



# Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

[office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org)

[Find COVID-19 Information Here](#)

# AssemblyLine

January 22, 2023

Volume XLII, Number 4

## WORSHIP

Join us on Sundays at 9:30 AM in Person, or [on Zoom](#)

<p><b>Jan 22</b>  <b>9:30AM Worship &amp; Sunday school</b></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Barb Hassan  <b>Sermon:</b> Diane Hunter  <b>Scripture:</b> Genesis 26:1-33</p>	<p><b>Jan 29</b>  <b>9:30AM Worship &amp; Sunday school</b></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Small group Maple  <b>Sermon:</b> Joelle Morgan  <b>Scripture:</b> Deuteronomy 1:8, 1:25</p>
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## SUNDAY JANUARY 22

**8:45am Young adult breakfast.** Those who are post-high school through age 30 are invited to a breakfast in the multipurpose space each Sunday.

**9:30am Worship.** We continue our worship series on Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery. Assembly recently joined [a coalition of Anabaptist groups and congregations committed to the cause of Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery](#): a historic and ongoing legal/philosophical framework that gave Christian governments moral and legal rights to invade and seize Indigenous lands and dominate Indigenous Peoples. [For the complete series introduction click here.](#) Our preacher this morning, Diane Hunter, is the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Miami tribe of Oklahoma.

**Second hour:** After a 10-minute break, return to the Worship space for continued conversation with Diane Hunter.

**Sunday School classes** for children and youth (infants through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) immediately follow first hour. Locations of classrooms by age/grade are posted in the Gathering Space.

**Prayer Requests.** Please share prayer requests by contacting one of the pastors via email or phone. Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays.

### Current COVID-19 Information (Jan 20, 2023)

In Elkhart County, Indiana, the [COVID-19 Community Level](#) is **Medium**.

Please join on Zoom if you are feeling sick.

You are invited to consider wearing a mask in worship to help protect high-risk individuals worshipping with us.

Masks are optional during worship & Sunday school, unless Elkhart County's Community Risk Level becomes "High" – in which case masks will be required indoors for everyone over age 2. We encourage everyone to stay up to date on vaccinations and boosters, and encourage anyone who is not feeling well to join us on Zoom.

**Parents should contact Sunday school teachers directly if they are sending kids to Sunday school during days 6 through 10 after a positive COVID test. During this time children are asked to wear a mask during Sunday school and sit apart from the group during snack.**

For more information visit <https://assemblymennonite.org/covid-19-information/>

## CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



**Safia Sywulka (6<sup>th</sup> BCS)** turned 12 on Jan 3! Safia likes art class, spending time with friends, rollerblading, playing volleyball and watching movies and spending time with her family. When she was visiting her grandparents in Guatemala, she enjoyed spending time outside and in the tree house. She plays flute and autoharp and likes running errands with her mom. When she has nothing else to do, she listens to audio books!



**Stefan Magatti (4<sup>th</sup> BCS)** turned 10 on Jan 12! Stefan just moved and really likes his new house. He likes to play kickball and recess and is on the newsletter team at school. He also enjoys his classroom job as clerk. He likes to build and play Lego and enact Pokémon gym battles with his brother. He would like to get better at soccer and travel to Italy and Florida.

## COMING UP

<https://assemblymennonite.org/about/calendar/>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	TH	FRI	SAT
Jan 22 • 8:45am Young adult breakfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 2pm MYF at the Meetinghouse	Jan 23 • 4:30 & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group				Jan 27 • 9am Play group	
Jan 29 • 8:45am Young adult breakfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	Jan 30 • 4:30 & 6pm Yoga		Feb 1 • 1pm Women's lunch bunch • 5:30pm Small group childcare		Feb 3 • 9:30am Greencroft meet up	
Feb 5 • 8:45am Young adult breakfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 12pm Fellowship meal	Feb 6 • 4:30 & 6pm Yoga	Feb 7 • 7pm Leadership group			Feb 10 • 9am Play group	Feb 11 • 3pm Mentor/Mentee event

### Assembly Mennonite Church

#### Pastoral Team

Karl Shelly [karlss@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org) 574-621-1037  
 Anna Yoder Schlabach [annays@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:annays@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-5319  
 Scott Coulter [scottc@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org) 419-535-2918  
 Lora Nafziger [loracn@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:loracn@assemblymennonite.org) 574-312-0732  
**Pastoral Intern:** Stephen Lowe [sclowe@ambs.edu](mailto:sclowe@ambs.edu)

**Pastor Emeritae:** Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

**Elders:** Randy Roth (chair), Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Sara Morris, Cheryl Shreiner, Ben Good-Elliott

**Youth Coordinators:** Erich Miller, Marlette Gomez Wengerd, Ryan Gomez Wengerd, Gretchen Krause

**Administrative Assistant:** Becky Overholt (Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) [office@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org); 574-534-4190

**Church Administrator:** Naomi Roots (Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-12pm) [naomikr@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org)

Please email announcements to [assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org](mailto:assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org) by 11PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**Privileges of the Child:** In our congregation, we do our best to honor children and respect their questions and development. We hope that our congregation is a place where children know they are known and loved by each person and by God. Last week, during children's time, when a number of developmentally appropriate answers were given, we the listeners, laughed. That laughter was a reminder to me that *The Privileges of the Child* are a spiritual practice, and we need to be reminded of our commitments to children. In the next few weeks, we will be reading [The Privileges of the Child](#) before children's time. If you have questions about them please feel free to contact me, [Lora Nafziger](#).

- **The Privileges of the Child in Assembly:** *To give answers during children's time without being laughed at.* Children are not a show for adults' humor. They are earnest and giving careful answers. Sometimes it is difficult not to laugh, but we try our best.
- **The Privileges of the Child in Assembly:** *To be in the midst of the congregation, not on the sidelines.* Children at Assembly are a part of the congregation in their wholeness. We see and hear them as they participate during worship. In them we are reminded of and see the many faces of God.

**Out of town:** Karl Shelly will be out of town Jan 23 thru Jan 29. Contact Scott Coulter, Anna Yoder Schlabach, or Lora Nafziger for any pastoral needs.

**The Leader Selection process** is the way the Assembly congregation discerns who will serve in various volunteer leadership roles in the coming year. We do this discernment in small groups. **If you are not in a small group** but you want to volunteer yourself for a committee, you are invited to [complete the online Leader Selection Worksheet](#). If you have any questions about the process, please talk with your small group rep, or you may talk to one of the pastors. Worksheets are **due by Sunday Feb 19!**

**Small group reps** met on Tuesday and discussed the Leader Selection process now underway -- where we volunteer our time and nominate others to a variety of committees and tasks that help keep the congregation humming. We also talked about the various ways small groups provide pastoral care in their groups. Ask your small group rep for details about these and other agenda items.

**Small group childcare.** The next small group childcare is Wednesday, Feb 1 from 5:30-8:30pm. [Please RSVP here](#) by Jan 30.

**Weekly Friday morning 9am play group.** Parents are invited to bring their children to the Meetinghouse room 2A to spend an hour together. Parents are invited to bring projects like knitting, crochet, etc. while you visit with other adults. A snack will be provided. Questions? Contact [Lora Nafziger](#).

## DOING JUSTICE & SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

**Helping Your Neighbors:** Some churches in Elkhart are organizing English as a Second (ESL) classes for adults. Teachers are needed for the next session of classes, March 9-May 25, 2023 meeting at Prairie Street Mennonite Church. Sessions are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6:30-8:00pm. Volunteering once or twice a week is your choice. Materials are provided. You do not need to be a trained teacher. If desired, you may start as an assistant-in-training working with a veteran teacher. You do not need to be able to speak Spanish. Please contact Sueann VonGuten, [vonalter2@gmail.com](mailto:vonalter2@gmail.com) or 574-612-3108 with your interest or questions. Approximately 20 teachers are needed to teach all of the classes. If you have friends who might be interested, encourage them to call or write.

**Goshen Resident ID card.** In 2017, Center for Healing & Hope expanded its services to include immigrant advocacy programming. The first major initiative to take place during that time was the ability to offer what is known as the Goshen Resident ID, or "GRID" card. The card provides tangible benefits to navigating the challenges of settling in a new location. The card can be used to open a library account giving access to information, the internet, and other resources. It provides verified identification for the person carrying the card when that person interacts with community officials, such as law enforcement, city services, and schools. It can even be helpful when purchasing prescriptions or money handling transactions at approved locations. Local business supporters have also signed on to offer small "perks" when cardholders present their GRID card, creating a further sense of welcome. Chances are you have a driver's license at arm's reach. Perhaps you're thinking the GRID card isn't for you. You'd be accurate in the assumption that you don't *need* a GRID card. **The greatest benefit of the GRID card may not actually be the benefit YOU receive, but the way it benefits others.** When established local "allies" get a GRID card they do two important things - they pay \$25 to

Center for Healing & Hope to receive their card which supports the sustainability of the program, and they reduce stigmas attached to immigrants arriving in the community by showing solidarity with our neighbors. As such, we encourage anyone interested to register for their very own GRID card. Your GRID card could be the opening line in a story of hope for someone new to our community. **To schedule an appointment to register for your GRID card, call 574-534-4744 ext. 209 or text “GRID” and your preferred language to 574-205-9425.**

**LaCasa Annual Luncheon - save the date.** [LaCasa](#) is a local faith-based ministry that works at housing in Elkhart County, and financial empowerment. Their annual luncheon fundraiser is Wednesday, March 15, 12-1pm, at the Crystal Ballroom at the Lerner. For more info or to RSVP, email [andee.huxhold@lacasainc.net](mailto:andee.huxhold@lacasainc.net)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Center for Community Justice (CCJ)** is hosting [Tim Cunningham](#), a well-known jazz musician, in a benefit concert on February 7 at 6 p.m. at the 112 Club, 112 South 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Elkhart. The proceeds from the Tim Cunningham concert will be a contribution toward a capital campaign that will allow CCJ to purchase a new building in downtown Elkhart providing space that will give us room to grow and thrive. Tickets are \$40 if purchased by Jan 23; \$45 after that date. Purchase tickets [here](#).

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Interfaith Inquiry**, a group exploring varied religious traditions, will meet Thursday, January 26th at 10:30 am at the Goshen Public Library auditorium. Rabbi from Temple Bethel will be the presenter via Zoom. All are welcome.

**MCC and MCUSA are partnering in a new webinar series, [Beyond incarceration: A hard look at dismantling the prison system and building healthy communities](#).** Join us to learn about the ways the faith community is actively understanding and working against these complex systems of confinement. The webinars will take place on Feb. 7, Feb. 21, March 7, and March 21 at 7:30 pm EST. They will be followed by learning tour opportunities in different parts of the U.S. Registration link: [mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars](http://mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars)

**Online Short Course: Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: Feb. 1 – March 14.** Join David Cramer, PhD, and Susannah Larry, PhD, to study how 16th-century Anabaptists approached Scripture — as compared with Catholics and other Protestants — and to understand those similarities and differences in light of today. [ambs.edu/online-short-courses](http://ambs.edu/online-short-courses)

**Fully online seminary degree.** Check out Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary’s fully online **Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism!** The 46-credit-hour academic degree program can be completed in four years of part-time study and offers a global approach to Anabaptist theological education. [ambs.edu/matga](http://ambs.edu/matga)

## PATHWAYS RETREAT

**Broken and New: A Lenten Journey.** Using nature and our personal narratives as inspiration, join this weekly Lenten journey and explore where you may have an emerging sense of belonging and of offering yourself and your gifts to God’s beloved world. More details can be found [here](#).

**Rest, Reflect, Renew Lenten Retreat**—March 4, 9:30am-2:30pm. Open to six participants. \$60. [Read more information here](#).

## WIDER CHURCH

**MC USA prayer request:** This Friday and Saturday, please pray for the Mennonite Church USA Executive Board, as they meet online by Zoom. May God grant them wisdom and clarity during their time together.

**Colombia Virtual Tour – Feb 4, 4pm ET.** Join Community Peacemaker Team Colombia for a virtual tour as we continue spreading voices and struggles of peaceful resistance to different parts of the world and hear directly from partner organizations and communities. In the virtual tour, we will get to know the city of Barrancabermeja, where the team is based, and visit the Museum of Memory and Human Rights of Women with the Popular Women’s Organization. We will then travel up the Magdalena river to El Guayabo, where we will listen and learn about the community’s struggles, organizing process, activism, and fight for justice and dignified life. The virtual tour will be hosted on Zoom, after which there will be a Q&A session where you can ask our guests questions. [Sign up for the virtual visit here.](#)

**Central District Conference Mid-year Gatherings:** Feb 11, 9:45a-3p ET at Columbus Mennonite Church in Columbus OH. Registration deadline is Feb 3. AND March 4, 9:45a-3p CT at First Mennonite Church in Urbana IL. Registration deadline is Feb 24. Both are in person or on Zoom. [Register here.](#) Schedule can be seen [here.](#)

The [January edition](#) of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: get more details on how to register for the MDS Annual Celebration in Pennsylvania next month; read the latest on the MDS response to flooding in Eastern Kentucky; and learn how MDS Canada volunteers are helping hurricane victims in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

**In November 2022, the National Faith Leaders Climate Roundtable**, which is made up of 16 U.S. denominational leaders — including Glen Guyton, Mennonite Church USA’s Executive Director — gathered to discuss climate justice. They acknowledged the importance of engaging local congregations and communities to reach their climate goals. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/accelerate-climate-action](https://mennoniteusa.org/accelerate-climate-action)

**Everence scholarships available.** College Scholarships are offered to youth of Everence members. Eligible students may be chosen to receive \$3,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000 for the upcoming academic year. Applications are accepted through February 28th. Visit : <https://www.everence.com/living-the-values/grants-and-scholarships-and-awards> for more details.

**Register for Grand Camp at Camp Friedenswald!** [Grand Camp](#) (March 31-April 1) provides a weekend filled with quality time for grandparents (or grand-friends) and grandchildren to make memories together at Friedenswald. This one-night camp will include times of storytelling, guided conversations, art projects and time in nature. Lisa Weaver will be sharing stories from her co-authored book *Let the Children Come to Me*. The theme this year is “Walking with Jesus.”

**Mennonite Mission Network prayer request.** Pray, with Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission and Mennonite Mission Network, for the Mennonite churches in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which continue to bring the message of God’s healing and love to those who were injured and traumatized by the *Kamuina Nsapu* rebellion four years ago.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Goshen Public Library** is seeking a committed customer service representative to work as a part-time (20-25 hrs/week) Library Assistant in our Circulation Department. The ideal candidate commits to serving Goshen’s diverse populations and views the library as a place where information transforms lives. We are particularly looking for a candidate who can enrich our service to the Spanish speaking community. [Spanish language fluency is required.](#) [CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to apply.

**Bethany Christian School** job openings can be found [here](#). **Goshen College** job openings can be found [here](#). **AMBS** job openings can be found [here](#). **Other Mennonite Education** job postings can be found [here](#). **Mennonite Church USA's** job postings are [here](#).