

Willow Springs Worship

October 12, 2025 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call to Worship

VT 887 – Esther Johnson

Songs – Phil Kaufmann

Children's time – Marilyn Eigsti

Scriptures – Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Matthew 22:34-40 NRSV

Sermon – Phil Waite
For God's Sake

Songs – VT 571 O God, We Read the Holy Law

Sharing and prayer –

Song

Announcements

Sunday School ends at:

Sending – VT 1063

Sending Song

Calendar

Oct. 5-19 Phil Waite in Tiskilwa
Oct. 19 Phil Waite Preaching
Oct. 5, 12 Heritage Sundays
Oct. 15 Church Board, 7:30 pm
Oct. 19 Farewell for Marilyn and Eldon

Tuesdays at 10:00 am: Praise, Prayer, and Pacing: If you would like company getting in your daily walk join the 10:00 am Tuesday group at the church to Praise, Pray, and Pace. If you want to receive a text reminder, let Beth know.

Please remember to place your gifts in the basket towards the back of the sanctuary.

Polly Begly passed away on Thursday evening, October 9. There will be a family burial on Monday, October 13 at the church, with a memorial service at a later date.

Next Sunday October 19 we will have a time of farewell for Marilyn and Eldon Eigsti following a carry-in meal. Please bring food to share!

Children's Sunday School now begins after the worship service ends. Adult Sunday School will meet in the sanctuary. Both Sunday Schools will end one hour after the end of worship.

Heritage Sundays

As part of our transitional work we will have two Heritage Sundays during the Sunday School hour on October 5 and 12. This will be a chance for us to tell our common story together.

Interview Signup Sheet

If you haven't already, please sign up for a time for Phil Waite to meet with you as part of our transitional work. We want everyone's voice to be heard! You can sign up by contacting Phil directly. Please sign up by October 12.

If you are interested in learning how to run the sound and zoom system at church, please let Pete Andriotis know.

The Illinois Mennonite Heritage Center in Metamora has an upcoming meeting on October 18, starting at 10:00 am. Speaker Elizabeth Miller will be sharing with the focus of **Anabaptism Goes Global**. Meal to follow. All are welcome to attend!

The Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale Board wishes to inform everyone that we are offering one pound bulk and one pound link packages of fresh sausage for sale this fall at the cost of \$6.00 per pound. Pre-orders will be taken from October 1 through November 1 via church sign-up sheets and our sale website. Pick up time will be Saturday, November 22, from 7:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. at First Mennonite Church of Morton. Payment will be due at the time of pick up if not paid when pre-ordered. For the buyers convenience cash, cards, and checks will be accepted. Prayers for our 68th Illinois Relief Sale, scheduled for March 20 and 21, 2026, as well as the procuring of auction items will be deeply appreciated. God bless you for your faithfulness!

This fall you have 3 options to come for a Work Day at Menno Haven and experience some fall sights and sounds. We have two mid-week days (Wednesday, October 22 & Thursday, October 23) for those who have free time in the middle of the week and one Saturday (November 8) for those who are available on the weekend. It is most helpful if you could register at mennohaven.com/work-day so we know how to plan projects for each day.

Everence: FreedUp personal finance training: Are you looking for financial training based on Biblical principles? Discover personal finance training with the FreedUp financial program, which helps people develop strong habits for personal finances. Learn more and sign up at GetFreedUp.com. Through Everence®, we have access to a discount code: pay \$19 instead of \$99 when you use code fru24eve.

Everence announces Medicare Mondays webinar series for Fall 2025

Everence Financial will host a monthly Medicare Mondays webinar series. Topics will include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare covers, plus an explanation of Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D. Attendance is recommended for those ready to sign up for Medicare. The webinars will take place the second Monday from October to December at 2:00 & 8:00 p.m. Eastern. The webinars will be presented by Everence professionals and there will be plenty of time for your questions. To register, or for more information, visit www.everence.com/national.

If pastoral care is needed, please contact Phil Waite or an Elder: Dale Bachman, Ellen Davis-Zehr, Pam Kaufmann, or Elvin Krabill.

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 NRSV

The Great Commandment

6 “Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, **2** so that you and your children and your children’s children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. **3** Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

4 “Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.[a] **5** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. **6** Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your

heart. **7** Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. **8** Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem[b] on your forehead, **9** and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Matthew 22:34-40 NRSV

The Greatest Commandment

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, **35** and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. **36** “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” **37** He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ **38** This is the greatest and first commandment. **39** And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ **40** On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”