fridays 8:00-8:30.

The tissues, underwear, sweatpants, and tennis shoes will be on-going projects. Len Harms will deliver these to the school as they accumulate.

For other volunteer opportunities let Len Harms know of your interest. Contact information is in the church directory.

—Prairie View Support Team:  
Fancheon Resler, Jane Otto, and Len Harms

## Intercessory Prayers for Ross Richers

We invite you to a time of intercessory prayer for Jane & Jerrell, Sierra, Naomi, Teresa and Jordan Ross Richer involved in the work of missions in Ecuador. We will be meeting from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. at church, Sunday, August 14. They have now returned to Goshen for the next six months so we will have an opportunity to hear how God has been moving in their lives and ministry. Whether you can join us in person or in spirit, we welcome your participation as we remember them in their two-way mission.

—Steve Fath, Ecuador Ministry Support Team

## Everence Scholarship Winner



Everence is happy to announce that Matthew Smucker of Waterford Mennonite Church received a \$750 Everence college scholarship to pursue a degree at Goshen College.

Matthew is among 42 recipients of Everence college scholarships for the 2016-17 academic year. The scholarship program encourages young people to explore the integration of faith and finances while helping them on their educational journeys.

Recipients were chosen based on academics, leadership, community involvement and responses to an essay question.

We encourage people to be good stewards of their money, but also good stewards of the abilities God gave them. Everence believes that when we help our members pay for college, we're honoring students who are committed to achieving their academic goals and making a difference in their communities.

On behalf of Everence, best wishes to Matthew Smucker, and all the college students from Waterford Mennonite Church, for the coming year and in all that they pursue in the future.



### Waterford Mennonite Church

65975 State Road 15  
Goshen, IN 46526  
p: 574 533-5642  
f: 574 533-0879  
office@waterfordchurch.org  
www.waterfordchurch.org

#### Staff Team

##### Administrative Ministry

- 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.

Katie Hurst,  
editor; 574 312-0125  
buzz@waterfordchurch.org

## Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale

The 49th Annual Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale will be held September 23 & 24 at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds. That is less than two months away! The sale is made possible with the help of hundreds of volunteers.

Waterford has had an integral part in making the Relief Sale a success. Our congregation has been in charge of three different areas:

**Sausage Tent:** Byron Yoder has chaired the sausage tent for many years! Sausage is fried for sausage sandwiches for the Saturday morning breakfast. Approximately 20 volunteers, working two-hour shifts, are used throughout the weekend. Volunteers' primary job is to arrange cut links of sausage in the baskets to be fried. Someone else does the frying. The work is not heavy. Byron is also looking for someone to co-chair this booth. Please consider if this is the position for you.

**Dairy Bar:** Aaron Lehman and Alan Zimmerman chair this booth. Menno tea, pop,

water and ice cream are sold. Approximately 20 – 24 volunteers, working two-hour shifts, are used throughout the weekend.

**Popcorn:** Kevin and Lorene Miller provide leadership for this booth which sells various Yoder Popcorn products to take home as well as freshly popped for eating at the sale. Additionally, children and parents roam the Saturday auctions, selling popcorn and drinks. Approximately 12 adults and 8 – 10 children are needed to work in two-hour shifts throughout the weekend.

Please consider if you would like to volunteer for one of these areas. If you have questions, talk to one of the chairpersons. Sign-up sheets will be available in early September.

**Reminder: Items for Quilt Auction need to be donated before September. Items for Silent Auction – September 9 and Faithful Giving Auction – September 14. Please contact Carolyn Kauffman (574-537-8716 or cdkauff@gmail.com) for pickup or with questions. Thank you!**

## Thank You

Thank you for the lovely plant and many cards with thoughtful expressions of sympathy. Also thank you to those who made the trip to the little rural church for the viewing.

—Bob and Rachel Brenneman

Thank you for the boxes of groceries you sent for us as we moved into our new home! It was wonderful to have our cupboards full as we settled in. Blessings to you all.

—Matt, Rachel and Eli Ropp,  
Executive Director, Amigo Centre

## Waterford Mennonite Church Cumulative Total Giving

