

WORSHIP

<p>October 15 10:30AM Worship Camp Friedenswald</p> <p>Worship Leader: Jon Zirkle Sermon: Becky Snider Scripture: Ruth 1:1-17 [4:13-17]</p>	<p>October 22 9:30AM Worship No 2nd hour, No Sunday School</p> <p>Worship Leader: Brian Roots Sermon: Carla Gull Scripture: 2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150</p>
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RETREAT SCHEDULE (Oct 13-15)

Retreat Schedule (Oct 13-15): <https://tinyurl.com/AMCRetreat2023>

SUNDAY OCTOBER 15

10:30am Worship at Camp Friedenswald (15406 Watercress Way, Cassopolis, MI 49031). Worship will begin at 10:30am in the Cottonwood Center at Camp Friedenswald; [click here for a camp map](#). [The Order of Worship can be read here](#). Worship will not be streamed on Zoom this week. Our Fall worship series: Origin Stories, continues this Sunday. How are we being shaped into a people of authentic and deeply grounded faith? What are the new ideas or ways of being that we are wrestling with? [Click here](#) to read the introduction or pick up a copy from the literature table.

Lunch following worship. If you registered for meals at camp, please come to the Dining Hall for lunch at 12:30pm. (Not sure if you registered for lunch? [Check this list](#)). If you didn't register for meals at camp in advance, you are welcome to bring your own picnic lunch to eat at camp.

Retreat continues Sunday afternoon. The schedule for church retreat is here: <https://tinyurl.com/AMCRetreat2023>. All are welcome to stay at camp after lunch. We need to be gone from camp by 5pm Sunday.

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, Stephen Lowe, 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>	

CHURCH RETREAT OCT 13-15

The registration deadline has passed and we cannot add more meals or lodging at this point. Everyone is welcome to show up for the Saturday talent show at 6:30pm and Sunday morning worship at 10:30am, regardless of registration. More info about the weekend can be found [here](#). Not sure if you registered for lunch on Sunday? Check here: <https://tinyurl.com/AMCRetreatLunch2023>

The Retreat schedule can be viewed [here](#).

In preparation for the Lantern Festival on Nov. 4 children are invited to make a lantern at Camp Friedenswald during retreat. Adults and children who would like to make a lantern for the festival and will not be at retreat are also welcome to take a tin home to make one. Find instructions here <https://inhabitat.com/how-to-recycle-a-tin-can-into-a-gorgeous-outdoor-lantern-for-summer-parties/> LED and candle tea lights will be provided on the night of the festival.

The time is now to sign up for the Assembly Church Retreat Variety Show! Our yearly retreat at Camp Friedenswald is coming up Oct 13-15 and the sign-up list is now open for the Variety Show on Saturday night. Children, youth, adults, families, groups, solo acts, novelties, diversions, novices or pros--all are welcome to share during this celebration of our many and diverse collective gifts! We welcome skits, talents, music, dance, spoken word, or whatever you can dream up. Let's celebrate! Sign up at <http://bit.ly/Assembly-variety-signup> or email host Kyle Schlabach at kylesbs10@gmail.com

Church Retreat Activities Sign up: Please help the Friedenswald Retreat activity leaders plan by indicating your interest in various activities. Unlike the lodging and food registration you already did, this is encouraged, but optional and non-binding. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdviUFfnrtFdZlPmOpXfAO1Yjrb-0nAAReb5z-6dgQW_X1luA/viewform?usp=sf_link

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Oct 15 • 10:30am Worship at Camp Friedenswald • 5pm Retreat Ends	Oct 16 • 10am & 6pm Yoga 6:30pm Dance group					
Oct 22 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship • No 2 nd hour, no Sunday school	Oct 23 • 10am & 6pm Yoga 6:30pm Dance group	Oct 24 • 7:15pm Small group reps meeting				
Oct 29 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	Oct 30 • 10am & 6pm Yoga • 6:30pm Dance group		Nov 1 • 11:30-2pm Women's lunch bunch • 5:30-8pm Small group childcare			Nov 4 • 6:30pm Lantern Festival at Greencroft

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS



Lyle Kauffman (PK) turned 5! Lyle loves to create and build things from his imagination. He is a good climber and an excellent bike rider. Lyle loves Disney princesses and singing and dancing with them. At school he likes to be outside and to play with his friend.

Arthur Beyeler (6th GIS) turned 12 on October 12! Arthur enjoys playing soccer and Minecraft and reading mysteries and *Spy School* books. At school social studies and math are his favorite subjects. He is pretty good at cooking his own food (like mac and cheese and eggs) and does a little bit of baking. He likes to hang out with friends, watch movies and play capture the flag.



MEMORIAL SERVICES

Service for Mario Wenger. Visitation will be Friday, Oct 20 at College Mennonite Church from 2-4 pm & 6-8 pm. The service is Sat, October 21 at 11 am at College Mennonite Church followed by a light meal & sharing. The service will be livestreamed and recorded.

Service for Ken Miller. Ken is the son of Marilyn and Glen Miller, brother of Janine (Dave) Ostergren, and father of Michelle (Nick) Miller-Good. Ken died suddenly and unexpectedly while vacationing with his wife Doris and friends in Mexico. You can read his obituary [here](#). Visitation: Friday, October 13, 5-8pm, Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship. Memorial Service at Berkey: Saturday, October 14 at 11am with meal and time for sharing to follow.

COMMUNITY LIFE AT ASSEMBLY

The Barn Dance is back! After a several year hiatus, this annual tradition is back. Join us next Fri, Oct 20 at Robin and Marcus Ebright Zehr's Barn: 63950 Old CR 17. We will be gathering at 6:45pm, with dancing and music beginning at 7pm. Cider and light refreshments will be provided by the JYF and MYF. Interested in playing along? Contact Anna Yoder Schlabach. We are still (desperately) looking for musicians.

Surprise Luncheons are happening on Nov 5! This is a great way to get to know people in the congregation. If you would like to host or to be a guest that brings food to a lunch gathering with others, [sign up here](#). You will find out that Sunday morning who will be around the table. You will receive an email the week before detailing how many people will be there and if there are food restrictions to be aware of.

Remembrance Gathering - Many people who have experienced loss don't get the chance to talk about the person they miss. All who are grieving the loss of a loved one are invited to gather for a structured time of sharing on Sat, Oct 28 from 2-3:30pm at the meetinghouse. In groups of 6-8, each participant will share for about 5 minutes, introducing a loved one who has died, and then answer follow-up questions from the group (for another 5 min) about their loved one. All are encouraged to bring a photo. Please RSVP to give us a sense of how many people to expect. Contact Anna Yoder Schlabach to RSVP or with questions.

On Sunday, October 29th we'll have an All Saints candle lighting time during the service to remember those who have died. If you want to include a photo of a loved one in a slide show please send it to annays@assemblymennonite.org. Include their name with birth date and death date.

You are invited to an intergenerational Lantern Festival on Nov 4 at 6:30pm. This is a time of singing, sharing cookies and light will take place at the Greencroft. RSVP to [Lora](#) to participate in this event (and ensure enough treats!)

Sunday School teachers and parents met last Sun, Oct 8. Wholistic Faith Formation was the topic of discussion. Considering the whole body, we shared what we hoped that Faith Formation for Children and Youth at Assembly could look like. [Here are our ideas](#). Please feel free to contact Lora Nafziger with questions or feedback about what you see!

GIVING TIME, TALENTS, & TREASURE

Financial Update. As of Sept 30, actual expenses for the year exceed our offerings by about \$39,000. **We need \$58,000 in offerings each month in October, November, and December in order to meet our anticipated expenses.** The congregation's spending has been higher than anticipated this year because of inflation, travel costs for the MCUSA Convention in July, and maintenance issues. Thank you for your ongoing generous giving! – Leadership Group

Volunteer Tasks. Please sign up for volunteer tasks for 2024! As part of our congregational life together, we ask individuals to volunteer for 2 tasks for the year. Tasks include providing childcare, making coffee, clean up, taking a head count, counting offering, closing up the building, and helping with fellowship meals. Please fill out the volunteer form [here](#) by Oct 15.

Worship gifts form: Each Sunday morning, many people are involved in the worship service. One way to share your gifts is to fill out a worship gifts [form](#). This helps worship leaders and planners to continue our value of participatory worship. There will also be paper copies of this form in the gathering space for the next several weeks. Even if you have filled out this form in the past, we encourage you to fill it out again so that we have an updated list of willing participants.

ASSEMBLY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

From Dance Group: Several of us have started to meet on the first and third Monday evenings of the month to remember older dances that we have done over the last 50 years. As we decide which ones and schedule times to work on them over this next year, we would like to invite any of you of any age to join us to learn one or two of them. (Younger children should come with an adult.) Once we decide on what dances we will bring back and when we will learn them, we will share the time frame. We would love to dance these oldies but goodies with anyone who loves to move. If you have a specific dance you would like to see us work on, let Linda Schlabach Miller know.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MCC Alumni & Friends Service Activities: Join other local MCC alumni and friends at our MCC Material Resources Center in Goshen for fun and fellowship while helping to pack much-needed kits. There is an increased demand for supplies to send to Ukraine and other countries around the world, and these kits are a tangible way to share hope with people in difficult situations. There are two chances for you to join the kit packing event: Thur, Oct 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. or Fri, Oct 27 from 1-3pm. More information and registration at: mcc.org/gl-alumni-service.

Thrift at Woodland Crossing, the MCC Thrift shop located in Elkhart, is seeking a team member to fill the position of Donation Receiver/Processor. Primary responsibilities include efficiently and effectively processing and preparing donated goods. Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds and work on one's feet for a shift of 9:45 am – 5:00 pm. For more details, contact Haiam Gendi at 574-326-3674.

WIDER CHURCH

Newsletters: [Central District Conference](#), [Anabaptist Disabilities Network](#), [Pathways Retreat](#)

Responding to the Palestine and Israel conflict: As conflict has escalated in the region, MCC laments the violence and mourns all lives lost in Palestine and Israel. MCC remains committed to a just peace for all, and we invite you to join us in praying for an end to the violence. MCC is planning an emergency response to the current crisis with existing partners. Our response will focus on the humanitarian needs in Gaza, given the vulnerability of the population and lack of resources available to families. MCC's work will build on previous responses to the ongoing conflict, including the distribution of food and bedding. We are also planning to offer trauma healing support and housing reconstruction. Donate online at mcc.org/Palestine-Israel

Mennonite Church USA Executive Board staff has named Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler as the new climate justice coordinator. She began the half-time position on September 5, 2023, working remotely as part of MC USA's Transformative Peacemaking department. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/stoltzfus-climate

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Attend a Goshen College Performing Arts Series Concert feat. Apollo's Fire-Handel's Israel in Egypt Fri, Oct 20 at 7:30pm at Goshen College Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall. The GRAMMY®-winning ensemble Apollo's Fire is a period-instrument orchestra founded by harpsichordist and conductor Jeannette Sorrell. The Apollo's Fire musicians are creative artists who share Sorrell's passion for drama and rhetoric. For this special performance, the orchestra will be joined by a chorus for a performance of Sorrell's new adaptation of Handel's Israel in Egypt. Tickets can be purchased at goshen.edu/tickets.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

If you or someone you know could benefit from learning more about mental illness and how to better relate to a loved one who has mental health issues, consider attending a NAMI Family-to-Family free 8-week course. The next course is scheduled to start Oct 17. Participants need to be people who have a loved one with mental illness. If interested, contact Colleen Prough at the NAMI Elkhart County Namielkhartcounty@gmail.com 574-349-1746

Take a seminary course this spring! AMBS's distance-friendly options include Church and Race; Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations; The New Testament and Its Contexts; Numbers; Spiritual Practices: Play and Rest; and more. In-person courses are also available. Non-admitted students get 50% off their first three credit hours. Courses run Jan. 9 – April 26; sign up by Jan. 2. ambs.edu/upcoming-courses

Fully online seminary Graduate Certificate program. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's fully online Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies requires only 21 credit hours! Strengthen the biblical and theological foundation for your work by developing a customized plan of study that matches your interests. Ideal for church leaders, bivocational pastors and other professionals. ambs.edu/certificate

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Birthday cards: For several years, Naomi Chapman has been making and sending birthday cards on behalf of the congregation. She is ready for someone else to take this on. We are wondering if anyone would feel called to continue this ministry of care or volunteer for a month at a time. Assembly provides the stamps and cards if needed. Please contact Naomi with questions (574-312-9255 or nrchap49@gmail.com). And THANK YOU, Naomi for sharing your time and creativity in this way.

Kitchen Help Needed at Camp Friedenswald! Summer is now officially over and we are in the busy fall season of outdoor education programming and retreat groups. We could use your help! We have shifts for food prep and dishes/cleanup tasks with a variety of dates and times available through October. You can make it into your own mini-retreat if you come to volunteer and stick around for a couple of days enjoying all of what Camp has to offer during your time off with lodging and meals provided. If interested, please contact our Food Service Director, Eric Emerson, at eric@friedenswald.org

On Oct 13th 2023 Camerata Singers will celebrate the music of Goshen's own nationally renowned composer, Lee Dengler. Lee has spent his illustrious career as a composer, engraver, voice teacher, singer and choral director, and has over 220 works published by most of the nation's major music publishers. Along with compositions for voice, piano, and choir, the evening includes a world premiere of Enough, a powerful new choral work with text by Susan Naus Dengler on the theme of gun violence. Choirs from Goshen, Elkhart, and Bethany Christian high schools will join Camerata Singers on Lee's most popular choral work, *Things That Never Die*. Scott Hochstetler, artistic director; Brody Thomas, keyboard artist. Friday, October 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. Sauder Concert Hall, Goshen College Music Center 1700 South Main Street, Goshen, Indiana. Tickets available at thecameratasingers.org and at the door. \$18.00 adults, \$6.00 students

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 (Oct 13, 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 current vaccination recommendations see: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

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