

About the Cover: This week's cover art was created by **Velma Peck**, who has loved drawing and creating since childhood. While she doesn't consider herself a painter, she finds great joy in working with ink, capturing the beauty of God's creation. Her sketch of a wilderness path, dappled with sunrise light, invites us to notice the gifts of the great outdoors and the creativity God plants within each of us. Velma reminds us to keep fostering this gift of imagination with the children around us.

Attendance: August 10— 74

North Goshen Mennonite Church

501 N. 8th St., Goshen, IN 46528

Mailing address: P.O. Box 505, Goshen, IN 46527

574-533-4255 | office@northgoshenmc.org | northgoshenmc.org

9:00 AM Sunday school 10:15 Worship services

Pastoral Team

Becky Helmuth 574-370-0767 | rebeccahelmuth@gmail.com

Becky's office hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 am to 2 pm

Sabbath day: Friday

Izaete Nafziger 574-202-4344 | Izaete@northgoshenmc.org

Office Administrator

Belen Robledo 574-533-4255 | office@northgoshenmc.org

Congregational Chair

Kathy Nofziger Yeakey

kathynofyeak@gmail.com

Elder Team

Jerry Wittrig

jwtrg@comcast.net

Belen Robledo

belen_2910@live.com

Jan Lehman (Chair)

jan.miller.lehman@gmail.com



Wayfinding: Discerning God's Path
North Goshen Mennonite Church

August 17, 2025

North Goshen Mennonite Church

Wayfinding: Discerning God's Path

The Road Opens Wide

Acts 15:1-31

August 17, 2025

Focus Statement: When God's Spirit widens the circle, how do we as a community discern a way forward that makes belonging possible for all?

Gathering *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing* VT 7

Welcome & Announcements Nick K.

Call to Worship

Songs

O Healing River VT 706

You Are Salt for the Earth VT 297

Offering Prayer & Coin Collection for MCC

(Children are dismissed for Children's Church)

Offering Song

We Are People of God's Peace VT 797

Scripture Acts 15:1-9 Rudy G., & Marian H.

Dramatic Reading Elaine H.

The Heart of God Is Wider Than We Thought

Song *The Love of God* VT 162

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Congregational Prayer Nick K.

Sending Song
Together VT 389

Blessing

Today's Volunteers

Children's Church: Joan U., Bonnie C., & Kristina Be-Mo

Nursery: Belen R., Jeff U., & Jenny G.

Tech Team: Jose J., Greg S & Tim N.

Dramatic Reading: Elaine H

Song Leader: Francisco BeMo Worship Leader: Nick K.

Greeter: Lola J. Translator: Mariana R.

Ways Children Worship With Us

Children's Church (ages 3 through Grade 4)

- Takes place during second half of worship service
- Children are dismissed after the offering
- Location: Large classroom at bottom of basement stairs
- All children are welcome, especially guests and visitors!

Nursery (infants through age 3)

- Childcare is available in the basement (follow the signs) during the worship service. All are welcome.
- The nursery is staffed by two adults and one youth.

Proposed Church Structure Update

At our August 3 Koinonia Café, the Coordinating Council introduced a proposed new leadership structure designed to reflect our current size, energy, and vision for shared ministry. The proposal was met with positive feedback and thoughtful conversation. A full copy of the structure, along with a simplified comparison chart and FAQ, is available in your mailbox this Sunday. The congregation will be asked to affirm the proposed structure and the 2025–26 budget at the Business Meeting on Saturday, September 7.

Help Us Update the Church Directory!

It's time to refresh our North Goshen Church Directory, and we need your help! This week, you'll find a form in your church mailbox for your current contact information. Please take a few moments to fill it out with your address, phone numbers, and email addresses.

We're also asking how you prefer to receive information from the church — whether that's by email, phone call, printed copy, or our new churchwide text message system. This new tool allows us to send out timely prayer requests and last-minute updates, like weather cancellations or reminders for church events.

Please return your updated form to the church office or place it in the designated basket by **Sunday, August 31**. Thank you for helping us stay connected and keep everyone in the loop!

Becky Out of Town This Week

Becky is at Wildwood Mennonite Church this morning as part of her role as moderator of the Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference board, followed by a short vacation in the UP and a family birthday celebration in Ohio. She will also be preaching at her home congregation, Sharon Mennonite Church, next Sunday, August 24. Please contact **Izaete** or one of the elders with any pastoral concerns during her absence.

Wayfinding: Discerning God's Path

Following Jesus was never meant to be a solo journey. Beginning today, we'll walk alongside the early church as they navigate disagreements, discern new directions, and learn to see God's path with fresh eyes. Just like those first followers, our own community is made up of different cultures, perspectives, and experiences—and God's Spirit is still leading us together. Through scripture, story, and prayer, we'll listen for the Spirit's voice and explore how to follow Jesus faithfully as a diverse, united body today.

Series Outline

- Aug. 24; Hearts Burning, Eyes Open (Luke 24:13–35)
- Aug. 31; Casting Lots, Trusting God (Acts 1:15–26)
- Sep. 7; God Is Doing a New Thing (Isaiah 43:19)

Upcoming Events

- 8/19 Women's Prayer Group (Tue., 9 AM)
- 8/20 August Community Meal (Wed., 6 PM)
- 8/28 Men's Group (Thu., 6 PM)
- 9/1 Labor Day Holiday
- 9/3 Bilingual Conversation Group (Wed., 6:30 PM)
Youth Group at Loera's (Wed., 6:30 PM)
- 9/7 Business Meeting (Sun., 9 AM)
- 9/17 Community Meal (Wed., 6 PM)
- 9/26– Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale (Fri–Sat.)
- 9/27 and Pie Booth by NGMC

Anniversaries & Birthdays This Week

- 8/17 Freeman & Velda H.
- 8/19 Alaiza Nafziger
- 8/20 Erma Yoder

9:00 AM Sunday School Classes

Pathfinders

- Intergenerational Bible study using the Mennonite "Builder" curriculum
- Location: Curtained classroom next to kitchen in the fellowship hall
- All are welcome

Contemporary Issues and Christian Faith

- Explores current events through a Christian lens using "The Wired Word"
- Location: South corner of fellowship hall
- All ages welcome

Clase de los Amigos (Latino Bible Study)

- Bible study in Spanish
- Location: Large classroom at bottom of basement stairs
- Todos son bienvenidos

Youth Class (Grades 6-12)

- Location: Basement classroom (follow posted signs)
- All youth are welcome to attend!

Next Sunday, August 24

9:00AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Worship Focus: *Hearts Burning, Eyes Open*

Scripture: Luke 24:13-25

Worship Leader: Robert Be-Mo

Song Leader: None

Storytellers:

Children's Church: Elane H., Kathy N., & Jenny G.

Nursery: Hilda L., & Kristina Be-Mo

Join Our Visitation Team

At North Goshen, we believe that being the church means showing up for one another - in worship, in our neighborhoods, and in the quiet, everyday moments of life. Some in our church family are not able to be physically present in our gatherings, yet they remain an essential part of our shared life of faith.

We are forming a **Visitation Team** to help nurture these connections. Team members will regularly visit those in our community who can't come to church in person, offering a listening ear, prayer, and the gift of presence. This is one way we live into Jesus' call to love our neighbors, bearing one another's burdens and celebrating joy together.

If you feel called to help extend our circle of care in this way, please connect with Becky to learn more.

School Kits for MCC

North Goshen is collecting school kits for Mennonite Central Committee now through August 31. This is the perfect time to shop while school supplies are on sale! Each kit you provide helps equip a child with the tools they need to learn, grow, and build a brighter future. Let's see how many kits we can send!

Contents (NEW items only)

- 4 spiral or perforated-page notebooks
8.5 in x 10.5 in; 70 sheets each
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm (inch markings optional))
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small *all-metal* pencil sharpener (one or two holes)