

Willow Springs Worship

October 26, 2025 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call to Worship

VT 971 – Esther Johnson

Songs – Phil Kaufmann

Children's time – Elvin Krabill

Scripture – Matthew 18:1-14 NRSV

Sermon – Kristin Jackson

Let the Children Come

Song – VT 517 Children of the Heavenly Father

Sharing and prayer – Ellen Davis-Zehr

Song

Announcements

Sunday School ends at:

Sending – VT 1062

Sending Song

Calendar

Nov. 2-16 Phil Waite in Tiskilwa

Nov. 2,9,16 Phil Waite Preaching

Nov. 15 Polly Begly Memorial

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.

Children's Sunday School now begins after the worship service ends. Adult Sunday School meets in the sanctuary. Both Sunday Schools will end one hour after the end of worship. Today, Kristin Jackson will lead this time focusing on Safe Church.

A memorial service for Polly Begly will be on Saturday, November 15.

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.

Zari Jo Kimani was born on 10/24/2025 at 4:07 a.m., weighing 7 pounds 15 ounces and measuring 21 inches. Welcoming her are parents Melissa and Johnny Kimani and grandparents Carol and Cal Zehr. All are healthy and doing well!

The third fall Work Day at Menno Haven is on 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.

Note from Marilyn and Eldon Eigsti:

Thank you so much for the time of farewell you gave us Sunday. We were humbled by the kind words of affirmation many of you spoke as well as the love gift offered. We will definitely check out using it to pay for a concert series. It is difficult to leave all of you and the history our family has with Willow Springs. We will miss you!

Our plan is to "officially" move October 28 but we will be back and forth in the following days to tie up loose ends. Once we are settled in, we invite you to visit us in Goshen. We will have a guest room. Our address is 1412 Pembroke Circle #6, Goshen IN 46526.

May God bless each of you. Our prayers go with you and Willow Springs as its future direction is discerned.

Marilyn and Eldon Eigsti

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

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!

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.

Matthew 18:1-14 NRSV

True Greatness

18 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” **2** He called a child, whom he put among them, **3** and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. **4** Whoever becomes humble like this child is the

greatest in the kingdom of heaven. **5** Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Temptations to Sin

6 “If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin,^[a] it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea. **7** Woe to the world because of things that cause sin!^[b] Such things are bound to come, but woe to the one through whom they come!

8 “If your hand or your foot causes you to sin,^[c] cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than to have two hands or two feet and to be thrown into the eternal fire. **9** And if your eye causes you to sin,^[d] tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into the hell^[e] of fire.

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

10 “Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.^[f] **12** What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? **13** And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. **14** So it is not the will of your^[g] Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.