



buzz

Electronic Giving and Plan Packets

Help us plan for funding the ministries at Waterford

Please be checking your church mail boxes this Sunday February 4 for a packet of materials inviting you to return your best estimate of how God is calling you to financially support the various ministries at Waterford Mennonite Church. By returning your response card by February 25 you will greatly help our Ministry Teams develop plans to fund the ministries at Waterford for the upcoming fiscal year that begins May 1.

If you have not already done so, you are also encouraged to check out the option to give to Waterford electronically. The link to the Waterford electronic giving site is now available and may be found on the Waterford home page.

Thanks for your involvement in our congregation!

—Facilities and Finance Ministry Team

Still Want Help Preparing Your Will?

Four years ago Waterford's Endowment Fund provided a grant for church members to receive a \$50 reimbursement for costs incurred to have a last will and testament legally drawn up. The good news is that several of you have already done that and are better prepared for your wishes to be followed after your death. The even better news is that there is still \$450 of those funds left! So if you're planning on completing or updating your will soon, or if you had that done since April of 2014, submit a copy of your receipt for these expenses to church bookkeeper Elvina Schmidt and you will be reimbursed \$50. We hope Waterford's Endowment Fund in this way helps you be a better steward of all of life.

—Pastor Neil, on behalf of
Endowment Fund Committee

Receiving New Members

The pastoral team and Ministry Leadership Council are happy to recommend Ron and Esther Rose Graber to the congregation as new members, to be received in the second service on February 18. The Grabers are transferring their official membership from the Iglesia Evangelica Menonita de Aibonito, in Puerto Rico, where Ron served the Mennonite General Hospital for decades as a surgeon. Esther has been known as an artist and book illustrator, as well as co-author with her daughters of the recent cookbook *The Daily Feast*. More recently, Waterford has been blessed by her musical gifts on piano in worship services.

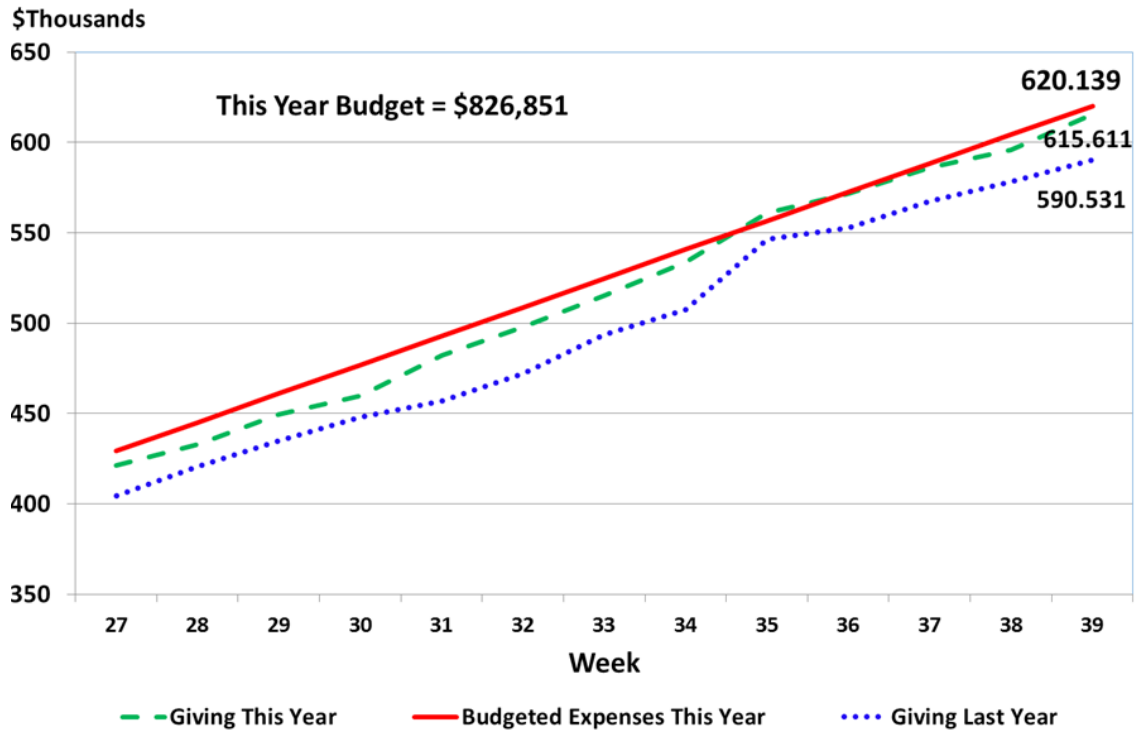
Speaking Tips

There are members in our congregation that have hearing difficulties and find it very difficult to participate in the worship service. I would imagine these members feel very isolated and may not even want to come to church. Here are some tips that are helpful to think about when you are worship leading, preaching, participating in a drama, reading scripture, leading children's time or other areas of worship to help our members with hearing difficulties feel a part of the worship service.

- Use the microphone correctly; hold close to the mouth
- Speak at a slower pace; not too quickly
- Speak clearly; articulate and enunciate well
- Maintain a strong tone of voice from the beginning to the end of sentences.
- Look up while speaking; "Show your lips" to listeners
- Adjust standing microphones to pick up your voice

—Karen Pfahler
Disabilities Advocate

Waterford Mennonite Church Cumulative Total Giving



Waterford Mennonite Church

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- Janet Shoemaker
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- Mel Claassen
Business Manager
- JD Smucker
Worship Coordinator

Facilities Ministry

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

Pastoral Ministry

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Pastoral Team Leader
- Katie Misz
Pastor of Family Life
- 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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At the end of January, we are 75% into the church fiscal year and have funded 74.5% of our budget. If the giving pattern for WMC continues as it has averaged over the past 5 years, we will be able to fully fund our budget when the fiscal year ends on April 30, 2018. Thanks so much for supporting the ministries at WMC with your financial gifts.

Ash Wednesday Service

Come join the Ash Wednesday service that pastors are planning for 7:00 p.m. on Wed., February 14, as we usher in the season of Lent. With the MYF worship band to lead our singing, the mark of ashes will remind us of our frailty before God. We will receive an offering to help displaced Congolese families through Mennonite Central Committee's Kasai Emergency Response Fund.

Thank You

To our Waterford Mennonite Church family,

Thank you for the support and caring you have shown us as we grieve the loss of our son, Anuraj. The words you spoke, the cards you sent, the financial support that was given have all been flickers of light during this hard time.

We ask for continued thoughts and prayers for Jill, Anusha and Navya as they make decisions and travel this unexpected path in life.

With gratitude,
 Steve and Emily Landis



MYF students take a picture snapshot of a Bible story from the book of Genesis. Can you guess which story they are acting out?