



## Assembly Mennonite Church

727 New York St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

<https://assemblymennonite.org/>

<mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org>

[Find COVID-19 Information Here](#)

## AssemblyLine

May 14, 2023

Volume XLII, Number 20

### WORSHIP

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

<p><b>May 14</b> 9:30AM Worship &amp; Sunday School</p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Michael Miller <b>Sermon:</b> Karl Shelly <b>Scripture:</b> Psalm 31</p>	<p><b>May 21</b> 9:30AM Worship &amp; Sunday School <i>Bicycle Blessing</i></p> <p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Jonathon Schramm <b>Sermon:</b> Lisa Koop <b>Scripture:</b> Psalm 66 &amp; 146</p>
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### SUNDAY MAY 14

**9:30am Worship** [Click here for Order of Worship](#). This is the fourth Sunday of our Eastertide series on Praise and Lament. [For the full series introduction, click here](#). This morning will also include the baptism of Aydian Smuts. Please welcome him and share words of encouragement with him.

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

**Second hour** There are three options to participate in 2<sup>nd</sup> hour:

- **The Land is Not Empty book discussion—north side of MP space.** All are invited to discuss Sarah Augustine's important book, "*The Land is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery*." Barb Hassan will be leading the discussion this week.
- **Some Assembly Required—west side of MP North.** This Assembly elective is for anyone who is new(ish) to Assembly - along with anyone newly curious about how Assembly works, and its unique practices and history. In this week's session we will talk about [the Assembly Covenant and Practices](#). Hosted by Scott Coulter. *To find the classroom in MP North: Walk past the mailboxes to the north entrance of the meetinghouse, then turn left (west) to go down the north hallway. Some Assembly Required is across from room 12.*
- **Worship Training Elective—Worship space.** Join the worship committee for a hands-on worship elective. Learn to lead worship, lead singing, and plan a worship service. Intended for beginners or experienced folks who want to get better!

**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><b>Assembly Mennonite Church</b> <b>Pastoral Team</b> Karl Shelly <a href="mailto:karlss@assemblymennonite.org">karlss@assemblymennonite.org</a> 574-621-1037 Anna Yoder Schlabach (<i>on sabbatical</i>) Scott Coulter <a href="mailto:scottc@assemblymennonite.org">scottc@assemblymennonite.org</a> 419-535-2918 Lora Nafziger <a href="mailto:loracn@assemblymennonite.org">loracn@assemblymennonite.org</a> 574-312-0732 <b>Pastor Emeritae:</b> Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p><b>Elders:</b> Randy Roth (chair), Sandy Fribley, Eric Yordy, Leon Bauman, Sara Morris, Cheryl Shreiner, Ben Good-Elliott <b>Youth Coordinators:</b> Erich Miller, Marlette Gomez Wengerd, Ryan Gomez Wengerd, Gretchen Krause</p>
<p><b>Administrative Assistant:</b> Becky Overholt (Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm) <a href="mailto:office@assemblymennonite.org">office@assemblymennonite.org</a>; 574-534-4190 <b>Church Administrator:</b> Naomi Roots (Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-12pm) <a href="mailto:naomikr@assemblymennonite.org">naomikr@assemblymennonite.org</a></p>	
<p>Please email announcements to <a href="mailto:assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org">assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org</a> by 11PM local time Thursday for inclusion in the following Sunday's AssemblyLine. To receive the AssemblyLine via email visit <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Aline-subscribe">https://tinyurl.com/Aline-subscribe</a>.</p>	

# COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
May 14 •9:30am Worship •11am Sunday school & Electives for Adults	May 15 • 6-7:30pm Yoga Mini Retreat	May 16 • 7pm Gardening group			May 19 • 9am Play group	
May 21 •9:30am Worship •11am Sunday school & Electives for Adults •12pm Bicycle blessing & ride •7pm Congregational meeting	May 22 • 4:30 & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group	May 23 • 7pm Gardening group • 7:15pm Small group reps mtg			May 26 • 9am Play group • 3:30pm Creative Movement class	
May 28 <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> •9:30am Worship •11am Sunday school & Electives for Adults •12pm Fellowship meal	May 29 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Office closed</i>	May 30 • 7pm Gardening group			June 2 • 9:30am Greencroft meet up	

## BIRTHDAYS



**Congratulations** to Adam, Karen, Reuben & Hezekiah Graber Roth on the birth of Evelyn Carol on May 8! [Sign up](#) on meal train to take them a meal.

**Norah Janzen (4<sup>th</sup>, Bethany) turned 11 on May 10<sup>th</sup>!** Norah enjoys reading realistic fiction and fantasy. She also likes to read about different places in the world and would enjoy travel to Germany or India. She likes arts and crafts projects and recently has enjoyed making slime. She plays piano, explores her ravine, bakes cookies and enjoys hanging out with friends. She is looking forward to visiting Colorado this summer.



**Eliana Gomez Wengerd (PreK, CCYC) turns 4 on May 15<sup>th</sup>!** Eliana likes to play ball with her brother Mateo, ride her bike, and play in the sand at school. She also likes to have dance parties at school. She likes reading stories at bedtime, cooking with her mom and reading stories with her dad. When she gets bigger she wants to play soccer with her big sister! Mac and cheese and ice cream are her favorite foods!



**Johanna Sutter turns 90 on May 13!** Johanna was born in Germany and first came to the United States as an IVEPer in 1952. She returned to stay in 1956 and became an elementary school teacher. She received her teaching degree from Goshen College and her master's degree from IU. She has volunteered at The Depot for 24 years making thousands of MCC school and health kits to send around the world. Johanna enjoys playing games, doing sudoku and traveling.

## COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

**Pastoral Transition:** Please [read the letter](#) from Lora that was sent out on the listserv earlier this week.

**Congregational Meeting May 21:** Plan to join this month's congregational meeting Sunday May 21 at 7pm, in person at the meetinghouse. Agenda items will include affirmation of [the slate of Committees and Positions for 2023-2024](#), responding to a recently completed Accessibility Audit at Assembly, and the upcoming launch of a Capital Campaign to [pay down the mortgage](#).

**Elder selection:** Assembly's new elder-selection process has each small group nominate potential elders, and later determine whether those nominated are well-qualified and a good fit for this time. Then two names are randomly drawn from the list of qualified candidates to fill the two open positions. The persons selected in the recent draw were Trevor Daugherty and Ben Sywulka. Pending affirmation from the congregation, they will serve 3-year terms on the Leadership Group beginning in August.

**Lost & Found:** All of the items from Lost & Found are in the Multipurpose space on top of the chair cabinets. Please claim your items. After May 21, all remaining items will be donated to The Depot.

**Tuesday gardening gathering!** This Tuesday at 7pm Jonathon Schramm will be leading the group in removing invasive species from our native beds around the perimeter of the parking lot, and laying mulch to prevent more unwanted growth. Bring your favorite weeding and mulching tools along with your gardening gloves and help Assembly keep our green spaces beautiful!

**Yoga Mini Retreat May 15:** You are invited to join Alma Boyle in the Multipurpose Space of Assembly for a SPRING CHAKRA MINI RETREAT on Monday May 15th from 6pm until 7.30pm. This slow flow restorative practice will help to till our inner soil, clear stagnation, rejuvenate and energize us as we move along with the change of the seasons. Please come and support a worthy cause and be refreshed in body and mind. We'll finish the evening with some refreshing tea and wholesome cookies! All proceeds will be donated to support First Light Mission. Suggested donation of \$20.

**Creative Movement Class May 26:** Kids ages 4-8 are invited to join us for our May Creative Movement Class on Friday, 5/26, from 3:30-4:30pm. Participants will explore the world of dance through creative storytelling, movement activities, rhythm exploration and more! This month's theme is Garden Get-Up. Please [register](#) before 5/22 to reserve a spot. Contact Sara Morris with any questions.

**Men's group(s):** one Saturday per month, there's an opportunity for those identifying as male to have breakfast and conversation with a small group of other men from Assembly. The aim is to intentionally get to know and support one another, fellowship, explore healthy masculinity from an Anabaptist lens, and discuss and dismantle patriarchy. Interested? Contact Leon Bauman, Sean Smuts, and Jon Zirkle to learn more.

**Temporary home for quail:** I am looking for a temporary home for my pet quails over the summer while I'm away from Goshen, from the end of May to the end of August. I currently have six button quail (*Synoicus chinensis*). They are small, fairly low maintenance, and lay tiny eggs! They are okay with outdoor temperatures, but I recommend keeping them in an enclosed area. I will provide all resources needed to take care of them (food, enclosures, etc.), and am willing to discuss extra compensation. Please email me, Mira Yoder, at [mirayoder@gmail.com](mailto:mirayoder@gmail.com) if you are interested!

## BICYCLE BLESSING

The annual MYF end of season Bike Ride will be next Sunday, May 21st. Meet at the church with your bikes at 9:30am. We will be biking to Oxbow and back ending with brunch at GBCo with the aim to be back by 1:00. Bring helmets, water, snacks, sunscreen and money for brunch.

**Bicycle Blessing – Next Sunday, May 21 after worship.** Our annual bike blessing ritual is coming up, and all are invited to participate. If able, ride your bike to church that day. And if interested, join others for a post-blessing bike ride – young families to Reith Park for a cook-out (see below); or a bit longer ride (10 miles one-way) via the Pumpkinvine bike path to Wedgewood Brewing for food and beverages.

**Reith Park meet up next Sunday, May 21:** People with playground-age kids are invited to gather after the bike blessing this Sunday at the Reith park pavilion. We will provide plates, hot dogs, buns and condiments. Bring a bag of chips, cookies, or carrots to share. (Or other finger food sides that you can easily bike with). The splash pad will not be open yet. We have reserved the Pavillion but there will likely be plenty of other kids around. Please let Lora know if you plan to come so that we have enough hot dogs.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**FREE Nature Fest at Merry Lea May 12, 7-10pm & May 13, 8:30am-3:30pm:** Celebrate spring during our annual Nature Fest! This free and fun-filled festival features various family and BioBlitz (science investigations) activities at Merry Lea. All ages are welcome to participate in canoeing and campfires Friday evening. On Saturday, there will be two different tracks that participants may engage in: family-oriented activities and BioBlitz (science investigations) activities. Family activities include canoeing, guided hikes, nature crafts, exploring Merry Lea Teaching Farm and more. BioBlitz activities could include animal & plant identification, dipping for macroinvertebrates and more. Drop in for just some of these activities or join us for all of them! Please check-in at our Farmstead Barn. Our staff will need to stay informed as guests arrive on site. For a schedule & more information, [click here](#).

**Concert at Greencroft:** Joyce and Jep Hostetler invite you to attend a concert at **3 p.m., May 20 at the Greencroft Community Center.** Singer, songwriter, and storyteller Phil Hart and his bass playing friend, Steve Rolfe, have given concerts to appreciative audiences in the Columbus, Ohio area for many years. Their original music includes songs like “Jesus was a Migrant” and “Dumpster Diving.” There will be a freewill offering.

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY

**Stamp out Hunger – Saturday, May 13.** Goshen residents are asked to put out boxes or bags of non-perishable food (no glass containers) by their mailboxes by 9AM. Volunteers from The Window & The Salvation Army will collect, weigh, and deliver to the pantries by the end of the day.

**Camp Friedenswald needs new double and queen size knotted comforters.** If you are interested in sharing your gifts in this way, please contact Jess at [Camp@Friedenswald.org](mailto:Camp@Friedenswald.org). The comforters are provided on each bed in camp lodges, providing comfort, warmth and color! Thank you for helping us share hospitality with all who come to Camp Friedenswald.

## WIDER CHURCH

Read the most recent Camp Friedenswald newsletter [here](#).

**A contest open to all high school students grades 9-12!** The [Center on Conscience & War](#) (CCW) is hosting a video essay contest for teens. Founded in 1940, CCW is a non-profit organization that advocates for the rights of conscience, opposes military conscription, and serves all conscientious objectors to war. To enter, [submit your short video and brief essay](#) telling the world why you oppose the draft and why you think the US should repeal Selective Service, ending decades of draft registration and overturning damaging penalties against those who do not register.

**Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer** On Monday, Colleen and Pablo Fast plan to travel from Brazil to the United States for 3 ½ months of sharing with their supporting congregations and individuals about how God is working in Brazil. Join Mennonite Mission Network in praying for their rest and renewal, as they also reconnect with family and friends.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**Webinar: Queer Justice/Racial Justice: Fractures and Intersections in MCUSA – May 24 at 7pm ET.** Registration link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsce6uqj8jHNJZHIREQKdYJLFB\\_R26NJ\\_s](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsce6uqj8jHNJZHIREQKdYJLFB_R26NJ_s)

**Registration now open! Rooted and Grounded Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship: Sept. 28–30** at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Attend in person or virtually! This conference on “Pathways through Climate Doom: Resistance and Resilience” will examine theological, biblical and pastoral care responses to climate doom. How do people of faith combine active engagement and deeply rooted hope? Keynote speakers: Kaitlin Curtice; Leah Thomas, PhD; and Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, PhD. [ambs.edu/rooted-and-grounded](https://ambs.edu/rooted-and-grounded)

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**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 (May 12, 2023)**

In Elkhart County, Indiana, the [COVID-19 Community Risk 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 (newly updated) information visit <https://assemblymennonite.org/covid-19-information/>