

AssemblyLine

December 23, 2018

Volume XXXVII, Number 50

Welcome to Assembly Mennonite Church

1201 S 11th St, Goshen, Indiana 46526

574-534-4190 / office@assemblymennonite.org

Worship at 9:30am, Sunday school at 10:45am

WORSHIP

<p style="text-align: center;">December 23 4th Sunday of Advent</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship leader: <i>Lora Nafziger</i> Sermon: <i>Anna Yoder Schlabach</i> Welcome & tear-down: <i>Hug & Food Group</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scripture: <i>Micah 5:2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">December 30 9:30am Breakfast Finger Food Potluck 10:30am Worship, no 2nd Hour</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship leader: <i>Barb Swartley</i> Sermon: <i>Lessons & Carols</i> Welcome & tear-down: <i>Tumbleweeds & Well Seasoned</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scripture: <i>1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41</i></p>
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CALENDAR

Fri	Dec 21	7pm Longest Night Service at meetinghouse
Mon	Dec 24	6pm Christmas Eve soup and bread supper at meetinghouse
Sun	Dec 30	9:30am Breakfast Potluck followed by worship at 10:30, no Sunday school
Fri-Sun	Jan 4-6	MYF Snow Camp at Friedenswald

ANNOUNCEMENTS

assembly life and people

Magdalena Gollner (CCYC) turned 5 on Dec 11! At school Magdalena loves to build with blocks inside her class and play outside on the swings. At home she likes to play with her sister. She like to go to the library to listen to stories and play with toys. She also likes to eat pie, draw, and both listen to and make music.

TODAY is the fourth Sunday of Advent! This year's theme is Yahweh is our Righteousness and today's theme is Awaiting Restoration. An introduction to this Advent series is at the top of this email and can be found on the lit table. During 2nd hour today, we will be having a hymn sing of our Christmas/Advent/Magnificat favorites.

Assembly's 3 pastors are all traveling this holiday season. Lora will be gone Dec 24-31. Anna: Dec 26-29. Karl: Dec 27-Jan 2. When all three are gone Dec 27-29, Carmen Horst will cover for pastoral needs: (574) 903-3713.

We have 2 Sundays left in 2018. Due to your generosity and continued giving, it looks like we are on track to meet our 2018 expenses. Many thanks for your generosity!

Our Christmas Eve play is in need of non-speaking animals, wise people and shepherds. If your child (preschool-middle school) will be at the Christmas Eve service and wants to be involved, please stick around after church this Sunday for a brief run through. Costumes provided. No experience necessary. Questions? Contact Anna Yoder Schlabach: annays@assemblymennonite.org

Christmas Eve Soup & bread supper and service is at 6pm tomorrow Mon, Dec 24. If you sign up on the round table it helps with planning for numbers. You are welcome to bring out of town guests. Come at 5:30 if you would like to learn the candle dance. We still need people!

We are invited to move toward the God who is always moving toward us. If you are feeling a nudge toward God and want help seeing how God is moving toward you, perhaps spiritual direction is a way to follow this nudge. Assembly has several spiritual directors: Carmen Horst (574-903-3713, cshorst@gmail.com), Lois Kaufmann (574-596-8956, loiskaufmann@gmail.com), and Mary Lehman Yoder (574-238-9676, marylehmanyoder@gmail.com). Any of us would be open to meeting monthly with you. For more info about spiritual direction, take a look at the 3-ring binder at the left end of the mailboxes at the meetinghouse.

New Reconciliation exhibit: A new chapter has been added to the Anabaptist story at the Menno-Hof information center in Shipshewana. Gayle Gerber Koontz, Andre Gingerich Stoner and John D Roth worked with Menno-Hof to create a new display that focuses on the recent formal relationships among Mennonite, Reformed, Catholic and Lutheran denominations. Those who worked on this stated the importance of updating the Menno-Hof inter-church story beyond 16th persecution. It is nicely done. Check it out if you're in Shipshewana!

The Assembly Women's Lunch Bunch will not be meeting in January.

(repeat) **Children grades K-5** interested in singing for the congregation are invited to join Marna Mateer and Rebecca Dengler Kaufman in the MYF room following the sermon again today. The children will learn 2 songs to sing at the Christmas Eve service and the service of lessons and Carols on Sun, Dec 30. Children are welcome to come even if they cannot be at both services. Listen for the dismissal announcement from the worship leader.

(repeat) **For many of us**, this season before Christmas is a season of ramped-up activity. Our Advent worship seeks to create an alternative space, and this year, we invite you to arrive early for some extra Advent hymn singing to help your mind let go of the outside world and enter this space.

(repeat) **Naomi Roots** (administrator) normally holds office hours M/W/F, over the holidays her office hours will not be consistent. If you need her in the office, feel free to call or text her cell to make sure she is there (number is in the directory). Her normal hours will resume Mon, Jan 7.

(repeat) **The house** across the street [is on the market!](#) If you have a key to the house that you have not yet returned, please place it in Naomi's mailbox.

(repeat) **2019 Hospitality and Childcare tasks** calendars are finished and available to view [on our website here](#) and on the bulletin board outside the CE closet (next to the church office, #10). If you signed up for a task, you should find the dates you were assigned in your church mailbox. Let Naomi know if you would like a hard copy of the entire year's schedule or if you have any questions/concerns.

(repeat) **The 2 Percent Committee** is proposing the following distribution of available funds as of Dec 2, 2018.

Local: Chain Reaction Bicycle Project - \$725; Goshen Farmer's Market (Share the Bounty) - \$925; Anabaptist Disability Network - \$925; Jail Ministry of Elkhart County - \$925; Church Community Services (Soup of Success) - \$925; Ryan's Place - \$925; MCC - School Kits - \$500.

World: Association for More Just Society - \$975; Christian Peacemaker Teams - \$975; Ankur Kala - \$975; Tanzanian Education Aid - \$975; Mennonite Central Committee - \$975; Mennonite Disaster Services (Puerto Rico) - \$975.

Please speak to anyone on the 2% Committee if you have questions or proposals. Committee members are Sandy Fibley, Sarah Horst, Dave Ostergren, Jose Rocha, Joel Zwier, Phil Good-Elliott (chairperson).

(repeat) **The Prayer group** continues to meet weekly to pray for concerns for Assembly in general and for specific individuals at Assembly. If you wish for us to pray for you, please let one of us know. Bertha Beachy, Jon Zirkle, Merritt Gardner, Joy Buschert, Anne Birky and Sandy Fibley.

(repeat) **Elisa Zwier** graduated last weekend with her PhD (in Education, Curriculum and Instruction) graduation. Your prayers and communications are appreciated for this time that is full of joy and also of sorrow, as she is missing her late husband Henry's presence and support. Encouragement and prayers are also welcomed in her discernment for future positions in Ed.

(repeat) **Christmas Caroling** Sun, Dec 23, 4pm. Meet at Assembly West Parking Lot and bring cookies to pass out as we sing; we have tins to put them in. Contact Jeremiah Chico with questions: jeremiahchico1168@gmail.com

(repeat) **Yipee!** The 800 hygiene kits that you so generously provided for MCC have started their long journey to those in need on Dec 13. You donated \$3,262.25 and that made it possible, with careful buying, to purchase these. Thanks again for the support. There will also be 220 school kits which will be processed in the new year. Thanks to those who helped pack them. -Johanna Sutter

(repeat) **Save the Date:** All AMCers 14 and above are invited to participate in an InterPlay Workshop sponsored by our congregation and held at the Meetinghouse on Jan 12, 1:30-4:30 lead by Masankho Banda, MA. InterPlay is an active, creative way to unlock the wisdom of the body. Some of us do it here at Assembly on the first and third Mon evenings. Masankho is an educator, Percussionist, Storyteller, Dancer, and Certified InterPlay leader. He will lead us in an afternoon of play which enables human sustainability and connection in the face of stressful times. Donation from \$0-30 accepted. Reserve your spot in the workshop (soon as spaces are already filling) by contacting Rianna Isaak-Krauss (reisaak@amb.edu) or Linda Schlabach Miller (lschlabachm@gmail.com) 538-8324.

Please email announcements to assemblyline@assemblymennonite.org by 8 AM local time Friday for inclusion in the following Sunday's *AssemblyLine*. To receive the *AssemblyLine* via email visit <http://eepurl.com/bsXsDr>.

Assembly Mennonite Church

Pastoral Team

Lora Nafziger loracn@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-0732
Karl Shelly karlss@assemblymennonite.org 574-621-1037
Anna Yoder Schlabach annays@assemblymennonite.org 574-312-5319

Elders: Rose Stutzman (chair), James Stuckey Weber, Wilma Harder, Dennis Landis, Regina Shands Stoltzfus, Jonathon Schramm, Anja Kenagy

Youth Coordinators: Ally & Daniel Mast, Marlys & Phil Weaver-Stoesz

Administrative Assistant: Naomi Roots (M/W 9-3:30, F 9-12) office@assemblymennonite.org 574-534-4190

Assembly Mennonite Church seeks to be a dynamic Christian community by together meeting God who draws us beyond ourselves into nurturing, sharing, and living the good news of God's love as known in Jesus Christ. ~ Mission Statement, adopted June 1997

As a reconciling faith community, Assembly Mennonite Church seeks to follow Jesus' example by welcoming all who come our way, regardless of age, economic or social circumstances, ethnic background, gender, marital status, physical ability, race, or sexual orientation. ~ Welcome statement, adopted Dec. 1999

community connections

Michiana MEDA invites you to join the January dinner program event: “Goshen College Study Service Term (SST): 50 Years of Transformational Global Citizenship”
Thur, Jan 17 at 6:30pm at College Mennonite Koinonia Room. Cost: \$5 for students, \$15 for MEDA members, \$20 for others. RSVP by Fri, Jan 11 to info@michianameda.org or text or call 574-533-3607.

You are formally and fantastically invited to our Masquerade Unmasked, a night of celebrating your most authentically awesome self! Feb 2, 2019 6-9pm at the downtown Goshen Theater. Funds raised support Mosaic Health and Healing Arts mission of providing comprehensive, compassionate and affordable full scope family medicine and whole person care for EVERYONE. Tickets are \$35, and must be purchased by Jan 28. More info [here](#).

Save the date for the 11th Annual Community Summit on Children “Beneath the Surface” presented by the Elkhart County Juvenile Court Fri, Mar 22, 2019 at Maple City Chapel. Registration coming soon.

(repeat) **Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network (GIHN)** is looking for more staff. If anyone is interested please contact mindygihn@gmail.com or call the office at 574-534-2300. Their Christmas letter is attached at the top of this email.

(repeat) **The Depot MCC Thrift Shop** is seeking a halftime bookkeeper. Applicants must have a commitment to personal Christian faith and discipleship, active church membership and excellent organizational and communication skills. Proficiency in working with QuickBooks is a must, and experience working in a retail setting is a plus. Hours are flexible. Please send a resume to Galen Kauffmann, general manager, The Depot Thrift Shops, 1013 Division Street, Goshen, IN, 46528 or email depotmccthriftshops@gmail.com.

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