

FALL WORSHIP

Jesus as our companion

August 13 – September 24, 2017

Assembly Mennonite Church

What a great summer of stories, music and reflection focused on how we are *Rooted in Love*. We now ready ourselves for a new season: a new school and church year. We will have opportunities to welcome each other, to share our gifts, and to learn together. This year we will transform our physical space. We will be building the road as we go.

Along the road, we will focus on stories about Jesus and on stories that Jesus tells. Later we will consider images of Jesus. During this fall worship we will focus on *Jesus as our Companion*. The stories will remind us of how Jesus builds relationships and trust. We will see how the dominant expression of his love is as one who sits at the table with us.

In our congregational life together we will be examining our structural relationships and staffing patterns through the bridge work that Tom Kauffman is doing with us. As such we will be examining how Assembly builds relationships and trust. What do we need to be intentional about as we grow? How can we carry and acknowledge fundamental needs people have for healing of many types? As the Milk and Honey Campaign reminds us, we are operating out of a mindset of abundance rather than scarcity. It will require time and energy as we build church together. How might we meet God together in this space? As we end the calendar year, our facility will be undergoing significant remodeling. We will truly be “building the road as we go.”

As we think of *Jesus as our companion* we are reminded of John 14:18-20 and Jesus’ promise to the disciples: “*I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.*”(NRSV)

These texts from the New Testament remind us of how Jesus defined companionship as well as how he resisted certain definitions of the relationship.



August 13	<u>Jesus Feeds us</u> Feeding of the 5000	Matthew 14:13-21	Kyle Schlabach
August 20	<u>Jesus comes to us</u> Walking on the water	Matthew 14:22-32	Carmen Horst
August 27	<u>Jesus heals us</u> Jairus’ daughter	Matthew 9:18-26	TBD
September 3	<u>Jesus challenges us</u>	Matthew 5:38-48	Regina Shands Stoltzfus
September 10	<u>Jesus learns with us</u> Syrophenician woman	Matthew 15:21-28	Tom Kauffman
September 17	<u>Jesus receives us</u> Woman anointing Jesus	Matthew 26:6-13	Lora Nafziger
September 24	<u>Jesus eats with us</u> Disciples at the Last Supper	Matthew 26:17-29	Karl Shelly

2017-18 Worship Committee: Jan Siemens (chair), Anna Yoder Schlabach, Bill Mateer, Carmen Horst, Danny Aramouni, Jonathon Schramm, Tom Kauffman,(staff)

Assembly Survival Kit

If you are new to Assembly or need a refresher on Assembly basics, check “About us” on the new Assembly website www.assemblymennonite.org.

Worship gifts and Volunteer Sign-up

This is the time of year when we invite everyone to offer their gifts. You are encouraged to participate in the life of the congregation in many ways, including sharing gifts of hospitality, care for our children, and worship. Keep your eye out for forms early September.

Sunday morning schedule:

The worship committee is committed to having a consistent starting and ending time for worship and Sunday school.

9:30AM 1st hour begins, which includes:

Children’s time for ages 3 and up during the worship service

Children’s time for those under 3 in the childcare room

Childcare for ages 3 and younger after children’s time until the end of 1st hour

10:45AM 1st hour concludes and children are dismissed to Sunday School

Children are picked up (and signed out) from childcare, so space can transition to Sunday school.

11:00AM 2nd hour begins for adults

11:50AM: Sunday school teachers bring children back to the worship space.

Other things to remember:

** If you are seated in the north section, you can help with the transition to 2nd hour by taking personal items with you at the end of 1st hour and stacking your song books near the sound cart. All who are willing can help by carrying chairs from the north section to the rolling cart.

** Guidelines for announcements:

- **Use the Assemblyline as the first, best source for announcements** since it can be accessed by those who weren’t present in worship or were focused on small children. Deadline is 8AM Friday at assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org
- We are continuing the summer experiment of having the worship leader read announcements, while all are still present. Announcement request forms are available on the small table beside the mailboxes, on tan half-sheets. Please hand these directly to the worship leader before the service or during the offering. If you have a creative or dramatic announcement that you would like to share, please talk to the worship leader prior to Sunday morning.

** If you choose to continue in conversation during second hour, please move to areas without carpeting. as these happen to also be the spots that have the least sound overflow into 2nd hour and Sunday school rooms.



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