

WORSHIP

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

<p>October 29 9:30AM Worship Sunday School</p> <p>Worship Leader: Lora Nafziger Sermon: Arden Shank Scripture: 1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29</p>	<p>November 5 9:30AM Worship Sunday School <i>2% Offering</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Anna Yoder Schlabach Sermon: Ben Sywulka Scripture: 1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39</p>
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SUNDAY OCTOBER 29

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. [The Order of Worship can be read here.](#) This is the second Sunday in part 2 of our fall series using the [Narrative Lectionary](#).

Who is Sovereign? Our next set of texts include stories from throughout the history of Israel and Judah. These stories wrestle with the politics of living together and the brokenness of human society. Throughout all of these stories, we are called to wonder: Where is God in this? Who is Sovereign? Is it the God of Abraham, Isaac and Judah, or is the real Lord some other power?

In this series, we will wrestle with some of the same questions in our own lives: who is Lord and Sovereign of our world today? We'll explore where God's *hesed* (steadfast love) shows up, how she works actively in human history, and how we, like the children of Israel, respond to her in sometimes surprising ways.

[Read the full introduction here.](#)

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.

Second hour this Sunday will start with two brief videos of Black voices and then a conversation with the Reparations Committee. As a congregation, we've released our reparations funds to the Tolson Center, so what are your questions and thoughts, and what might be the next steps for education and action?

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>	

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Oct 29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45am Young adult bkfast 9:30am Worship & Sunday school JYF Rake & Run 	Oct 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am & 6pm Yoga 6:30pm Dance group 		Nov 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30-2pm Women's lunch bunch 5:30-8pm Small group childcare 		Nov 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Greencroft meet up 	Nov 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Lantern Festival at Greencroft
Nov 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45am Young adult bkfast 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 12:30pm Surprise luncheons 	Nov 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Dance group 	Nov 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Leadership group 				Nov 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm MYF 5:30pm Tanzanian meal
Nov 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45am Young adult bkfast 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 	Nov 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am & 6pm Yoga 6:30pm Dance group 	Nov 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Labyrinth walk 				

ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE

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.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Fall Work Days this year was a success! Deep cleaning happened in classrooms, the multipurpose space, the worship space, entrances, kitchen and laundry room. Weeding, watering and planting happened on every side of the building. The spaces where groups worked look amazing! Thank you for being a part of a community that takes care of each other and our shared spaces.

Volunteer Tasks. If you haven't already, 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, counting offering, closing up the building, and helping with fellowship meals. Please fill out the volunteer form [here](#). There are also printed copies in the Gathering space.

Small Group reps met this week and got updates on the small group shuffle, heard about how to get involved in the pastoral search process, and discussed ideas about restructuring oversight of our small group system. Ask your rep for more information.

The pastoral search committee invites the congregation to suggest names for our future 0.6 FTE Pastor of Child, Youth, and Adult Faith Formation. Please send names to [Bethany Swope](#) or [Tom Kauffman](#) by Nov. 12 with a sentence of two about the person's gifts for the role and contact information. The [job description](#) can be found on the Assembly website.

Surprise Luncheons are happening next Sunday, 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](#). There is also a sign up in the Gathering Space. 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.

EVENTS AT AMC

November Lunch Bunch will feature Lora Nafziger reflecting on her experiences of being a pastor at Assembly. Bring a sack lunch @ 11:30am, Wednesday, November 1. Coffee, tea and water provided. Program begins at noon in the multipurpose space.

Small Group Childcare. The next small group childcare evening is Wed, Nov 1 from 5:30-8pm. [Please sign up here.](#)

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

Tanzania Education Aid will host a Tanzanian meal at Assembly on November 11 at 5:30pm. We are raising money for programs in the Shirati, Tanzania region of East Africa. Come enjoy some ugali, rice pilau, chai, and other food typical to this region. More details in next week's Assemblyline.

Assembly tour of South Central Elkhart. Assembly has been offered a walking tour of South Central Elkhart (also known as the Benham West Neighborhood) on Sunday afternoon, November 12th. The tour will begin at Prairie Street Mennonite Church at 1:30pm and will be led by Cyneatha Millsaps and Jason Shenk. This will be an excellent opportunity to better understand the harm caused to the local African American community through "urban renewal" in the '60s through today. Those who are interested in carpooling from the meeting house should meet at 1pm. Please let Glenn Gilbert (ggilbert1301@gmail.com) know if you plan to attend and if you plan on carpooling or driving separately.

The next congregational meeting will be at 7pm Sunday November 19, in-person in the worship space. All are invited to come hear about the work of the Welcome Statement Committee, and to participate in a facilitated discussion about the work the congregation dreams a revised welcome statement will do. The committee is: Stephen Lowe & Regina Shands-Stoltzfus (co-chairs), Jenna Martin, Kate Kennedy, Sara Morris, Scott Coulter.

CHURCH FINANCES

AMC 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

Pledges for 2024: An email was sent regarding pledging for the 2024 Spending Plan. A link to the pledge letter can also be found [here](#). Physical copies are available on the literature table. Pledges should be completed by Nov 5. Please contact [Dancy Hirschler](#) or [John Nafziger](#) with questions.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Our neighbors are hungry. Elkhart Food Bank estimates that one in ten people in Elkhart country don't know where their next meal is coming from. The Goshen Salvation Army says that one in six children in Goshen face hunger.

Our October **Sharing with Neighbors** contributions will go to THE WINDOW. Place your shelf-stable items in the gray box. This can include personal care items (including small, unopened hotel bottles) and used towels. To receive food from the Window, one must provide a photo ID or proof of address. Clients may receive food once a month during limited open hours.

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.

Retreat Pledges: Did you enjoy retreat? Please remember to give the money you pledged to help pay for this important event in our church community life. You can use [this link](#), or mark your money in the offering, with the memo "Friedenswald". Our retreat cost \$15,626 this year, and we are counting on at least \$3500 in direct donations.

WIDER CHURCH

Resources on Palestine/Israel: Learn about Mennonite Central Committee's advocacy response to the violence in Palestine and Israel [here](#). MCC also offers resources for better understanding of the Palestine-Israel situation and ways to financially support a humanitarian response in Gaza: [Palestine Israel booklet](#), [Disaster response initiatives](#), [A Cry for Home, MCC's advocacy response](#)

Prayer requests for November are now available from Mennonite Education Agency at www.MennoniteEducation.org/monthly-prayer.

Mennonite Mission Network prayer request. Today brings closure to a five-day gathering of Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service leaders and participants in Tucson, Arizona. Pray that this gathering inspired each participant to grow in their faith and in their practice of discipleship throughout the coming year.

COMMUNITY MUSIC EVENTS

The Goshen College Choirs will present their annual Fall Choral Concert in Sauder Concert Hall on Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. ([live streamed](#)). Performing are the Goshen College Chamber Choir and Vox Profundi, directed by Scott Hochstetler, and Voices of the Earth, directed by H. Roz Woll. The choirs will be joined by Community School of the Arts chorus *Somma Voci* in a performance of Robert Ray's "Gospel Mass." Tickets can be purchased at goshen.edu/tickets.

A Musical Thanksgiving: Sunday, Oct. 29, 4 p.m., in Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount (3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana). Organist Shirley King and pianist Beverly Lapp will share solo settings of several hymns of praise and thanksgiving, with congregational singing integrated throughout the program. All are invited, and admission is free.

The Open Fifths low-voice choir presents "You Find Yourself Here: Songs of Home" the first weekend in November. The idea of home is explored in the music from composers like Schubert and Barber to pop icons Sinéad O'Connor, Sting and David Byrne. The group will sing Sat., Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. at Assembly Mennonite Church in Goshen and Sun., Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart. Tickets are available at Fables Books, 215 S. Main, Goshen and at the door.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Free webinar – Intersectionality of Gun Violence – Nov 6, 7pm on Zoom. Join Mennonite Church USA for our second Learn. Pray. Join: End Gun Violence webinar focused on the intersectionality of gun violence and the call to explore our Anabaptist response to it. This webinar will provide information about the impact of gun violence on different communities, as well as provide information about mental health impacts, including suicide and how congregations can walk alongside those at risk and their family/friends. [Register here](#).

Do you sense a call to ministry? Nurture your leadership abilities, grow in spiritual practices, and deepen your understanding of Anabaptist theology and ministry through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's **Journey Missional Leadership Development Program**. The distance-friendly undergraduate-level program offers mentor-mentee partnerships and community support. The Spring 2024 cohort begins Jan. 26; apply by Dec. 6 to save \$100! ambs.edu/journey

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Mennonite Central Committee is looking for an Executive Assistant to aid our International Program Department. If you have administrative gifts to support the global relief, development and peace efforts of MCC, apply by November 13. More information at mcc.org/ip-executive-assistant.

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 27, 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/>