

## This Sunday in Worship

July 6, 2025

9:30 am Worship



Suella Gerber

11:30 CMC en Español



David Maldonado

[Watch e-worship](#)

[Online Giving](#)

## Looking Ahead

### Tuesday, July 8

9:00 am - Jubilee Ministry

### Wednesday, July 9

5:00 pm - Prayer Choir

### Thursday, July 10

10:00 am - Volunteer Day

### Sunday, July 13

9:20 am - Gathering Songs

9:30 am - Worship

After Worship - Fellowship Time

10:45 am - Adult Sunday School

11:30 am - CMC en Español

## News Items from the Church Board

1. The Church Board is pleased to announce that Gabi Ochoa has accepted the invitation to serve a two-year term on the Church Board starting on September 1. Thank you, Gabi! Duane Stoltzfus will be leaving the board after six years of service on August 31. Thank you for your service, Duane!
2. In consultation with Pamela Yoder and Addie Leaman, the board will ask Wilmary Zambrano, Addie Leaman, and Scott Litwiller to list all of the repairs and/or replacements needed in the kitchen so that we can begin getting things back in working order. The board will ask two people to serve with Wilmary as an ongoing kitchen committee to develop a ministry plan for future kitchen usage. (The new coffee maker will be arriving soon.)
3. The CMC by-laws stipulate that agendas for congregational meetings must be distributed two-weeks in advance of the meeting. The agenda for the July 20 meeting will not be available until the July 11 newsletter. We acknowledge that this is a break of protocol and seek the congregation's forgiveness.
4. Through various conversations in recent months of ministry transition, the board is aware that we have not addressed all of the questions or concerns related to CMC's current and future ministry. In an attempt to hear what is in the mind and hearts of CMCers, the board is offering three means by which to register these concerns and questions: 1) Through Second Sunday small group discussions with centering questions provided by the board; 2) an online anonymous form with centering questions provided; and 3) several meetings times with board members over the next 2-3 weeks using centering questions. More information about this initiative for deeper listening will be coming in next week's newsletter.

Rebecca Slough, Board Chair

**Note from the Music Director:** Our Peace Sunday celebration this week seems even more important than usual! I hope that our music helps you imagine new ways of making peace in your life and community this week, even though we are not exclusively singing songs about peace. For instance, Suella asked if we could sing VT 582, "[My love colors outside the lines.](#)" We've sung this song several times, but the rhythms always feel a little surprising—it might be easier for you to think of it as a sing-along, and not worry about following the music exactly.

I would also like to remind everyone of the invitation to bring an instrument—or just your voice—and come to our music rehearsal at 8:15 on Sunday morning! This week, in addition to 582, it would be lovely to have more folks play along with VT 805 (Peace, Salaam, Shalom), and VT 719 (Jesus, help us live in peace).

### From the Community Life Commission

#### **Acts 6:1-6 CEB**

About that time, while the number of disciples continued to increase, a complaint arose. Greek-speaking disciples accused the Aramaic-speaking disciples because their widows were being overlooked in the daily food service. 2 The Twelve called a meeting of all the disciples and said, "It isn't right for us to set aside proclamation of God's word in order to serve tables. 3 Brothers and sisters, carefully choose seven well-respected men from among you. They must be well-respected and endowed by the Spirit with exceptional wisdom. We will put them in charge of this concern. 4 As for us, we will devote ourselves to prayer and the service of proclaiming the word." 5 This proposal pleased the entire community. **They selected Stephen, a man endowed by the Holy Spirit with exceptional faith, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.** 6 The community presented these seven to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. -Acts 6:1-6 (CEB)

Acts 6:1-6 shows that the early church disciples needed help tending their growing flock of believers. Specifically, these "helpers" did so because the leaders needed help providing pastoral care.

College Mennonite Church has followed the example of Stephen by providing confidential and regular accompaniment for CMC attenders with life crises and challenges. Since its inception in 2012, CMC Stephen Ministry has trained 27 Stephen Ministers who have accompanied 64 care receivers. Currently, we have 12 active Stephen Ministers. Now, as some from the team have or are planning to retire from this role, we need new people willing to commit to and participate in training to continue this important ministry of care.

For several years now, CMC has coordinated such training with Waterford Mennonite Church and Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship. In September, BAMF will take the lead in offering a new training class with Stephen Leaders from all three churches facilitating the training at not cost.

The training will be held at Berkey Avenue

**Tuesday evenings, 6:45-9:15 p.m.**

**September 2 through February 10.**

There will be no Saturday sessions, and there will be a number of breaks throughout the holidays and school breaks.

**If you would consider joining this training class, please contact Pamela Yoder or Barbara Thomas asap.**

### From the Worship Commission:

Welcoming opportunity!

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the church office for volunteers to greet and welcome folks to 9:30 worship services. Plan for standing a half hour from 9:00-9:30 at either south entrance to the church. Sign up, include a friend, bring your family. By the week, by the month; you choose.

Thank you.



**There IS something you can do to help bring about world peace! PRAY!** People who believe in prayer and peace will gather July 15, 2025, from noon until 1 p.m. in the College Mennonite Church gathering rooms (141-142). Come to pray and be in solidarity with others with spoken prayers, songs, silence, scripture reading, and candle-lighting. Along with others in **Mennonite Action**, we will lament losses throughout the world, praying for permanent ceasefires in Gaza and Ukraine and the end to occupation, oppression, and violence in all places, and praying for immigrants everywhere, including in the United States.

Rachel Nafziger Hartzler

You are invited to participate in the **35th annual Michiana fasola Singing from B.F. White's shape note tunebook, The Sacred Harp**, one of the best collections of sacred songs, hymns, odes and anthems. The all-day singing starts at **9:30 am on Saturday, July 19, at Assembly Mennonite Church in Goshen**. Books are available to use at the singing, and a pot luck dinner will be held at noon. Come join us for a great day of singing and fellowship; no experience is required. For more information, contact **Matthew Lind** at 574-535-8068. Thanks!

—Matthew Lind

College Mennonite youth are needing adult leaders to come alongside them in their faith walk. A specific age is not required; only that you are interested in sharing of your gifts, time, and care with the youth and can commit to working with a leadership team to plan ways to help the youth engage with matters of faith on Sunday mornings and some Wednesday activities. Please reach out to **Ben Graber**, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, if you have interest and more questions and he will gladly let you know of our needs and more details. Thank you! (574-607-7733, [ben@collegemennonite.org](mailto:ben@collegemennonite.org))

### Indiana-Michigan Conference Summerfest Report

Our congregation belongs to a conference of 36 Mennonite churches stretching from northern Michigan to southern Indiana. Each year, representatives from member congregations meet to worship and make decisions together. These annual meetings are now called Summerfest; Summerfest 2025 was hosted by the Waterford Mennonite congregation on June 13-14.

One of our conference delegates, Art Smoker, presented a brief overview of College Mennonite Church during the Saturday afternoon worship session. Every year, at each of the three Summerfest worship sessions, one congregation is introduced, helping the different and scattered member congregations learn to know each other a bit better.

IN-MI conference provides help during leadership transitions. Conference co-minister Sharon Yoder coordinates information from congregations looking for leaders and from prospective pastors looking for positions. CMCers Richard Kauffman and Becky Horst are two of the volunteer search guides who assist pastoral search committees of other congregations.

IN-MI conference also provides resources to support pastors in their work, overseen by conference co-minister Joanne Gallardo. CMCer Kent Miller chairs the Leadership Enhancement Team, and Phil Waite serves on the Ministry Credentialing Team, which is chaired by Suella Gerber. Congregational coaches include CMCer Marty Lehman (coach for Waterford and East Goshen congregations) and Phil Waite (coach for Kern Road Mennonite Church).

Each member congregation contributes to the budget for IN-MI conference expenses, but shifting demographics and priorities are making old fiscal models less reliable. Like many church-related organizations, IN-MI conference plans to cultivate closer relationships with individual donors who value its work.

Report by Becky Horst



## A MOMENT IN ANABAPTIST HISTORY

*"We who were formerly no people at all, and who knew no peace, are now called to be a church of peace. True Christians do not know vengeance. . . . Their hearts overflow with peace. Their mouths speak peace, and they walk in the way of peace." (Menno Simons.)*