

About the Cover: This week's cover art was created by **Sandra O.**, one of our younger attendees at North Goshen. Sandra drew a bright rainbow and wrote, "I love church and I love to pray with all the good people. I love Jesus. Amen." When Elaine H. shared Sandra's note, she reflected on the spirit of welcome that lives in this congregation — a community where people know they belong and are loved. May her words remind us of the joy and simplicity of faith shared among us .

Attendance: November 9— 59

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 AM 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)

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North Goshen Mennonite Church
November 16, 2025

North Goshen Mennonite Church

Light Shines in Darkness

Isaiah 9:1-7

November 16, 2025

Focus Question: Where do we need to shine light in our world today?

Gathering *Holy Spirit, Come with Power* VT 57

Welcome & Announcements Mary T.

Call to Worship

Songs *Longing for Light* VT 715

You Are Salt for the Earth VT 297

Offering Prayer

Children are dismissed for Children's Church

Song *This Little Light of Mine (Video)* VT 762

Scripture Isaiah 9:1-7

Message *The Light We Gather Around*

Becky H.

Song *God, Be the Love*

VT 43

Reflection: Candles Of Hope

Please take a moment of silence to reflect on where you see darkness and how God might be calling you to shine light:

- Where do I see darkness in my life, my community, or the world right now?
- When have I experienced light breaking through in an unexpected way?
- What is one concrete place I could carry light this week?

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Congregational Prayer

Blessing

Sending Song *Move in Our Midst*

VT 827

Next Sunday - November 23

Next Sunday, we turn to **Jeremiah 29:1, 4–14**, where the prophet writes to Judean exiles forcibly removed to Babylon. Instead of promising a quick return home, Jeremiah offers unexpected counsel: *Build houses. Plant gardens. Seek the welfare of the city where you find yourselves.* God's promise is clear: "I know the plans I have for you, plans for welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Our focus, "**Seeking the Welfare of the Place**," calls us to build life and seek peace even in displacement — trusting that God is present here and now, not waiting for us somewhere else. This is our last Sunday before beginning Advent on November 30.

Next Sunday, November 23

9:00AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Worship Focus: *Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles*

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

Worship Leader: Elaine H.

Song Leader: Todd H.

Speaker: Becky H.

Children's Church: Bonnie C., Harlan S., & Kristina Be-Mo

Nursery: Elaine T., Kerry C., & Jenny G.

Upcoming Events

11/17 IMMC Pastors Gathering at Amigo Centre (Mon.-Wed.)

11/18 Women's Prayer Group at Manor 4 (Tues., 9 AM)

11/19 Thanksgiving Community Meal (Wed., 6:00 PM)

11/24 Church Council Meeting at NGMC (Tues., 6:30 PM)

11/27 Thanksgiving Day

11/30 First Sunday of Advent

12/7 Koinonia Café (Sun., 9:45 AM)

12/14 Children's Christmas Program during worship

12/24 Christmas Eve Service at College Mennonite (7 PM)

Community Meal & Thanksgiving Dinner

We continue preparing for our **Thanksgiving Community Meal on Wednesday, November 19**, and we'll need lots of good food to share. **Sign-up sheets are available this morning**, so please consider bringing a dish, dessert, or side. There is also a link to the sign-up sheets in the Friday newsletter email. Let's create a meal that reflects the warmth and abundance of this community.

Hospitality to Our Neighbors

As part of our Thanksgiving Community Meal, we are inviting neighbors from the North Goshen community and guests from **First Light Mission** to join us at the table. This is one small way we practice welcome and shared belonging.

Wishlist Collection for First Light Mission

To support guests staying at **First Light Mission**, we'll be collecting items from their **Wishlist on today and next Sunday, November 23**. Look for the collection basket in the Gathering Space, and please consider donating if you're able. More details and the wishlist are available in mailboxes today.

Mennonite Action Training

Mennonite Action is coming to Goshen (Waterford Mennonite Church) on December 13 as part of their national **To Build Our Courage** tour! This training will offer skills in noncooperation, grassroots organizing, and mutual aid, along with time for worship in prayer, song and sharing a meal together. Join us as we seek courage, inspiration, and deeper commitment to peace and justice. Learn more and sign up at MennoniteAction.org.

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.

Buddy Bags for Children During Worship

We want children to feel welcome and at home in our worship space. Buddy Bags are available in the narthex (on the hooks behind the sanctuary) for children to use during the service. Please return the bags after worship so they can be ready for next week. Each Buddy Bag may include:

- Soft, quiet fidget toys
- Picture books and Bible storybooks
- Small puzzles or matching cards
- A notebook for doodling or drawing
- Coloring books and crayons (found on the shelf next to the bags)

Children are part of our worship — their presence and energy are a gift. Feel free to take what is helpful for your child to wiggle, listen, create, and belong.

Anniversaries & Birthdays This Week

11/18 Velma Peck
11/18 Tessa Sommers
11/19 Rudy Gonzalez
11/19 Deena Brissett
11/20 Robert Morillo
11/20 Merv & Sharon
11/22 Jan Lehman

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!

Today's Volunteers

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

Nursery: Tony U., Hilda L., & Kristina Be-Mo

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

Translator: Erin Be-Mo

Speaker: Becky H.

Music Leader: Todd H.

Worship Leader: Mary T.

Sunday School Greeter: Terry P.

Worship Greeter: Lola J.