

WORSHIP

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

<p style="text-align: center;">Feb 26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30AM Worship & Sunday school <i>First Sunday of Lent</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Becky Snider Sermon: Lora Nafziger Scripture: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7, Matthew 4:1-11</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30AM Worship & Sunday school <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i> <i>2% Offering</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Stephen Lowe Sermon: Becky Smuts Scripture: Genesis 12:1-4a, John 3:1-17</p>
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SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26

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

9:30am Worship. [Click here for Order of Worship.](#) Today is the first Sunday of Lent. This year we're using a Lenten series created by A Sanctified Art. This series is founded on questions. Many of the questions feel restorative ("Can these bones live?"). Some feel like a charge or challenge ("Who will you listen to?"). Some questions are hopeful and curious ("How do we begin again?"). Our questions won't necessarily lead to answers, but they can help us find clarity and a new perspective. Ultimately, we pray they lead to a new beginning, a restoration, a wider grace. Please [read the Lent intro here.](#)

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

Second hour. There are three opportunities to engage in second hour:

- Anabaptist Bible Study: Multipurpose North. Sarah Augustine of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery is encouraging congregations in the Repair Network to participate in the Anabaptist Bible. This study bible project is intended to reflect the Anabaptist church in all of its diversity at this point in time, 500 years after the Radical Reformation. Karl Shelly will be facilitating.
- Lament Hymn Sing: Worship Space
- Poetry prompts: Multipurpose Table (self-led)

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.

<p>Assembly Mennonite Church Pastoral Team Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037 Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319 Scott Coulter scottc@assemblymennonite.org 419-535-2918 Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732 Pastoral Intern: Stephen Lowe sclowe@ambs.edu Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Administrative Assistant: Becky Overholt (Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) office@assemblymennonite.org; 574-534-4190 Church Administrator: Naomi Roots (Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-12pm) naomikr@assemblymennonite.org</p>	
<p>Please email announcements to 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.</p>	

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Feb 26 ● 8:45am Young adult breakfast ● 9:30am Worship & Sunday school ● 7pm Repair Ministry team on Zoom	Feb 27 ● 6:30pm Dance group	Feb 28 ● 7:15pm Small group reps mtg	Mar 1 ● 1pm Lunch Bunch ● 6pm Lent Meal & Evensong		Mar 3 ● 9am Play group ● 9:30am Greencroft meet up	
Mar 5 ● 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	Mar 6 ● 10am Grief group	Mar 7 ● 7pm Leadership group	Mar 8 ● 6pm Lent Meal & Evensong		Mar 10 ● 9am Play group	
Mar 12 ● 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	Mar 13 ● 10am Grief group ● 6:30pm Dance group on Zoom (contact Linda Schlabach Miller for the link)		Mar 15 ● 6pm Lent Meal & Evensong		● 9am Play group	

LENT ACTIVITIES Feb 26-Apr 9

For more details on events throughout Lent, the season's worship theme, and who will be preaching, please [read the Lent intro here](#).

March 1, 8, 15, 22: Meal and Evensong service/children's worship activities 6 pm Please bring your own bowls and utensils. Bread and soup will be provided. Each week we'll use the Anabaptist prayerbook as the structure of a simple evening service of prayer, scripture, and music. Children's worship will be led by Lora and childcare for preschoolers will be provided.

April 6 Maundy Thursday Soup and bread supper and foot washing 6 p.m. (children welcome)

April 7 Good Friday service with Faith Mennonite 7 pm. Intended for adults and older children

April 8 Family-friendly Easter Vigil More information to follow.

April 9 Easter Sunrise Service 7am, Steve Shantz's house

April 9 Easter Service with feast during service (bring Easter finger foods and flowers to share)

LENT RESOURCES

Online Lenten study group: Feb 27-Apr 9. Join Diana Butler Bass and Tripp Fuller for *Empty Altars: American Saints in a Cynical Age*. Explore history, spirituality, and social change through the lives of American Saints in hopes of moving beyond the cynicism of our age. [Click here](#) for more information.

Easter Stories – A visual Lenten series. John Dominic Crossan is a renowned New Testament scholar and author of many books exploring the historical Jesus and early Christian communities. In this lecture series, he will explore the different Easter stories that emerged in the church, East and West, and how they can inspire a more compelling vision today. The visual lecture series is donation based (including 0). You can find info and register at www.EasterWithCrossan.com

Lent Retreat at Pathways Retreat: Participate in a retreat this Lenten season: Rest Reflect Renew Lenten Retreat. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org.

2023 Lent at Home. "Created in the Image of God, Shaped By Jesus," is the theme for Lent at Home 2023 worship guide authored by Talashia Keim Yoder. [Download it here for free](#) in English or Spanish.

GRIEF & PASTORAL CARE

March Grief Group: Join with others who have experienced grief for the four Mondays in March at 10 a.m. in the worship space or nursery. Led by Anna Yoder Schlabach and Kathleen Jones. Grief is complicated and ongoing, and many of us are carrying it. Our goal is to create a space where people at different places on their grief journey can share their experiences and learn from each other in a semi-structured setting. This group is intended for those who are grieving the particular loss of a loved one (although we recognize that people carry grief from other things as well.) Our hope is that people can commit to attending at least three out of the four weeks. Please email annays@assemblymennonite.org to participate or with questions.

DOING JUSTICE

The Assembly Repair Ministry team will meet by Zoom at 7:00 pm, **this Sunday February 26th**. Be prepared to discuss our recent series, and thoughts regarding next steps.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Period products: Nearly 1 in 5 people who menstruate in the USA have either left school/work early or skipped school/work because they do not have access to period products. A group of women here at Assembly have been supplying pads, tampons and cleansing cloths to Goshen public schools, NIJC and First Light Mission. If you'd like to help, please put your products in the tub beneath the mailboxes. We currently have no supplies. We are glad for the products anytime; we need lots of products by March 5 to fulfill these requests. Please buy unscented products that are individually wrapped. Pads are used more than tampons. Thin pads, all sizes but without wings, are preferred. We also distribute personal cleansing cloths, again unscented, and new panties in school girls' sizes. If you would like products for distribution, say in your classroom or workplace, we're glad to provide to you also. If you can help put packs together, take this survey to help decide a time. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5C26Y7Z>. Contact SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com with questions.

First Light Mission (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network): Susan Mark Landis, our rep, recently toured FLM with Mindy. [Attached](#) is her report, including volunteer opportunities, donation needs and cautions.

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Els and Karl Shelly wish to thank the congregation for its support and love following Alton Shelly's death and especially at the memorial service. Your kind words, cards, and tangible expressions of care were deeply appreciated.

Out of office: Anna Yoder Schlabach will be on vacation from Feb 23-28. Scott Coulter will be on vacation from Feb 24-March 3. Contact Lora Nafziger or Karl Shelly for any pastoral needs.

Two percent committee will meet March 5 at 8:00 am at the Meeting House. Please contact SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com with suggestions or requests. Remember that we give to established organizations, not individuals. We don't begin programs. Other members on the committee are Barb Swartley, Glenn Gilbert, Barb Hassan, Joel Zwier and Marshall King.

Anabaptist World magazine subscription – The group subscription price through Assembly is \$39. Please let the office know by March 1 if you would like to sign up (office@assemblymennonite.org or 574-534-4190). Make your check out to Assembly Mennonite Church and note "AW" on the check.

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.

No Small group childcare in March. Due to the Wednesday supper and evensong, we will not be having small group childcare in March. The next childcare night will be Wednesday April 12 from 5:30-8pm.

CELEBRATING THE ARTS

Bethany Christian Schools play: Attend Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!" presented by Bethany Christian Upper School. Showing March 3 & 4 at 7pm and March 5 at 3pm, this hour-long performance is geared specifically to young children, but it's guaranteed to earn smiles and laughter from audience members of all ages. **A special children's matinee performance will be held on Saturday March 4 at 10am, followed by a special cookie reception with the cast of the musical.** AMC Cast members include Leah Hochstetler & Joryn Yoder. Crew members include Gaige Hochstetler, Geoffrey Hochstetler and Adam Siemens-Rhodes. For more information and to purchase tickets, [click here](#).

Eastern Mennonite University Chamber Singers concert at East Goshen Mennonite church on March 7 at 7pm. The theme of this year's program is Local and Global: songs of peace and justice. They will feature styles and composers from the Shenandoah Valley, as well as a variety of others from around the world to look at aspects of peace and justice. Programs are free of charge, and a love offering will be taken to support the choir's travel expenses, as they are also touring Mennonite Churches in the Netherlands and Germany in May. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board by the mailboxes.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Childhood trauma webinar – Feb 28 at 8pm ET. Anabaptist Disabilities Network is partnering with the Church of the Brethren Discipleship Ministries to bring you "A Small World: Building Resiliency and Hope after Childhood Trauma," a free webinar hosted by Jon-Eric Misz. [Register here](#).

Online Short Course: Resisting Christian Nationalism with the Gospel of Peace: April 12 – May 9. Join Drew Strait, PhD, in this four-week online AMBS short course to deepen your understanding of White Christian nationalism and explore practical and effective nonviolent strategies for resisting it — drawing insights from how Jesus countered oppression. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by March 22 to save \$50. ams.edu/online-short-courses

WIDER CHURCH

Daily prayers for Mennonite Education for March can be found [here](#).

Mennonite World Conference *Courier* magazine can be read [here](#).

The most recent Central District Conference *Connector* can be read [here](#).

Mennonite Mission Network prayer request. Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Iglesia Cristiana Menonita del Perú (Mennonite Christian Church of Peru), as they witness about the Prince of Peace during a time of national unrest.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Hively Avenue Preschool in Elkhart is seeking a PreK teacher. The ideal candidate should enjoy creating hands-on curriculum, have excellent classroom management skills, and be comfortable working and sharing one's faith in a small church setting. If interested, please send a resume to the director: preschool@hivelymennonite.org.

MDS is hiring! Mennonite Disaster Service is building our team and searching for qualified, motivated individuals who have a knowledge of and passion for the MDS mission, vision and values and a commitment to the Anabaptist church. We are searching for a **Coordinator for Weekly Volunteers** to coordinate recruiting, scheduling, and placement of weekly volunteers. [Visit our website](#) for more information.

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](#).

Current COVID-19 Information (Feb 24, 2023)

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

Please join on Zoom if you are feeling sick.

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/>