

Waterford Mennonite Church | April 1, 2018

# buzz

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## North Door Friendly Faces

For several years now, the Senior Adult Ministry Team has arranged for a greeter at the church's north doors as an act of welcoming hospitality. However, the people who park and enter on the north side on Sunday mornings are by no means only senior citizens. So Worship Ministry Team, which oversees the greeting ministries at the main doors, is announcing a new way for us to have friendly faces to greet people coming in the north doors, including those coming on the Greencroft bus. We are assigning to each adult Sunday School class a month at a time for which they will be responsible to have one or two greeters at the north doors.

Here's how it will work. On the church's website you will find a link for North Door Greeters, which takes you to a Google Docs form. On that form you will see the schedule for upcoming months and the classes assigned. You can then select the Sunday(s) you can be a north door greeter, and you will receive the emailed order of service the Thursday before the Sunday you selected. This arrangement will begin for the month of May, when the Sojourners class is assigned. The assignments are made to avoid months in which your class is also hosting a church fellowship meal. Some smaller classes are combined for this assignment with other smaller classes. The church office welcomes this information from classes by the end of the month before your assigned month. Sunday School class coordinators are also being especially informed of this arrangement and of their classes' next greeting assignments.

Friends, this is a fun opportunity to welcome people to our church! We know that our Greencroft bus riders especially enjoy this personal touch. It is an excellent activity together for mentors/mentees, parents/children, and grandparents/grandchildren. The time commitment is minimal. When we have two services, greeters should be at the north doors from 7:45 to 8:05, and from 9:10 to

9:30. In June and July, when we have only one service, greeters should be there an hour later, from 8:45 to 9:05 and 10:10 to 10:30. We invite you to periodically be one of those "North door friendly faces!"

## New Pictorial Directory

We are planning for a new pictorial directory this fall. Believe it or not, it has been nearly three years since the last photo shoot, and so it's time to take them again. In order to avoid the summer schedule, when all rooms in the church will be used, we will be taking the photos this spring on April 22, 29 and May 6, 13 and on May 27. The time slots available may vary from one Sunday to the next, but will include the Sunday School hour and parts of one or both services. The "studio" will be the room in the North Fellowship Hall across from the Koinonia classroom.

The photos will be taken in five-minute sessions to reduce the number of Sundays needed to complete the task. A link to an electronic sign-up will be sent in the weekly announcements, and there will also be a sheet at the Participation Station. If you receive the announcements electronically, please sign up online to reduce the likelihood of double-scheduling. Please find a week and time that works for you and schedule your appointment on the earliest date possible to make sure we can get everyone in.

## Holy Humor Sunday, April 8

Holy humor is coming next Sunday!  
If Jesus were alive today, he might say...

So I was chillin with my homies at the last supper  
and I was like bros...

This food you're eating is my body...

They were all like no way!

And I was like YAHWEH.

Holy Humor April 8, Dress accordingly (!)

## Serving in Phoenix

We are nearing the end of our volunteer experience with the SOOP program here in Glendale, Ariz. Our home for the past two weeks has been the Hospitality Services Center with Ben and Mary Jane Newcomer from Pennsylvania serving as hosts/leaders of the SOOP program. Under their leadership we have volunteered at numerous organizations in the community.



Each evening Ben and Mary Jane met with the volunteers to review the day's activities and make work assignments for the next day. The organizations we were involved with are: Hope For Hunger, a food bank run by the Phoenix Rescue Mission, serving the Glendale area; St. Mary's Food Bank, a much larger organization in downtown Phoenix serving the greater Phoenix area; St. Vincent de Paul, which has a soup kitchen serving

4,500 meals daily at different locations, a large garden which supplies produce used in their kitchen, operates a bicycle repair shop plus many other projects; IRC (International Refugee Committee) which offers a language study program for refugees, and operates a thrift shop as well



as other programs; House of Refuge, a rehabilitation center for homeless men and those with addictions or recent releases from prison where volunteers assist with maintenance; Abounding Service, which offers language study for refugees primarily from far Eastern countries and Africa.

Ben and Mary Jane also planned group activities such as, visiting the Desert Botanical Gardens, the Basha Museum, movie night to see "I Can Only Imagine", and Spring Training game. We also spent many enjoyable evenings playing games as a group.

It has been a good experience working with fellow SOOPers at various projects and meeting some of the clientele and language students.

–Loren and Miriam Stauffer

## MJ Sharp Scholarship for Peace and Justice

One year ago MJ Sharp was martyred while working for peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Now Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), where MJ did his undergraduate studies, is honoring his legacy by establishing a peace and justice endowed scholarship in his name with a major goal to help those working for peace in Africa.

MJ attended Waterford as a youth and continued to consider Waterford one of his church homes as an adult. Though his international peace work did not allow for regular involvement in congregational life, he attended Waterford when he was able to return to Goshen and maintained friendships with people in our community.

Because of our congregation's strong commitment to Christ's call to be peacemakers and our connection to MJ Sharp, Pastor Neil has submitted an application to Waterford's Endowment Fund Committee for \$1,000 of church endowment funds to be used to support this scholarship. At present about 30% of the \$100,000 scholarship goal has been met. Anyone interested in providing additional funds towards the scholarship, may donate online: <https://emu.edu/crowdfunding/mj-sharp-2018>.

Although funds are still being sought, EMU announced that an inaugural award has been made to David Nyiringabo Mazimpaka, a Congolese peacebuilder who will begin his graduate studies at EMU's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding in fall 2018.

MJ's parents, John and Michele Sharp, are excited both about the scholarship honoring MJ's work and that funds are being awarded so soon. John says, "This is deeply satisfying to us and would be a delight for MJ. Our profound thanks to all who are making this possible."

## Library Additions

Russell, Jan Jarboe – *A Train to Crystal City: FDR's Secret Prisoner Exchange Programs and America's Only Family Internment Camp during World War II*. A quietly moving book on two American-born teenager girls uncovering the details of their years spent in the camp; their families subsequent journeys to war – devastated Germany and Japan; their year-long attempt to survive and return to the United States; transformed from incarcerated enemies to American loyalists .

Martin, Luke S. – *A Vietnam Presence: Mennonites in Vietnam during the American War*. Following the French Indochina War, MCC in 1954 began a program of relief assistance to displaced persons in South Vietnam, and soon became involved in relief and medical programs. The heart of the story is the challenge that North American Mennonites faced in proclaiming Jesus Christ's gospel of peace in Vietnam during the era the US engaged in military conflict that killed three million Vietnamese.

Peachey, Urbane – *More Than One Thing is true: Agony and Ecstasy below Cloud Nine*. This memoir is a gripping first-person account of the author's MCC work in the Middle East during the 1970's, as well as his pastoral duties in a vigorous and growing Pennsylvania congregation.

Lee, Nancy and Nancy Farrar – *Making a difference in the Journey: The Geography of our Faith*. In this volume, fifteen Mennonite and Brethren writers linked to Eastern Mennonite University, whose journeys have made a difference – often world wide – through service, tell their stories of faith, life, and thought in Anabaptist perspective.

Newschwander, Todd – *The Mystery and Glory of the Church: The Place Where Heaven and Earth Meet*. What is the purpose of the church? Can't I worship just as well by myself? Anyone scared by previous bad church experience will naturally ask these questions. In this book they are handled respectfully but unwavering in light of scripture and the plan of God.

Smucker, Janneken – *Amish Quilts: Crafting an American Icon*. In this in-depth study, illustrated with more than 100 stunning color photographs, the author discusses what makes an Amish quilt Amish. She exams the value of quilts to those who have made, bought, sold, exhibited and preserved them and how

that value changes as a quilt travels from Amish hand to market place to consumers.

Quezada, Sarah – *Love Undocumented: Risking Trust in a Fearful World*. The author takes readers on a journey deep into the world of the US immigration system. Follow her as she walks alongside her new friend, meets with lawyers, stands at the US Mexico border, and visits immigrants in detention centers. She invites Christians to consider how to live faithfully in the world of closed doors and high fences.

Moore, Oshetar – *Shalom Sistas: Living Wholeheartedly in a Broken Hearted World*. Moore shares what she learned when she challenged herself to study peace in the Bible for forty days. Through the twelve points of the Shalom Sistas' Manifesto, Moore experiments with practices of everyday peacemaking and invites readers to do the same.

Grant, Jennifer – *When Did Everybody Else Get So Old?* This book plumbs the physical, spiritual and emotional changes unique to middle years; from the emptying nest to the physical effects of aging. Magnetic, good-humored and full of hope in the sustaining power of the spirit, this is a must-read for anyone facing the flux and flow of middle age.

Sawyer, Kim Vogel – *Bring Maggie Home: A Novel*. Decades of loss, an unsolved mystery, and a rift spanning three generations. Hazel De Ford is a woman haunted by her past. While berry picking in a blackberry thicket in 1943, ten-year old Hazel momentarily turns her back on her three-year old sister Maggie and the young girl disappears. Almost seventy years later the mystery remains unsolved.

Andrews, Mesu – *Isaiah's Daughter: A Novel of Prophets and Kings*. In this epic Biblical narrative, a young woman taken into the prophet Isaiah's household rises to capture the heart of the future king.

Believers Church Bible Commentaries: Philippians and II Corinthians.



### Waterford Mennonite Church

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#### Staff Team

##### Administrative Ministry

- Karen Hostetler  
*Secretary*
- Elvina Schmidt  
*Bookkeeper*
- Janet Shoemaker  
*Coordinator of Administrative Ministries*
- Mel Claassen  
*Business Manager*
- JD Smucker  
*Worship Coordinator*

##### Facilities Ministry

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

##### Pastoral Ministry

- Neil Amstutz  
*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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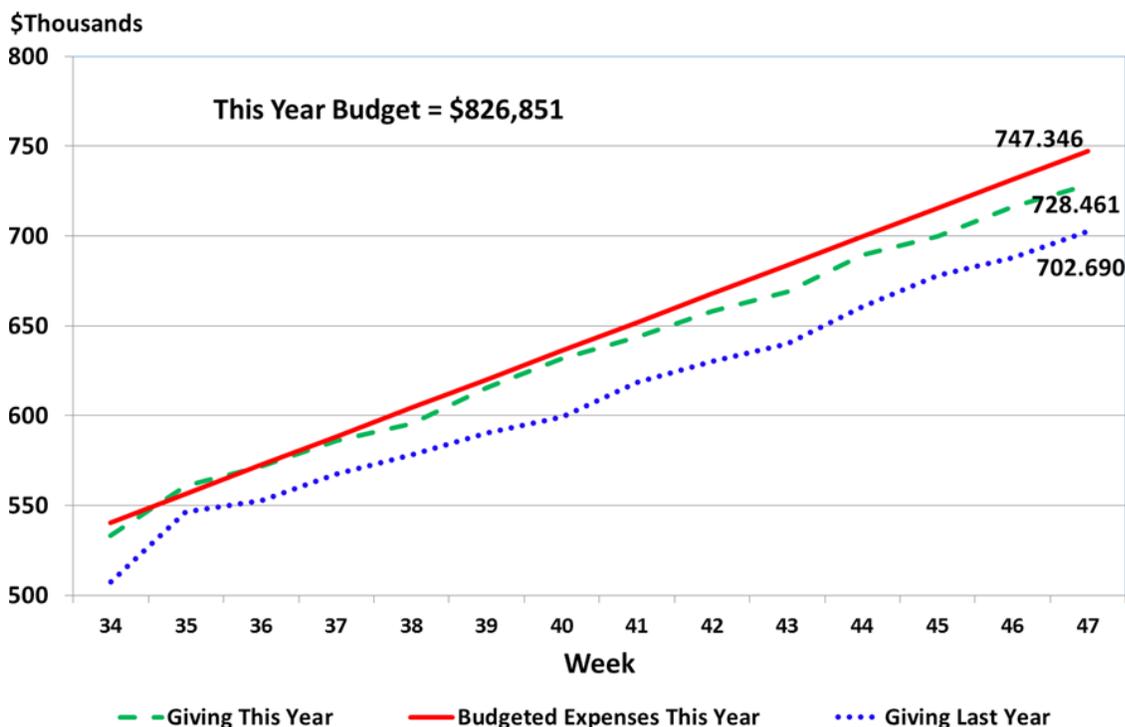
## Year-end Financial Projections from Facilities and Finance Ministry Team

The fiscal year for Waterford ends on April 30. This year \$826,850 is required to fully fund the budget. With five Sundays remaining, year to date giving totals \$728,461, leaving nearly \$19,700 required in each of the next five weeks to fully fund the Waterford budget. Over the past five weeks, Waterford has received an average of \$14,100 per week. If we assume giving over the next five weeks averages \$15,000, total giving for the year will be about \$803,500, or \$23,400 short of fully funding the budget.

The good news is that FFMT projects spending will also be below budget. Just how much below will not be known until all invoices are in and paid at the end of April. Current projections estimate total spending for the year to be about \$809,000.

If the above projections come true, Waterford will be short of funding it's ministries by about \$5500 this year. FFMT is considering several options to address such a deficit should one occur. Please remember Waterford in your giving and the FFMT in your prayers as it works to finish the fiscal year and plan for next year.

### Waterford Mennonite Church Cumulative Total Giving



### All-Church Hymnsing

Wednesday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Bring finger food snacks

(More information to come next week.)

