

WORSHIP

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

<p style="text-align: center;">September 3 9:30AM Worship <i>2% Offering</i> <i>No Sunday School</i> <i>Fellowship Meal</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Stephen Lowe Table Liturgy Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">September 10 9:30AM Worship & Sunday School 2nd hour Hymn sing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Leader: Jeannette Hughes Sermon: Anna Yoder Schlabach Scripture: Genesis 2:4b-25</p>
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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3

9:30am Worship. [The Order of Worship can be read here.](#) This Sunday we'll be gathering in the Multipurpose Space (not the worship space) around tables for a Table Liturgy Service. We encourage you to come a little early if it's important for you and your family to sit at a table together.

Fellowship Meal following worship! The Hospitality Committee requests that households with names beginning with A through L bring a side or salad, and M through Z bring a main dish. Everyone should feel free to bring a dessert in addition. If you prefer to bring something different than requested that's fine; what's important is to have plenty of all types of food. Please bring items that don't require longer than 1 hour to heat up. **Please label your food with any allergens (including gluten, dairy, nuts), and please deliver your food to the kitchen before worship. Remember to bring table service for your family.**

Sharing Prayer Requests. Prayer requests are sent out to the congregation via the Assembly listserv on Wednesdays. If you have something to share with the congregation and are not able to share it on Sunday morning during sharing time, [please fill out this Google Form](#). If you wish a pastor to follow up with you, please contact a pastor directly via email or phone.

<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: Isaiah Friesen ifriesen@ambs.edu Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder</p>	<p>Elders: Sara Morris (chair), Randy Roth, Leon Bauman, Cheryl Shreiner, Trevor Daugherty, Ben Sywulka, Alex Graber Neufeld Youth Coordinators: 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 (M,W, 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 https://tinyurl.com/Aline-subscribe.</p>	

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Sept 3 • 9:30am Worship No Sunday school • 11am Fellowship meal • 2pm Retreat Comm.		Sept 5 • 7pm Leadership group	Sept 6 • 1pm Lunch bunch • 5:30-8pm Small group childcare			
Sept 10 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 2nd hour Hymn sing	Sept 11 • 10am & 6pm: Yoga	Sept 12 • 6:30pm Labyrinth walk • 7pm Gardening				Sept 16 • 3pm MYF
Sept 17 • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 2nd hour Congregational meeting	Sept 18 • 10am & 6pm: Yoga					

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Noah Wells (3rd Benton Elementary) turned 9 on August 24th! Noah is good at scaring his brother, playing Minecraft, baseball and reading! He enjoys school, swimming and going on vacation with his family. He had a sleepover for his birthday (which was epic) and would like to travel to Hawaii someday.

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Pastoral coverage: Karl Shelly will be out of town Aug 31-Sept 18. Lora Nafziger will be out of town Sept 4-10. Please contact Scott Coulter or Anna Yoder Schlabach during this time for any pastoral needs.

Welcome to Isaiah Friesen, our AMBS pastoral intern for the school year! Isaiah is married to Andrea Moya. After growing up in the Midwest, Isaiah has studied and lived in several Latin American countries. He has been taking seminary classes since 2017 and has worked in various ministry roles in Anabaptist, Methodist, and other ecumenical settings. Isaiah enjoys running marathons and learning new languages. He is especially passionate about the church's mission at the intersection of land, water, environmental justice, and decolonization. Please make him feel welcomed!

Lunch Bunch: Women are invited this Wednesday September 6 @1pm at the meetinghouse. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be served as we plan for the year. Come with ideas for speakers and topics about which you want to hear. RSVP to Amy Kauffman @ zbamygk@gmail.com.

Fall Worship: Origin stories. Over the next year (September through May) we'll be using the Narrative Lectionary texts each week for our worship. The Narrative Lectionary follows the sweep of the biblical story, from Creation through the early Christian church. Next Sunday we begin the first series, where we'll hear origin stories: stories that tell the beginnings of creation, the people of Israel, and the early religious practices of the ancient Israelites. [Click here](#) to read the introduction and see the schedule or pick up a copy from the literature table.

Youth Creative Movement Classes took a break for August, and will resume again in September! Kids ages 4-8 can save the date for our September class on 9/29, at 4pm. More details with registration link coming soon.

FINANCIAL LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

Capital Campaign 2024 - Thanks to your generous giving over the last four years, [we have only \\$132,200 left to pay on our Everence mortgage!](#) Let's celebrate by paying off this entire amount by May 2024, as we celebrate Assembly's 50th anniversary! We invite everyone to give what they can, above and beyond your regular giving. (For example: Consider a \$250/mo pledge or a one-time gift of \$500 or \$1,000 or more. No gift amount is too small.) Checks can be placed in the offering or mailed to the church office, and marked "Capital Campaign". Thank you!

Two Percent Committee met August 27. Just over \$9000 of Two Percent offerings has been set aside for distribution by The Reparation Committee. After Two Percent has distributed \$52,000, all funds will go to reparations. ([What is the 2% Fund?](#))

Local distributions we propose: **United Village** (<https://thevillagecommunitycenter.org>), \$500; **La Posada** (<https://www.laposadaaid.com>), \$1,000; **Center for Community Justice** (<https://www.centerforcommunityjustice.org>); **Chain Reaction** (<https://chainreactionbike.wordpress.com>), \$500; **La Casa** (<https://lacasainc.net/>), \$1,000; **Ryan's Place** (<https://ryansplace.org>), \$500; **Walnut Hill Daycare** (<http://www.walnutvillecc.org/home.html>), \$500; **Jail Ministry of Elkhart County** (<https://elkhartcountyjailministry.org/>), \$500; **Center for Healing and Hope** (<https://chhclinics.org/>), \$500; **ADEC** (<https://adecinc.com/>), \$1,000; **Maple City Health Care** (<https://www.mchcc.com/>), \$1,250.

World and national we propose: MCC infant care kits (<https://mcc.org/get-involved/kits/infant>), \$500; Oak Flats/Doctrine of Discovery, (<https://dismantlediscovery.org/>), \$1,000; My Coins Count, (<http://www.mennonitesale.org/my-coints-count>), match up to \$1,000; MCC Laos/Peter and Kelly (<https://mcc.org/what-we-do/where-we-work/laos>), \$1,000; Mennonite Disaster Service (<https://mds.org/>), \$1,000; UNICEF vaccines (<https://www.unicef.org/immunization>), \$1,000; National Immigrant Justice Center, Goshen (<https://immigrantjustice.org/>), \$1,000; Community Peacemaker Teams (cpt.org), \$1,000; Ten Thousand Villages Goshen (<https://www.tenthousandvillages.com>), \$750; Semilla (<https://semillagt.org/>), \$1,000.

If you have concerns about these recommendations, please contact Susan Mark Landis, chairperson, by September 17. Thanks! (Our next meeting is December 10. If you have suggestions for distribution of funds, please contact Susan Mark Landis.)

Reparations Committee: As mentioned above, approximately \$9000 has already been provisioned by the congregation from our Two Percent fund to be distributed locally for reparations. The Reparations Committee has decided to pay on the debt for past harm to the local Black community by sending \$9,000 to the Tolson Center for Community Excellence in southcentral Elkhart for use as they choose. We will learn more about this important work on Sunday, September 24, during worship and during second hour when Cyneatha Millsaps, the Tolson Board Chair, will be worshipping with us as the preacher. The Reparations Committee is continuing to determine the payment partners in the Indigenous community.

Public School Funds: Two Percent Committee has **\$2,137.22** for use by public school teachers. You can fill out a request form [here](#).

STUDENT AID

Student Aid: Did you know that [Assembly offers student aid](#) to students of covenanted members of Assembly that attend Mennonite educational institutions? These institutions include Bethany Christian Schools grades 6-12, AMBS, Goshen College, Bluffton U, EMU, among others. The Student Aid Committee is about to start budgeting for the next fiscal year and needs information from ALL students planning to attend a Mennonite institution during the school year 2024/25. **If there is a student in your family that is planning to attend in 2024/25, please fill out [this online form](#)** so that we can start budgeting. This form is a new requirement for anyone wanting to receive student aid from Assembly. Questions? Email Naomi at naomikr@assemblymennonite.org or talk to Paul Reimer or Cheryl Mast of the Student Aid Committee. Thanks!

CHURCH RETREAT

[Sign Up for Church Retreat Oct 13-15!](#) Our Annual Church Retreat at Camp Friedenswald is coming up Oct 13-15. Mark your calendars! Retreat is for everyone who attends Assembly. [Please complete this sign-up form by Sept 12 if you plan to eat any meals \(including lunch after worship on Sunday\) or stay overnight at camp during retreat.](#) We want retreat to be affordable for everyone, so no registration fee is required. However you are invited to pledge an offering to support retreat and to help make it affordable for others.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Small Group Childcare this Wednesday, September 6 for infants – 5th grade. [Please sign your child up here](#) by Sunday, Sept 3, so we know how many child care workers to hire. Time is from 5:30-8pm.

September is "Small Group Shuffle" time – that time of year when we form new small groups and help people find their way into Assembly small groups. Small groups are a key feature of congregational life here at “the Assembly of small groups.” If you’re interested in joining or changing small groups, please let Pastor Karl Shelly know by filling out the online form [here](#), or by filling out the flyer on the literature table. Ask any pastor if you have questions about small groups.

DOING JUSTICE & SERVING THE COMMUNITY

My Coins Count: The challenge is on! Can we collect BOTH enough coins so that no one at Assembly can lift the bottle AND enough dollars/checks to get the full \$1000 matching grant from Two Percent Committee? Yes, the coins count toward the matching grant. Counting the coins before dropping them off at the Relief Sale so we can also drop off the matching grant, however, we assume will be a GINORMOUS! task. In a world where many children are hungry, My Coins Count funds will be used to support MCC Food projects in 2023. You may donate for the next three Sundays, September 3, 10 and 17. Checks should be made out to Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale, designated for My Coins Count. [Here](#) you'll find an MCC Giving Calendar that gives you and your family a chance to talk about the uneven distribution of resources in the world. Susan Mark Landis

Stocking the Little Pantry at Center for Healing & Hope: For a list of needed items see <https://chhclinics.org/donate/> or pick up a sheet on the literature table. You can drop your donations off at CHH, 400 Lincoln Ave., either by placing in the pantry any time or taking to the registration desk when CHH is open (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday Closed from 12 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. for lunch). You may also place your donations in the grey plastic box at church. If you prefer to give cash, Susan Mark Landis will shop for you.

Volunteer Interpreters Needed. Center for Healing & Hope needs volunteers who are fluent in Spanish and English to interpret for non-Spanish speaking medical providers who are giving care to uninsured and low-income patients at our office. Shifts are mornings from 9-12 or afternoons from 1-5. We currently need interpreters on Monday afternoons, Tuesday mornings, Wednesday mornings, and Thursday mornings or afternoons. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about medical interpreting at CHH, please contact Missy Schrock at mkschrock@chhclinics.org or 574-534-4744 ext 206.

Helping Your Neighbors: Some churches in Elkhart are organizing English as a Second (ESL) classes for adults. Volunteer teachers are needed for the next session of classes, August 31-November 16, 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 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. [Please consider helping your neighbors learn English.](#) We also need a greeter/door opener every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5:45-7:00 pm. Could you help once or twice a month?

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Maple City Walk: Grab your walking shoes and join us for the Maple City Walk, Saturday, September 16th, hosted by the Goshen City Parks and Recreation Department. Choose between a marathon, half marathon or a 10K and enjoy a beautiful walk along the Maple City Greenway and the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. For more information and registration go to www.maplecitywalk.com or contact Goshen City Parks and Recreation 574- 534-2901. Information cards are also on the literature table.

WIDER CHURCH

Pathways Retreat is offering several retreats this fall: Renewing Your Spirit in Nature, Living that Matters for Men, Meditative Zentangle-inspired Art, and weekly yoga. Pathways' annual online silent auction will be held September 9-16. Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org.

Newsletters: [Mennonite Men](#), [Pathways Retreat](#)

Mennonite Education prayer requests for the month of September can be read [here](#).

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer. Mennonite Mission Network's service programs are welcoming new participants. Mennonite Voluntary Service just completed online orientation, and Service Adventure begins orientation on Friday. Pray that God's spirit will prepare participants hearts and minds, as they step out of their comfort zones and risk living out their faith in Anchorage, Alaska; Tucson, Arizona; San Francisco, California; Alamosa and Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

New: Doctor of Ministry in Leadership! Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's DMin is the only one in the U.S. to be deliberately developed with an Anabaptist framework. In this competency-based program, students develop a customized learning plan around their goals, gain expertise in five key competencies and grow in effective Anabaptist leadership. Applications to start in January are due Sept. 15. ambs.edu/dmin

Documentary on the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi: Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 28th, 8:00 pm. on PBS for the premiere of [A Song for Everything](#), a documentary exploring the language and culture of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi.

Rooted and Grounded Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship: Sept. 28–30 at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Attend in person or online! This conference on "Pathways through Climate Doom: Resistance and Resilience" will examine theological, biblical and pastoral care responses to climate doom. Keynote speakers: Kaitlin Curtice; Leah Thomas, PhD; and Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, PhD. Register by Sept. 20 if meals are desired; final registration deadline is Sept. 26. 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 (Sept 1, 2023)

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

Masks are optional. Please join on Zoom if you are feeling sick.

We encourage everyone to stay up to date on vaccinations and boosters.

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