



Waterford Mennonite Church | January 21, 2018

buzz

How Do We Support Vulnerable Immigrants in Our Community?

Join us on January 28 and February 3 as we join with others from area churches to become more aware of issues involving our immigrant population and ways in which you can become active in responding to such issues.

- **Sunday afternoon, January 28, 4-6 p.m. at Waterford Mennonite Church**

This afternoon is meant to raise your awareness on immigration issues nationally, here in Elkhart County, and within our own community. We will take a look at such things as DACA, current statistics, and local agencies that are providing services to both our immigrants and those who support them. Special attention will be given to the topic of the proposed immigrant detention center in Elkhart County. We will brainstorm what can be done together and individually in response. Come to be informed of these topics and more. Come to view these topics from the perspective of a Christian, a citizen of the United States, a resident of Elkhart County, and a member of the Goshen community. Come to walk alongside our immigrants.

- **Saturday morning, February 3, 9:30-12:30 a.m. at Waterford Mennonite Church**

This morning will be a training session on how to become an ally or advocate in supporting the immigrant population. We will take a look at the schedule of the current process of the proposed immigration detention center and plan for possible actions in the near future in regards to this and other related issues. Learn how you can be actively involved through communicating, volunteering, and joining coalitions in our community. What does it mean to play a role in a public witness and how far am I willing to take my advocacy? These are just some of the questions and topics we hope to cover. Join us!

Due to the fact that people from other congregations may be joining us, we ask that you **sign up at the HOPE table by today, January 21 if possible**. We do need to limit numbers somewhat and would like to give Waterford members first chance. After the 21st, we will open it up to other congregations who have already expressed interest.

–HOPE Team (Bill Swartzendruber, Neil Amstutz, Katie Misz, Anna Smucker, Jane Otto, Bob Brenneman, Gilberto Perez, Melissa Chupp)

MYF Service Auction

The annual MYF service auction is scheduled for Sunday, March 18, at 6 p.m., but you can plan on coming for a meal prior (starting at 5:00). The MYF welcomes contributions of services and items from others in the congregation. If you have a service or item to donate, contact Kevin Miller or email wcmcf316@gmail.com, preferably by Sunday, Feb. 25, so we can include in sale bill prior to the auction.



The back wall of the sanctuary was graced with brightly colored Advent drawings by Christmas Sunday. Thanks to all who participated and shared their coloring talents with the congregation.



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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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On Sunday, January 7, Stephen Leaders and Ministers gathered around Helen Bowman, Anita Myers, Marge Gingerich and Rachel Brenneman for a commissioning prayer as they begin their Stephen Ministry.



On January 7, Amos Muhagachi, a Tanzanian Mennonite bishop studying at AMBS, admonished US Mennonites to put aside our differences of opinion for the sake of the Beloved Community.

Thank You

A heartfelt thanks for the love and support we experienced from you all having to do with my mother Grace's passing on to the next life. The expressions of sympathy and care both verbally and with cards are much appreciated. Thank you!

—Sheldon (and Velma) Swartz

Thank You From AMBS

Thank you for hosting Amos Muhagachi as a guest speaker at Waterford on January 7! We are glad to be able to provide international students with an opportunity to share their story with local congregations, and are grateful for your openness to hearing Amos's message. If you would like to support international students like Amos, and allow AMBS to continue to make theological and ministerial education accessible for more leaders and emerging leaders in the broader church, please consider making a contribution to international student aid at AMBS using the following link: <http://www.ambs.edu/giving/donate>. Thanks in advance for your support!