

Find COVID-19 Information Here

AssemblyLine November 26, 2023

Volume XLIV, Number 48

WORSHIP

Join us on Sundays at 9:30 AM in Person, or on Zoom

November 26 9:30AM Worship Sunday School December 3
9:30AM Worship
Second hour: Messiah Sing
Fellowship Meal
2% Offering

Worship Leader: Jeannette Hughes Sermon: Lora Nafziger Scripture: 2 Kings 22:1-20; 23:1-3 Worship Leader: Stephen Lowe Sermon: Scott Coulter Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-18

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 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. The Order of Worship can be read here. This is the final Sunday in part 2 of our fall series using the Narrative Lectionary. Read the full introduction here.

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.

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to Alex & Ashley McIntyre on the birth of their son Tuesday evening (Nov 21)! He weighed 7.9# and is 20" long. This is what Ashley had to say, "After almost 36 hours of trying to do things our way, he was born via emergency C-section yesterday evening. He's healthy and everyone is ok, his little heart rate just started dropping while we were pushing. We still haven't decided on his name yet, but we're testing them out and hopefully we'll decide soon!"





Martha Hanby (4th BCS) turns 10 on Nov. 26th! Martha loves cats and the colors blue and purple. She is good at solving puzzles, drawing and writing stories. She enjoys roller skating, ballet lessons and playing the violin. She enjoys reading and listening to stories.

COMING UP

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Nov 26 • 8:45am Young adult bkfast • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school	Nov 27 • 6:30pm Dance group	Nov 28 • 7:15pm Small group reps • 8:30pm Reparations mtg		Nov 30 • 5pm MYF Live In begins	Dec 1 MYF Live In 9:30am Greencroft meet up	Dec 2 12pm MYF Live In ends 1 & 2pm K-5 candle dipping 3pm JYF candle dipping
Dec 3 1st Sunday of Advent 2nd hour Messiah Sing 2% Offering 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 12pm: Fellowship meal	Dec 4 • 6:30pm Dance group	Dec 5 • 7pm Leadership group	Dec 6 • 11:30am Women's lunch bunch • 5:30pm Small group childcare			Dec 9 • 5:30 & 7pm Advent Spiral
Dec 10 2 nd Sunday of Advent • 9:30am Worship & Sunday school • 2pm Adult candle-dipping. RSVP required.		Dec 12 • 6pm Labyrinth walk				

COMMUNITY LIFE

Pastors Traveling. Scott Coulter will be out of town Nov 22-27. Please contact Lora Nafziger, Karl Shelly or Anna Yoder Schlabach for any pastoral needs.

MYF Live-In this week! Our youth (grades 9-12) will be living at the Meetinghouse starting at 3pm on Tue, Nov 30 through 12pm on Sat, Dec 2. Please be mindful of this if you have need to be in the building during this time.

Advent begins next Sunday, Dec 3rd! Our narrative lectionary texts for this season are all related to God's promises, promises that God makes to people during times of uncertainty. Can God's promises be trusted? Are new beginnings coming? The prophets remind us that especially in uncertain and disorienting times, God promises to rebuild, restore, and redeem. Read the introduction and calendar here. See below for a list of events.

The Assembly Green Team would like to remind everyone to help save the planet and some money by winterizing your homes. Nipsco created this handy checklist you can use as a guide. Also, Nipsco has several rebates available. If you made any home improvements or bought an energy-efficient appliance this year we encourage you to review the list to see if there are any rebates that apply to you. (Maybe you could donate the money to the building fund!)

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 <u>ifriesen@ambs.edu</u>

Pastor Emeritae: Lois Johns Kaufmann, Mary Lehman Yoder

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

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

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.

Community Life cont.

Messiah sing & Potluck next Sunday, Dec 3. Join us for Second Hour for this annual tradition, bring your own Messiah score if you have it. Instrumentalists of all abilities are welcome, especially our youth. Please bring a music stand if you have one and plan to play with the orchestra. You can download a copy of instrumental music for free here. Orchestra rehearsal will be at 8 a.m. Following the Messiah Sing there will be a potluck. Please bring a dish (or two) to share, and plates and utensils for your household. The Hospitality Committee requests that households with names beginning with A through L bring a main dish, and M through Z bring a side or salad. 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, especially as we anticipate hosting additional visitors because of the Messiah sing.

ADVENT THROUGH EPIPHANY AT-A-GLANCE

Advent countdown candles can be picked up on the table outside the worship space.

Holden Evening Prayer (joint Assembly & Faith): First three Sundays of Advent, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for this simple 20-minute vespers service of spoken and sung prayers from Holden Village.

Candle Dipping: Saturday, December 2, 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. (3:00p.m. JYF only)

Steve Shantz's home (60728 CR 27, Goshen)

1pm and 2pm times are for children K-5th grade. Younger children are encouraged to come at 1p.m.

Messiah Sing along and Potluck: December 3

8 a.m. Orchestra rehearsal (all musicians welcome! Scores for singers and musicians can be found in the music closet) Join us for Second Hour for this annual tradition, bring your own Messiah score if you have it.

Advent Spiral: Saturday December 9, at 5:30 and 7 p.m. Multipurpose space

The Advent spiral, a contemplative, candlelight labyrinth walk is an Assembly tradition. Children ages 3 and up are invited to participate. Older children (especially Junior high age) are encouraged to attend at 7 p.m.. Please sign up to attend by emailing Loracn@assemblymennonite.org. We will leave it up for adults to use second hour on Dec 10.

Adult Candle Dipping Fundraiser: Sunday December 10, 2:00 p.m Steve Shantz's home (60728 CR 27, Goshen) Sign up here to make candles and pay off the mortgage! \$10 per candle pair. Space is limited so sign up soon!

Longest Night Service: Thursday, December 21, 7 p.m.

In the midst of this season of expectation and joy, we pause on the Longest Night of the year to also acknowledge our sorrows and longings. This service is geared for quiet reflection and will include singing, scripture, words of lament and assurance, and candles.

Christmas Eve Service, December 24, 6 p.m.

Multipurpose space and worship space

5:15 p.m.: Candle Dance rehearsal

6 p.m.: Join us for a simple soup and bread supper, followed by a play and candle dance. Sign up here to indicate interest in attending/participating.

Please email <u>annays@gmail.com</u> if your children want to participate in the play. We'll rehearse after church on the 17th and 24th.

Breakfast Potluck, December 31, 9:30 a.m.

Bring a festive finger food dish to share and your own place settings

Followed by a service of Lessons and Carols at 10:30 a.m.

Women's Christmas, Saturday, January 6, 10a-3p

Women's Christmas offers an opportunity at the end of the holiday season to celebrate with friends and to gather ourselves before diving into the year ahead. Look for more info in the Assemblyline.

Epiphany/ Assembly's 50th Birthday kick off Sunday, January 7, 9:30 a.m.

EVENTS AT AMC

Hildaland & Sadie Gustafson-Zook Concert: Join Goshen-grown rootsy musicians Sadie Gustafson-Zook and Hildaland (the duo project of Ethan Setiawan and Louise Bichan) on Saturday, November 25th for the second annual post-Thanksgiving homecoming show! Both groups will play individual sets, as well as some joint songs together. Tickets are sliding scale \$15-\$25 and are available <u>in advance</u> or at the door. Doors: 6pm, Show 7:00pm. Bring your whole family for this fun evening of acoustic tunes and heartfelt songs!

An InterPlay invitation. The local Goshen and Elkhart InterPlayers would like to invite Assembly folks to a special InterPlay evening. On November 27th, Masankho Banda, an InterPlay Master Teacher from Malawi, and friend of ours will be leading us. More about Masankho at https://pathwaystopeace.org/team/masankho-kamsisi-banda/ Some of you may remember when he led an all day workshop here about 5 years ago. We will gather at 6:00pm in the multipurpose space. See Linda Schlabach Miller or Michael Miller for more information.

DOING JUSTICE

A call to action for Palestine: On November 28th, at 8pm EST, you're invited to an emergency virtual meeting for Mennonites who are ready to take action to oppose the ongoing violence in Palestine. With your help, over 500 Mennonites from across the US and Canada will join together to grieve the ongoing violence in Palestine, to call for a ceasefire and an end to the occupation of Palestine, and to gather together as a community to prepare to take action. Join us Tuesday, November 28th at 8 p.m. for a mobilization call and learn how we will stand together as Mennonites to call for peace. For more information for how to get involved, please visit MennoniteAction.org

Documentary screening: What Happened at Benham West: African American Stories of Community, Displacement and Hope will be shown in the evening on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 6:30pm at the Goshen Theater, 216 South Main Street, Goshen. The film features stories of life in Elkhart's predominantly African American Benham West neighborhood and documents the process of the city's eventual clearing of the neighborhood. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Goshen College are hosting the event. The public is invited, and there is no charge to attend. benhamwestproject.com

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Two Percent Committee meets December 10 for the last time this year. Please

contact <u>SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com</u> with suggestions or requests, including for public school funds, by December 2. 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.

School Kits: Johanna Sutter, with her small group, Bugles, and mentee, Rachel Hirschler, packed over 600 school kits at the Mennonite Central Committee Material Resource Center on November 8. <u>See pictures here</u>.

La Posada Immigrant Aid. There are big changes at La Posada Immigrant Aid. You can read the whole story at this link.

Salvadoran meal. Faith Mennonite Church will be hosting a meal at The Window on First Friday, Dec 1, 4:30-7:00p or until the food runs out. Come and enjoy live music provided by Terry Martin and Zac Cooke while enjoying a menu of two Salvadoran bean and cheese pupusas, cabbage salad and salsa, Central American rice pudding, lemonade, hot chocolate, and water. Suggested donation = \$10 for adults and \$5 children; \$3 for each extra pupusa. The Window is located at 223 South Main St, Goshen.

Our neighbors are hungry. This is the last Sunday to donate to <u>First Light Mission</u>, our community shelter for the temporarily unhoused. They need liquid body wash, body towels, hand towels and washcloths, Lysol wipes, deodorant (Men's and Women's) and urinal blocks and screens. Here is their Amazon Wish

List: https://www.amazon.com/.../2Q8TGG461MBRZ/ref=hz Is biz ex... Our monthly donations rotate between First Light, Center for Healing and Hope and The Window. Contact Barb Hassen or Susan Mark Landis with comments or questions.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Christmas Eve Play: Will your family be around for Christmas Eve? I am looking for stable girls, sheep, magi and donkeys etc for the Christmas Eve play. All skill sets welcome. Please email me and let me know if your child would like a speaking part, a non-speaking part or a one-line kind of part. annays@assemblymennonite.org. We'll rehearse after church on December 17th and 24th.

Year-end disbursement of 2% funds: The last scheduled collection of 2% funds for 2023 will be Dec 3rd. Any 2% funds received later in the month will be disbursed in 2024 to ease closing the books for the year. <u>All Two Percent offerings received between now and December 3 will go towards Reparations</u>. If you have questions or concerns, please contact any member of the 2% Committee: <u>Susan Mark Landis</u>, <u>Marshall King</u>, <u>Barb Hassan</u>, <u>Barb Swartley</u>, <u>Joel Zwier</u> and <u>Glenn Gilbert</u>.

Dance project for AMC 50th celebration. As promised, here is the first dance project that we would invite anyone to learn and dance with us. It is set to "Changes" by Jim Croegaert. It will take at least 4 dancers and preferably 6-8. To be danced for worship sometime in March. Rehearsals are scheduled 6:30 - 8:00pm on December 4, January 29, February 19 and March 4. Let <u>Linda Schlabach Miller</u> (574-538-8324) know if you are interested.

Drop box: Assembly Mennonite Church has a new check drop box installed at the North entrance. Feel free to use it if you need to drop off a check when the building is closed.

Home needed for quail. Hello! I am looking for a temporary home (or permanent, if you're interested) for my pet quail over winter break. There are four of them. They are small and fairly low maintenance, but will require a warm place to stay, like a garage or basement. I will provide all resources needed to take care of them (food, cages, etc.), and am willing to discuss extra compensation. Please email me at mirayoder@gmail.com if you are interested!

WIDER CHURCH

Two Way Mission: The attached <u>letter</u> from Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer speaks for itself, written in gratitude, hope, and trust in God's faithfulness at a turning point for the Two Way Mission and in their own lives.

Newsletters: Central District Conference, Camp Friedenswald

Prayer requests for December from Mennonite Education Agency can be read here.

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer. Jonah and Memee Yang began serving with Mennonite Mission Network in September. Pray for Jonah as he teaches Hmong and Thai students in Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Journey Program and for Memee as she offers Sister Care seminars. The Yangs live in Minnesota and will travel to Thailand twice each year.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Grow your skills in offering spiritual direction! With a focus on practice-based learning, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction offers a curriculum and supervised program to prepare you to become a spiritual director or to strengthen the spiritual direction aspects of your ministry. You can complete the 21-credit-hour certificate part time in two years, either fully online or with a combination of distance-friendly and campus-based courses. ambs.edu/certificate

ADVENT RESOURCES

Advent Evening Chapel: Shining our Light, Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 7 p.m., Goshen College Church-Chapel Sanctuary. Join us on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 7 p.m. in the Church-Chapel Sanctuary for an Advent Evening Chapel. We will come together for singing and reflective moments. Afterward, we will move outside to light up the campus, symbolizing the light of the season. For more information, please contact E Suzanne Ehst at (574) 535-7875 or season.english englished.

Advent at Home 2023 now available. The 2023 Advent at Home worship guide is now available from Mennonite Education Agency (MEA). Taken from Leader magazine's theme, "How will we know?" the worship guide accompanies individuals and families through the days and weeks of Advent through Epiphany with scriptures, prayers, worship rituals, suggested activities, and contextual information. It is intended for all ages and life stages to deepen the experience of the season. The guide is available for free download in English and Spanish from the MEA website: https://www.mennoniteeducation.org/resources/advent-at-home/.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Bethany Christian School job openings can be found here. Goshen College job openings can be found <a href=here. AMBS job openings can be found <a href=here. Other Mennonite Education job postings can be found <a href=here. Mennonite Church USA's job postings are <a href=here.

Current COVID-19 Information (Nov 24, 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/